



ST. CATHERINE'S
COLLEGE

A CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

CONTACT



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Preparing students to stand shoulder to shoulder with their peers: locally, nationally and globally.



"Nothing great is ever achieved without much enduring."

These wise words are from St Catherine of Siena after whom our school is named and whose feast day is 29 April. Despite living over 650 years ago, her example in 2021 seems more relevant than ever.

This year has seen the UK's legal separation from Europe. Thankfully, this has been achieved peacefully for us as citizens, even if the same cannot be said for our politicians! Back in the 14th Century, Catherine was at the centre of the era's equivalent negotiations. Firstly, she was an envoy for peace negotiations within a civil war which was raging. Then, she helped lead a movement to re-unite the Catholic Church and to restore the Pope to Rome (after years in Avignon, France). Her impact upon peace and unity was recognised in 1999 as she was proclaimed patron saint of Europe.

News in 2020 and 2021 has been dominated by the Covid pandemic. Catherine's childhood years saw even more extreme challenges as the Black Death killed over 75 million people in Europe and North Africa. There were no treatments or vaccines then. Plague was little understood until it was ravishing London in the 1660s, several hundred years later. Less than half of Catherine's siblings survived their childhood. It may be that these experiences inspired her to give away food and clothing to help the poor. St Catherine is venerated as patron saint of the sick and of nurses.

St Catherine was not a likely 'great' person. She was born into an ordinary family and chose to live a simple life in service and in poverty. As a woman in the middle ages, it is quite unusual to have had such political influence and as the recent media coverage of Sarah Everard reminded us, perhaps there is still a lot of progress to be made in that respect?

St Catherine embodied the values St Catherine's College has adapted: **working hard** for what is right; being **resilient** in the face of immense challenges; and being **ambitious** for peace and unity in her time. I close this article with another quote from St Catherine; one which relates to our final value of **responsible**: *"Proclaim the truth and do not be silent through fear."*

Nigel Jewell, Headteacher

WORSHIP – LED MY MRS POSTON

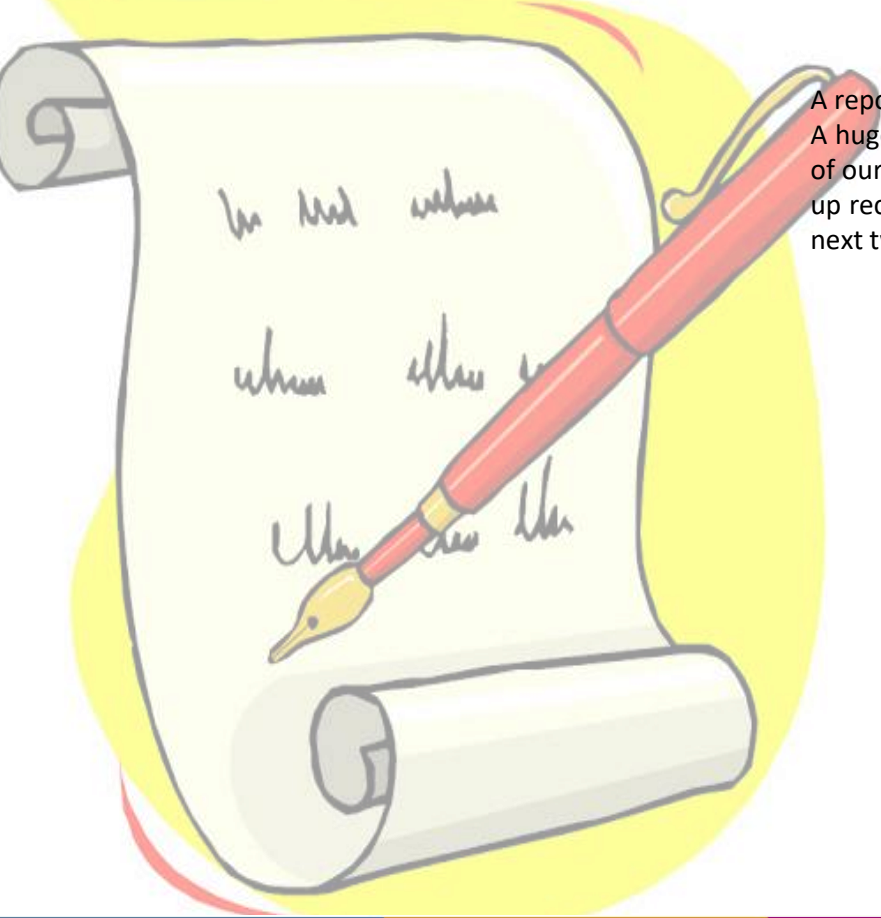
This week, College Worship related to Stress Awareness Month. Since Covid, we are probably all aware of stress, whether personal or that of friends, family or community/nation. We looked at how stress is a normal part of life and how some stress increases performance but too much stress can cause problems with our mental health.

