

Bexhill College: Coronavirus update for Students and Parents/Carers

Friday 25th March 2020

This is our latest update for students and parents/carers. It contains some information we have provided previously – where this has not changed along with new information where we have this.

Updates

Throughout this difficult period, we remain committed to providing a high-quality education service for our students. These are unprecedented times with exceptional challenges, which are impacting on our ability to provide our normal services. As such, we have put arrangements in place for remote working for students until the College is able to reopen again for face to face lessons.

From today, we will update the website on **Tuesdays and Thursdays** until further notice or there is a significant announcement which necessitates an additional update. This will be updated by 6.30pm on those days. Please be aware that we may not be able to fully respond to that day's Government announcements but we will do so, as appropriate, the following day or as soon as we reasonably can.

Exams and Grades

We were expecting guidance from Ofqual on how exam grades will be awarded this week. However, we understand this will come next week now. We appreciate students and parents will be anxious about how this will work. We do know it will include teacher assessment and therefore it is important that all students continue to engage in this.

For courses which are coursework based, such as the Extended Diplomas, Subsidiary Diplomas and the Certificates, we are anticipating that grading will be based on coursework grades so all students should be completing coursework as set.

Services on site

The College site is now closed to students. The online learning process will operate as outlined below. Information for our Looked After students and students on EHCPs has also been circulated to those individual students.

Online Learning:

Since it became evident that the action to combat the Coronavirus might call for changes to everyday activities, our curriculum departments and technical teams have been working on preparing for whole College remote learning. Staff continue to work hard to develop and refine the content they provide online.

Subject staff will have been in regular communication with their students with regard to the systems and expectations for remote learning which will differ from course to course depending on the nature of the subject and available resources.

We continue to ask all our students to ensure they check the following on a daily basis:

- Student Email
- College Website
- MOODLE
- Any other communication media which their courses use

Online TA support has been allocated to those students who receive additional support already for their studies, to help facilitate their online learning.

Unless ill or unable to be available for other reasons, staff are following the usual timetabled periods and will be available online at usual lesson and tutorial times to respond to student queries. If staff are unable to respond during these times, students will be informed about alternative arrangements.

Online Student Services support remains available for students who need information on financial or student welfare matters.

UCAS Update for 2020 Applicants:

We have just received this information from UCAS:

May's UCAS undergraduate decision and reply deadlines have been changed to give students and their chosen universities and colleges the extra time they need to fully consider any decisions and offer, and ensures fairness in admissions is maintained:

Original date	UCAS Undergraduate deadline	New date
5 May 2020	The deadline for applicants to reply to any offers received by 31 March 2020.	19 May 2020
6 May 2020	The deadline for universities and colleges to make decisions and reply to applications received by 15 January 2020.	20 May 2020

Cleo Morgan, our Higher Education Administrator is available for advice and guidance. She can be contacted at: cleomorgan@bexhillcollege.ac.uk

Thank you for your ongoing support and understanding.

Karen Hucker
Principal