

Parents and Carers of Year 12 Students

Castle Way
Barton Seagrave
Kettering
Northamptonshire
NN15 6SW

Telephone: 01536 720300

Fax: 01536 720303

Principal: Ms Siobhan Hearne

September 2021

Sixth Form: Ace Level 3

**"When we strive to become better than we are,
everything around us becomes better too."**

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to the new academic year!

Despite the disruptions to learning over the last two years, your child will have worked hard to prepare for examinations and because of their hard work, they are now embarking on the next stage of their educational journey.

With your child entering a new Key Stage and starting their A Level and Level 3 BTEC subjects here at The Latimer Arts College, I would like to take this opportunity to wish them every success in their future studies.

Although a little older and a little more independent, Sixth Form students will still require valuable support from parents and carers and we would strongly encourage you to continue to take an active role in supporting your child as they progress through their Sixth Form journey. In order for you to support **Name**, please find the [link](#) to our Sixth Form Curriculum and Pathways page on our website. Here you will find a copy of our Student Guide which has been issued to all students to help them navigate the next two years here at The Latimer Arts College.

We still require a parent/carer to inform us of any absence, so please do check out pages 7 and 8 of the student guide, which will remind you of the process of reporting absence.

If you have any concerns regarding **Name's** progress in Sixth Form, they have been allocated a Personal Development Tutor who they will see every week day to support them over the next two years.

Personal Development Tutor: **Name**, SF1/2/3 & e-mail

Achievement Leader: Chris Tebbutt ctebbutt@latimer.org.uk

If you have any other queries regarding Sixth Form, you can get in touch with Sue Magee our Sixth Form centre Manager smagee@latimer.org.uk who will be more than happy to assist you with any questions you might have.

Thank you to those of you who attended our virtual 'Ace Level 3' Year 12 evening and we hope this and the following information might empower you with the tools you might need to support your **son/daughter** over the next two years. If you were unavailable on the evening please find the [link](#) to our Sixth Form Curriculum and Pathways page where you will be able to watch our 'Ace Level 3' Evening presentation.

We are proud of the success that our Key Stage 4 '**Ace Your Exams**' programme has delivered and now we want to support both our students and their parents and carers to '**Ace Level 3**'.

Independent Study

Independent study is a vital component of Level 3 qualifications and using it wisely is one of the keys to success at Sixth Form. The curriculum content is so vast that students have to undertake study outside of timetabled lessons if they are to be successful. Therefore, our Sixth Form students are allocated up to 20 hours of independent study over a two-week period, being guided by subject teachers to complete a minimum of 3 hours of learning per week for each subject studied. There is also an expectation that students will research around their current areas of study to increase their knowledge further.

Study Support

- **10th Hour:** All students have been allocated an additional hour in each of their subject areas to boost their learning. This is an opportunity for students to work collaboratively or independently on additional topics, to work together to explore new areas of study and to share found resources and knowledge.
- **Subject specifications:** are accessible via a folder in the Sixth Form Centre and along with past papers which are stored electronically in the Sixth Form area on our network. These valuable resources ensure that our students know exactly what they will be covering for their qualifications.
- **Revision guides:** are available for most Level 3 subjects and we are currently looking into providing these for our Year 12 students. In the mean time, we do have a set that can be accessed from the Sixth Form Centre Manager. Please find our revision resource list attached.
- **Revision resources:** Sixth Form students should be creating revision material from day one! Please encourage your son/daughter to continue to use the range of revision techniques they learnt in Key Stage 4 and a great way to get involved is to ask them questions, even if you do not know the answers!
- **Stationary resources:** Sixth Form students have access to a range of stationary items, including plastic wallets and dividers to support organisation of folders and blank revision cards to support with their ongoing studies. If there is anything specific students would require access to they can make this request via our Sixth Form Centre Manager.
- **Learning Resource Centre (LRC):** Level 3 subjects often require in depth research and further reading, so we advise students to make use of the journals and resources available in the LRC. Students can easily search our online catalogue by selecting Eclipse Library from the Quicklinks section of our website. Students do not need to login to Eclipse to search by title, author, keywords or select fiction or non-fiction, or both! If students wish to take a loan of a book or would like assistance in finding something specific, they can send a request via e-mail to our Learning Resource Centre Manager: rbrooking@latimer.org.uk who will be happy to deliver the resource and assist with any other enquiries.

Preparation for A Level/BTEC examinations and beyond

Throughout the next two years, students will be guided by personal development tutors and guest speakers on a variety of topics including CV writing, apprenticeships, life skills and money management to name just a few. We hope this will assist our learners to develop into responsible and knowledgeable young adults, in preparation for the world beyond school.

Our dedicated programme of support is as follows:

Year 12 Term 1

UK University & Apprenticeship Search Virtual Fair: This event features universities, colleges and apprenticeship providers from across the UK, as well as allowing students to explore their regional and

local post-18 options. This Virtual Fair features a wide range of exhibiting universities including Russell Group, red brick, modern and specialist institutions, as well as colleges and apprenticeship providers. This event enables students to visit virtual exhibition stands and chat to representatives, view information and videos, download prospectuses and take part in live webinars in the virtual auditorium.

Unifrog - Recording achievements and skills: Students have been given access to this platform where we encourage them to begin to keep a record of activities they undertake and skills they gain. This will support students with building a portfolio of their achievements in preparation for applications for their next stage.

