

Mrs A Clancy BA (Combined Hons)

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Dear Upper Sixth Students,

The information below adds detail to that which has been previously communicated for your studies from Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May.

Before that I would like to say “WELL DONE!” We look forward to when Mrs Clancy and Miss Clements can thank you formally, in person, on all our behalves. We have all been hugely impressed with the way that you have engaged with and completed your courses. This is a tribute to you, individually and collectively. The skills, mindset and attitude that you have developed have shown through in how you have faced the current challenges, as well as in the leadership and role models you have provided to the rest of the College throughout your time. Louise’s message last Friday showed this with the thought that was given to the Upper Five when we know you are facing similar challenges, particularly related to your future. Rest assured that your teachers are all working hard to ensure that we are able to award grades that reflect your efforts over the last two years and are confident that these will also be recognised by the exam boards. Universities and employers are understanding of the situation we are all in and Universities in particular are telling us that they will be as supportive and understanding as possible. We will continue to communicate as information becomes available and Miss Clements, Miss Dudin, your Tutors and all your teachers are available to support you as required.

The programme that we have put together, in place of your examinations and revision, is there to help develop the skills we think you will find useful in the future. We would also encourage those of you planning on going to University to look at the website and join the social media for your chosen University or course. Many of the universities recognise some of the issues with the cancellation of examinations and how this may affect your future courses. Some of you will know that I am currently studying for a Master’s qualification with the University of Buckingham. I was supposed to be at Buckingham last week on Thursday and Friday so appreciate the challenges as both a student and a teacher (yes, I have a student card and have used it to get my free McFlurry 😊)!

*“...the biggest problem is that the Year 11 and 13 cohorts never had the chance to revise their GCSE and A-level subjects. That matters because we know that simply attending lessons does not commit knowledge to the long-term memory. Committing knowledge to the long-term memory is fundamentally important.” Professor Barnaby Lenon, Dean of Education at the University of Buckingham and UK Government Advisor.*

We hope that you take advantage of the preparation that is or will be offered by your Universities alongside the programme that we have prepared. It is likely that many courses will be taught partly through online teaching initially and we hope that these transition arrangements will continue to support you. Keeping in touch with one another, and with your teachers, will help to share your experiences and enable us all to support and learn from each other.

Your timetable is below and you should continue to consider this to be a guide to your time with the recognition that it is there to support you and that your wellbeing remains key – taking breaks and enjoying the good weather are important.

|           | Mon   | Tues  | Wed  | Thurs   | Fri   |
|-----------|---|---|--|---|---|
| 0900-0930 | Physical activity e.g. PE with Jo or follow PE suggestions from PE Dept   |   |  |   |   |
| 1030-1050 |   | Miss Clements catch up                              | House events, etc  | Tutor contact time                                  | Mrs Clancy's message at 10.30                       |
| 1115-1215 | Preparation for online learning and development of future IT skills with Learnkey package towards Microsoft Specialist Associate or Expert courses in Word, Excel or PowerPoint. Mr Beasley |   |  |   |   |
|           | Barclays Life Skills - Miss Clements  |   |  |   |   |
| 1325-1420 | <b>Future skills/Careers</b> group A<br>Dr Marshall   | <b>Future skills/Careers</b> group D<br>Dr Marshall | <b>The Careers group previously taught here will move to Thurs</b> | <b>Future skills/Careers</b> group E<br>Dr Marshall | <b>Future skills/Careers</b> group C<br>Dr Marshall |
| 1500      | <b>Teach Unleashed from half term</b><br><b>Mr Henderson</b>  |   |  |   |   |

For many of your future courses and jobs, being able to use Microsoft Office products such as Word, Excel or PowerPoint will help you to work efficiently and is recognised by employers. If you wish to take advantage of the opportunity develop your skills with the option of gaining a professional qualification in Microsoft applications then please complete the Form available here:

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=xuX8pHkAbk-EVpVFijPt4tcAwU\\_K7w5NsKFp9eNiYLtUOFVXTldUOVdDQzhCOVIJTzUzWjYwVzdYWC4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=xuX8pHkAbk-EVpVFijPt4tcAwU_K7w5NsKFp9eNiYLtUOFVXTldUOVdDQzhCOVIJTzUzWjYwVzdYWC4u)

You will be asked to provide an email address. We suggest that this is not your College address as you may wish to take this or other qualifications after leaving the College e.g. through a future employer. You will also be asked to select the level of the qualification you wish to take, either Specialist Associate (recommended for most students and available in Word, Excel or PowerPoint) or Specialist Expert (for those who consider they have a high level of skills already and available in Word or Excel). The leaflet available [here](#) explains the advantages of these qualifications and some further details.

Miss Clements and your Tutors will remain your main contacts from the 11<sup>th</sup> May. We are also planning additional events to support you and your parents.

#inthisogether

Mr H Barnes

Director of Studies