

Bexhill College: Coronavirus update for Students and Parents/Carers

Thursday 11th June 2020

This is our weekly update for students and parents/carers. Along with new information which is at the beginning of the update, it contains some information we have provided previously for your convenience where this has not changed for convenience.

Reopening of College for First Year Students

We have been looking at what we may offer to students prior to the summer break which will be meaningful and useful from 15th June 2020 as per Government guidelines.

As previously said, there is flexibility in terms of exactly what this looks like for each college and there is an understanding that different colleges will have different solutions to this, depending on their individual circumstances. It has also been recognised that the majority of delivery will continue online and that any 'face to face;' support will be a small part of the student learning activities.

Remote learning is working well for the majority of the students and therefore, this will continue until 10th July 2020 – which is the end of term.

Nevertheless, there is a need to increase the number of students on site where this will benefit student learning. As a result of the complexities of the College environment, we have considered the safety issues associated with bringing larger numbers of students and staff back into a college environment. In addition, we have tried to ensure that the learning still continues in an effective way for students.

Therefore, we are taking the opportunity to start to increase the number of students on site as follows:

w/c 15th June 2020

Increasing the number who are offered support with their learning in College where students are not engaging with the remote learning

w/c 22nd June 2020 –

Continuing to increase the number who are offered support with their learning in College where students are not engaging with the remote learning

Inviting in small groups of students of no more than 10 in specific areas for learning for a learning session between 9.30am and 12.30pm. These are mainly in vocational areas and include areas where students on certain competency based courses who need to complete any outstanding practical assessments or professional exams to be able to gain their qualifications this year.

w/c 29th June 2020 & 6th July 2020

Continuing to increase the number who are offered support with their learning in College where students are not engaging with the remote learning

Inviting in small groups of students of no more than 10 in specific areas for learning for a learning session between 9.30am and 12.30pm.

We are developing a plan to offer some seminars for students in A level subjects – the details of these will follow.

Therefore, the majority of learning will remain as online delivery and students should continue to access their lessons as they have done so up to this point.

All students are being contacted by College tutors this week to discuss how they have engaged so far with their online learning. This may be their personal tutor or another staff member. It is important to gain that information to help us finalise the next steps but also to look at how we may shape learning in September should this situation continue. Please ensure your son or daughter participates.

Students should only attend college if they have been individually contacted about coming in. At this point, they will be told clearly where and when they should attend. Students will be asked to arrive no earlier than 10 minutes before their lessons start. They will be expected to follow the social distancing requirements the College has in place at all times to protect the safety of the other students and staff. If students are unable to do this, they will be asked to leave the premises.

We will have a one-way system in place in the majority of the College. However, there are a small number of areas where this is not possible and we would encourage students to wear face coverings when moving around the building in the few areas where this is not possible. Students should supply their own face coverings.

The refectory and other social areas will not be open, however, if a student cannot get home when their session has ended due to transport issues, we will make a socially distanced waiting space available until they are able to leave. The College closes at 4.00pm.

We will be monitoring the success of this very carefully and may amend activities over the next few weeks according to feedback received. We hope that if your son or daughter is invited in, they will take up the opportunity.

Results Days

As previously reported, it has been confirmed that Results Days for 2020 will remain as originally published. These are

- A/AS Level & other level 3 results day – Thursday 13th August 2020
- GCSE results day - Thursday 20th August 2020

Please put these dates in your diary. The College has issued information for second year students in the results and after booklet regarding how results will be issued, support available on those days and re-interview for return to College in September where needed later this term.

Information for first year students will be published separately before the end of term. This will be via student emails, tutorial slides and the parent update.

HE Options for leavers – HNDs at Bexhill College September 2020

We have previously highlighted the opportunities we have in College for students to study an HND with us after finishing their level 3 studies.

The HNDs at College are part-time so students can undertake a job alongside; the classes are usually on Mondays and/or Tuesdays. The fee is covered by a student loan and we can help students access this

The HNDs are two-year courses and we offer them in:

- Business
- Health
- Early years
- Performing arts
- Creative media

Students do not need to have studied a Level 3 in the subject area to be able to apply for one of these courses, but they do need an interest in the subject area.

The courses are classified as a full-time university level, equivalent to the first 2 years at university. Following this study, students will have the option to progress to a 1-year top up course at a university to achieve a full BA Hons Degree.

