

St Aidan's & St John Fisher Associated Sixth Form

St Aidan's Student Weekly Notices Week (A) commencing 11 May 2020

Content

Careers Information
General Information

Careers Information

Year 13 Students going to university in September need to apply for student finance before 22 May

If you have not already applied for student finance please do so ASAP as the deadline for applications is approaching. Even if you have not yet confirmed your course please still apply before 22 May.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/students-can-apply-now-for-2021-student-finance>

Update from Universities regarding Applications

Mrs Bennett and Mrs Richmond attended a Russell Group Universities Virtual Conference on Monday and would like to share with you some of the key points made by the universities in relation to the Covid-19 pandemic as follows:

Year 13 Students

- Universities are processing and dealing with offers as usual and students should accept their offers by 18 June.
- Virtual talks, tours and live chats with academics and students are on university websites to help students make informed decisions.
- Universities are hoping to open in September but there may be different approaches to learning, access and start dates.
- Not all selective and popular courses will allow students to defer entry to 2021 so do check with them first.
- Students who decide to sit exams next year could have their conditional offer held over to 2021.
- Students without offers can still apply via UCAS Extra until 6 July. Then Clearing opens to advertise all remaining vacancies to students who have not got a place or still want to apply to university.
- A Level results day is 13 August and students without offers or who change their mind on courses can access Clearing Plus - a portal advertising course vacancies and online advice - more details to follow.
- Accommodation - students should contact universities and follow their booking procedures.
- Student Finance - students should apply for finance before 22 May.
- Preparing for university - there is no expectation that students should have done any further study since schools closed. However, there are a number of resources that students can use to stay academically engaged. Many universities will publish HE study skills and reading lists on their websites e.g. <https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/teachers/pupil-opportunities/post-16/Skills4Uni.aspx>
- Future Learn free online courses are also recommended as a useful preparation to university study <https://www.futurelearn.com>

Year 12 Students

- Continue to research courses and universities online.
- Virtual summer schools and course taster days are available at some universities.
- Virtual open days are advertised on university websites so do register for these to receive pre-event information.
- Live chats with students and academics are available on university websites.
- Universities appreciate that work experience will be difficult to organise and will take this into account. Students should focus on wider reading and research into their chosen discipline and do online courses as mentioned above.

The key message is that universities will be as accommodating and flexible as they can be in the circumstances and if students and parents have any queries please do get in touch with them or contact the Careers Department at careersstaff@staidans.co.uk.

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Holbeck Scholarships worth £1250 - closing date Friday 15 May

Applications are now open for Holbeck scholarships for students starting any UK university in September 2020. For details on eligibility criteria and how to apply please see <https://www.york.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/fees-funding/uk-eu/scholarships/holbeck/>

A short course on the *Economics of Pandemics* with Professor Abhinay Muthoo, University of Warwick

The University of Warwick are offering a series of free weekly taster lectures on Economics during June and July. Designed for students who are applying or have applied to study Economics at university although any student can sign up. For more details and to book a place please see <https://warwick.ac.uk/about/london/study/pre-university/tasters/tasterlectureseries>

EY Business Academy for students interested in Apprenticeships

EY are offering a one-week work experience programme from 27 to 31 July for students interested in apprenticeships in Finance. For more details please see <https://ukcareers.ey.com/students/programmes/work-experience/ey-business-academy>

Stay in touch with Universities

The following universities have notified us this week about virtual and digital events they are holding so students can find out more about their courses, university, applications, open events etc and they are also on hand to answer any questions Year 12 or Year 13 students or parents may have.

Askham Bryan College

<https://www.askham-bryan.ac.uk/students/apply-now/find-out-more>

Bangor University - Virtual open days

<https://www.bangor.ac.uk/openday/intro.php.en>

University of Huddersfield

<https://www.hud.ac.uk/undergraduate/schools-and-colleges-liaison-service/online-resources/>

University of Liverpool

<https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/applying/after/>

Queens University Belfast - offer holders events

<https://www.qub.ac.uk/Study/Undergraduate/offer-holders/events/>

UCAS - Virtual and digital events - <https://www.ucas.com/ucas/events/find/scheme/virtual-and-digital>

UK Universities - Webinar Wednesdays - <https://www.ukuniversitysearch.com/blog/post/webinar-wednesdays>

Inspirational and Interactive Career talks

A range of virtual career talks are available online to enable students to hear from inspirational professionals about their career journeys and to find out about some amazing opportunities in the creative arts, media, literature, science, business, sport and many more. Please log on to these websites for details of talks

<https://www.speakersforschools.org/inspiration/vtalks/upcoming-vtalks/#schedule>

<https://learn.springpod.co.uk/>

Discover and develop employability skills with IGD's Digital Workshop 21 May 11am - 11.30am

Please email careersstaff@staidans.co.uk asap if you would like to take part in the above interactive workshop.

The world pandemic we are living through at the moment has brought into sharp focus the vital role of food production, distribution and retail management. From Specialist Buyers and Business Strategists to Production Engineers, Logistics and Supply Chain Coordinators and Food Scientists – students will meet a variety of experts - the real food industry heroes who are keeping the nation going!

IGD (Institute of Grocery Distribution) have developed online resources alongside industry professionals to inform and inspire students about a broad range of exciting careers within the food and grocery industry and the routes into these roles.

Students will:

- Experience a professional webinar - a tool widely used by specialists working from home

St Aidan's & St John Fisher Associated Sixth Form

- Hear from industry professionals LIVE – learn about their jobs, the skills they use at work and the impact of coronavirus on their role
- Have the opportunity to take part in further, follow-up employability skills activities.

NatWest Dream Bigger Digital Workshops for Future Female Entrepreneurs

NatWest are offering three, 1-hour, digital sessions 11am - 12 noon for female students on the following dates:

- Tuesday May 12 - Introduction to Entrepreneurship
- Wednesday May 13 - Defining Entrepreneurial Purpose
- Thursday May 14 - Developing an Entrepreneurial Mindset

Employers are all looking for graduates and apprentices who can evidence an entrepreneurial mindset - If you are interested, please sign up for all three free workshops, via the following Eventbrite link. Once you have signed up, please email careersstaff@staidans.co.uk to let them know you intend to participate.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/natwest-group-dream-bigger-30163367844>

General Information

Yearbooks and Hoodies

Once we are back at school we will make arrangements for students to come into school to collect their hoodies and yearbooks. Further information to follow in future weekly notices.

Year 13 Leavers' Ball – Saturday 19 December 7.00 pm until Midnight

The Pavilions of Harrogate is booked on Saturday 19 December for the Year 13 Leavers' Ball.

- The cost is £39.00, to include a Bucks Fizz reception, two course dinner, photobooth and disco.
- The menu is either Chicken in White Wine Sauce or Butternut Squash Risotto followed by Chocolate Brownie.
- Tables seat a maximum of 12.
- If you would like to go please can you make your payment via ParentPay by Friday 3 July.
- You need to email your choice of main course and advise us of any dietary requirements. You should agree with other Year 13 students who you want to sit with and include this in your email. Remember we cannot include anyone on your table who has not paid for their ticket.

SA students should email: sixthformoffice@staidans.co.uk

SJF students should email: attendance6thform@sjfchs.org.uk.

With best wishes, keep well and look after each other.