Year 12 Term 2

Unifrog – Broadening horizons: Students will have an opportunity to explore different career and further study options, alongside taking part in additional Massive Open Online courses (MOOC's) to support their Level 3 studies.

Year 12 Wellbeing and Personal Development Feedback Evening: As they grow into young adults, students will become more independent, but will inevitably still need guidance and so we strongly urge parents and carers to book an online appointment on this evening and maintain involvement in their child's progress. This evening will provide an opportunity to speak to your child's personal development tutor, who will offer some feedback on how well they have taken to level 3 studies. This is a great opportunity to discuss what their priority areas for improvement are and how best you can support them.

Independent Study Review 1: In collaboration with each individual student, subject teachers will conduct a 1:1 review of progress so far, checking the organisation of folders and creating an action plan to ensure students make further progress.

Year 12 Term 3

University Experience: We hope that students will have an opportunity to take part in a visit to a university; get a chance to explore a campus university, speak to current students and take part in taster sessions. This will give them a real sense of what it would be like to be a university student.

Unifrog – Post 18 intentions: Students will begin to explore UCAS and investigate and log their initial plans for life after Latimer.

BTEC Examinations: Those students who are studying Level 3 BTEC qualifications will sit the examination element of the course, which will support their final grade.

Sixth Form SPRE: This is a great opportunity to gain subject specific feedback from subject teachers and again we strongly urge parents and carers to book an online appointment on this evening and maintain involvement in their child's progress.

Year 12 Term 4

National Careers Week: We are hoping to encourage students to meet local employers, network and gain an insight into a wide range of potential careers and the different paths that can be taken.

Unifrog – Creating a CV: Students will create an up to date CV, to support them with successfully promoting themselves to future employers.

Independent Study Review 2: In collaboration with each individual student, subject teachers will conduct a second 1:1 review of progress. This will be a perfect opportunity to discuss and address any misconceptions and reflect on successes.

Year 12 Term 5

Independent Study Review 3: In collaboration with each individual student, subject teachers will conduct a final Year 12 1:1 review of progress prior to the mock examination period. This will be a perfect opportunity to discuss and address any misconceptions.

Personal Statement: Students will begin to construct their personal statements in preparation for any university or apprenticeship applications.

Year 12 Term 6

UCAS Registration: Whether applying to university, taking a gap year or applying for an apprenticeship, all Year 12 students will register with UCAS.

UCAS Exhibition: Whether it is about re-invigorating research or refining choices, there is something for everyone at a UCAS exhibition. University and college representatives, and industry professionals, will be at this event, where there will be opportunities to listen to inspirational talks, attend topical seminars, receive application process advice and visit interactive stands.

Trial Examinations Season 1: We aim to run a Year 12 trial examination season towards the end of June. Some practical exams may take place before this time if this is possible. These mock examinations are extremely important, as they will inform the predicted grades that are submitted on a student's university applications.

Work Experience: We will continue to review the changing climate, however we hope that students will be in a position to undertake work experience that will provide the perfect opportunity to explore and gain new skills in the work place and to possibly trial work life in their future chosen career path.

Personal Statement Guidance: University professionals and tutors will support learners to ensure their personal statement articulates the skills and experience they possess that show's their passion for their chosen field. This statement will then be used for applications though UCAS and wider afield.

Year 13 Term 1 and 2

UCAS Applications: Students will finalise their university applications.

Mock Interviews: Whether your child is applying for university, an apprenticeship or a place in the world of work, all Year 13 learners will take part in a tailored interview with members of our business community in preparation for their future destination.

Trial Examination Season 2: The Year 13 trial exam season will run in November/December where students will take another mock examination in all subjects. This is a perfect opportunity to see the progress made by learners since their Year 12 examinations and will give a good indication of how much distance students will need to travel by the summer!

Independent Study Review 4: In collaboration with each individual student, subject teachers will conduct a 1:1 review that will celebrate progress since the start of the course and identify any areas that need further development in the final exam countdown.

Year 13 Term 3 and 4

BTEC Examinations: Those students who are studying Level 3 BTEC qualifications will have an opportunity to re-sit the examination element of the course, which will support their final grade.

Tutor Time Revision Workshops: Students will be supported with their revision programme during tutor time, when they will take part in revision planning workshops.

Independent Study Review 5: In collaboration with each individual student, subject teachers will conduct a final 1:1 review that will give them a focus prior to their final examinations.

Easter Revision: A programme of revision sessions for individual subjects will take place during the Easter holidays and students will be invited to attend relevant sessions.

Year 13 Terms 5 and 6

A Level Summer Examination Season: This runs from May to June (TBC). Some practical examinations will have taken place before this and all BTEC qualifications will have been completed.

Year 13 Celebration Assembly: This is an opportunity to celebrate each student's achievements and for them to say their final goodbyes to The Latimer Arts College.

The big one – A Level/BTEC Results August 2023 (Date TBC)

We believe that this is a comprehensive programme of support offered by the College but we are always open to further requests for help and support so please do let us know if there is anything else that you feel we can provide.

Your child needs to continue to do the hard work but if we can work in partnership to support them then there will be no limits to the success they can achieve.

Yours sincerely



**Ms S Hearne
Principal**



**Miss K Gallon
Assistant Principal**