For more information about these courses, please visit our website - www.bexhillcollege.ac.uk/highereducation.

If you have any questions about the HNDs, you can email Louise Davison on louisedavison@bexhillcollege.ac.uk

Virtual Careers, HE and Progression Week wc 15.6.2020

Given that we are unable to deliver our year 12 Careers, HE and Progression Day this year, we have put together some themed resources and activities which we will deliver over the course of the week. The resource will be uploaded to Moodle daily and students are strongly encouraged to fully participate in the activities set.

The activities over the week include:

- Careers and work experience
- Apprenticeships

- Higher Education
- Alternatives to University and Apprenticeships
- Gap Year and Volunteering
- Employability Skills
- UCAS Apply/Unifrog

Virtual Careers Advice and Guidance interviews continue to be offered by Sue Rhodes, our Careers Adviser. If your son or daughter would like to arrange a virtual meeting or a telephone consultation, please email: suerhodes@bexhillcollege.ac.uk

The College has successfully held the Quality in Careers Standard (formerly known as Investor in Careers) for the last 10 years. We are going for reassessment of this award on 14 July 2020)

Safeguarding:

If you have a safeguarding concern, you should report it to the Safeguarding Team using this email address: safeguardingteam@bexhillcollege.ac.uk. This email is monitored everyday between 8.30 and 4.30 Monday to Friday

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Karen Hucker
Principal

Information previously published

Online Learning:

Staff continue to work hard to develop and refine the content they are providing online. In line with the updates on teaching and learning below, subject staff will have been in regular communication with their students since the College closed for face to face lessons with regard to their remote learning.

All students should continue to ensure they check the following on a daily basis:

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

It is important students regularly check email and that they also look at the weekly tutorial slides as these will contain useful information including the following over the coming weeks:

- Results day processes for second year students including results day UCAS support
- Leavers form which will be needed as part of the deposit return process

- Returned information for first year students and single year students who are returning to college in September

Many of these processes will be different this year due to Covid-19. Many will be remote and it is important students follow the guidance issues to gain the support needed.

With the current remote working situation, if students require any technical support, they can email: itsupport@bexhillcollege.ac.uk and the staff working remotely will endeavour to resolve any IT queries students may have in relation to their college account or accessing any of the services the college offers.

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.

Remote teaching for AS courses

Remote teaching will continue as students need to complete all of their specifications to have the knowledge needed for A level study next year when exams will be back to normal. In normal circumstances, AS teaching would move to second year teaching after exams, so continuing teaching will take this into account. Students will need to engage in online learning to be able to progress to year 2 successfully and to give them the best change of performing well in next year's A level exams.

Year 1 vocational courses

Remote teaching continues for these courses with online lessons continuing at the usual scheduled timetabled times. Please ensure you follow the guidance of your teachers. Students need to complete all of their specifications to have the knowledge needed for study next year when assessment processes and exams will be back to normal. Students will need to engage in online learning to be able to progress to year 2 successfully and to give them the best change of performing well next year.

Free Seminars for parents

Andrew Wright Seminars

The College has been working with Andrew Wright this year to support student well-being. Please see the latest invite from Andrew below.

Dear Parents, Carers and Students at Bexhill College,

Be A Neuro-Ninja Programme - Webinars Every Tuesday at 8pm

As part of our ongoing support for our students during this difficult time we'd like to let you know about that this ongoing series of webinars continues every Tuesday evening at 8pm. It's so great to have students and parents engaging live, but lots of you have requested access to the recordings. We're two webinars in with 8 to go, use the instructions below to access the recordings at a time that suits you.

Andrew at Action Your Potential will engage, enthuse, excite and inspire you in how to get the very best out of your amazing brain. The full programme [is here](#).

Any questions about any of the content do email Andrew at andrewwright@aypuk.com

Instructions on accessing the recordings

1. Go to our website www.actionyourpotential.org. This is our new website which we're preparing for September.
2. Click on **help** to find all the instructions, also **attached to this email**.

You will need to become a member to see the webinars, (it's free). This is your school password **nnbsfc20** You will need this.

Having signed up once for the webinars you don't need to sign up again, but if you didn't sign up [the link is here for you](#). Please do follow us on social media.

Best wishes

Andrew Wright
Action Your Potential