



Wales HIGH SCHOOL

HEADTEACHER: MR. G. DI'IASIO

GHe/ST

02 July 2020

Dear Parents and Students

It has been so rewarding to see many of our Year 12 students in school for a variety of wellbeing and academic appointments. Our students have risen to the challenges posed by our current circumstances with an admirable level of determination and strength, and the team are incredibly proud of their efforts. The reports we are receiving about student engagement in Teams lessons is also positive and the completion of work is excellent, as many students remain determined to fulfil their academic goals despite the barriers remote learning can present.

I am writing to inform you about our plans as we near the end of the school year. As you may note from the school diary, Year 12 students were scheduled to undertake work experience during the last week of term. Obviously, given the current circumstances, this is not going to be possible in the format we would have hoped for. We would therefore like to ask the students to consider the following:

1. Virtual work experience - many organisations are offering the opportunity to work with them professionally but online.
2. Distance working – contact a professional in a career you may wish to work. Ask them if they may engage in a conference call / email conversation. Have some questions prepared about current topics in that line of work and what sort of skill set is required for that job.
3. Make arrangements - contact potential employers to find out when you might be able to do some work experience and get it in your diary!
4. Volunteer work / work in the community - charitable organisations are seeking help and fundraising ideas. Contact them and see what can be done.
5. Virtual open days - many universities already have virtual open days and seminars with students available. Find the time to 'visit'.
6. UCAS - set up your UCAS Hub (if you have not done so already). Spend time researching courses and universities.
7. CV update - it is always worthwhile to have your CV up to date! You can email nl@waleshigh.com if you need support with this.
8. Guidance counsellor - contact your guidance counsellor and get started (if you have not already) on your personal statement.

Continued...

We would expect most students to have completed the majority of the above before their return to school in September and will discuss their progress at their initial interview prior to lessons resuming.

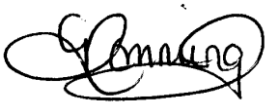
As highlighted to the students in their weekly briefings, there will be the opportunity for students and staff to reflect on progress in subjects and the suitability of the students for continuing their courses in to Y13. With this in mind we would like to use the final week as an opportunity to take these discussions further, whether that be a contract for continuing on a particular course or the opportunity to look at other qualifications that can be taken to support progress in their final year. These appointments will be by invitation or students are welcome to contact the Sixth Form Team for a meeting if they feel they would like to discuss their options further.

Most excitingly, we have moved our 'Campaign Week' for Head Prefects to week commencing 6 July 2020. There will be a number of virtual events happening, including an online vote. Every student vote counts so please keep up to date with our social media pages and your email to ensure you don't miss out on the opportunity to take part.

Finally, as there will be no formal lessons during this final week, this may give the opportunity for students to complete all necessary work prior to the summer vacation. Some students have struggled to complete some aspects of their work and this will allow time to catch up as well as make contact with staff if needed, for individual tutorials, so they are in a stronger position in September.

Hopefully, we will return to some sort of normality in September. We will keep you posted on any further developments.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Gillian Hemming
Deputy Headteacher