Symptoms of stress, and how it changes our behaviour, were looked at and using the stress bucket analogy, we identified the need to have a variety of coping strategies. Students then did an exercise on this in tutor worship to identify coping strategies under the headings of Creative, Exercise, Recreational and Social.

As examples, staff shared photos of some of their coping strategies and we also looked at some wisdom from this month's Tesco Magazine about the stress of coming out of lockdown. A couple of key phrases were *'Don't judge your insides by other people's outsides'* and *'Change is always difficult, even change for the better'*.

Students were advised to speak to an adult if they are having difficulties with stress and Tutor Worship reminded students of the resources on the Wellbeing Page in the Student Section of the website. This page also has a Wellbeing referral form that parents can fill in if they are concerned about their child's mental health.





POETRY COMPETITION

A report from Mrs Ward:

A huge well done to all our budding poets! Listed below are the winners and runners-up of our recent poetry competition. Winners received a £20 Amazon voucher and runners-up received a £10 Amazon voucher. I hope you enjoy reading the winning poems on the next two slides.

Year 7

Winner: Harry D

Runners-up: Daisy C and Alfie E

Year 8

Winner: Joshua P

Runners-up: Shannon N and Alfie M

Year 9

Winner: Jessica A

Runners-up: Jainaba J and Amberley C

Year 10

Winner: Gurleen K

Runners-up: Jasmine B and Harry B

Year 11

Winner: Berrie R

Runners-up: Ailsa C and Amber M



Year 7 winner: Harry D
My School Life

When I was a one-year old I went to a nursery called Bluebell Hill, it was a place to have fun and a place to chill. There were lots of games and lots of toys, Here I could have fun and make lots of noise. My carer was called Carmen and she was very nice, Even though my Dad used to moan about the price.

The I turned four and I went to a real school, St Andrews was the next step it was very cool. Mrs Meakins was the Head Teacher she was in charge, Compared the Bluebell Hill, this school was very large. I made new friends I learned lots of new stuff, At times I missed Bluebell, because the lessons were tough.

After three years at St Andrews I moved to Tollgate Junior, I was seven years old, and it all seemed so peculiar. Mr Dennis was the Headmaster, he was the boss, I really did not want to make him cross. I missed my SATS and half of the last year, Covid 19 had caused lots of fear.

St Catherine's was next, and my brother was there too, I was eleven years old, and it all seemed so new. The teachers are strict, the Headmaster is Mr Behane, The lunch breaks are short, just enough time for a sarnie. I was just getting to like it then it was lockdown again, But two months later we are back to re-engage my brain.

At this school I have over four more years, The there are exams, blood, sweat and tears. I want to work hard, I want to be a success, I have great teachers to support me through the stress. And so I wonder what the future has in store, But I know that my schools and my teachers will always be part of my core.

Year 8 winner: Joshua P

The Mountain

Walking, walking, and walking
The sun's beams glare into my fatigued eyes,
Walking, walking, and walking
The graceful summit seems forever on its rise,
Walking, walking, and walking
The cobbled paths repetitively wind and wind
Walking, walking, and walking
A feeling of despair engulfs my tired mind.

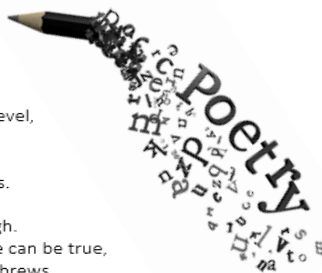
Stumbling, stumbling, and stumbling
My hope soon begins to deteriorate,
Stumbling, stumbling, and stumbling
I'm stuck wondering if losing is my fate,
Stumbling, stumbling, and stumbling
My weary vision begins to blur and go,
Stumbling, stumbling, and stumbling
A feeling of regret engulfs me, oh no.

Crawling, crawling, and crawling
My great journey has nearly become fulfilled,
Crawling, crawling, and crawling
At last, the stress coursing through my veins has stilled,
Crawling, crawling, and crawling
From below I can see the summit smiling at me,
Crawling, crawling, and crawling
I had done it! I then looked around in glee.

Year 9 winner: Jessica A

Kindness and perseverance

Life can be tough,
and sometimes rough.
Perseverance can come true,
and then comes trust too.
Believing takes imagination,
but change creates vacation.
More time to spend,
to lend,
to help,
those people who need it,
more than the wealthy,
make the poor healthy.
Take kindness to another level,
take away the evil devil.
Let the globe of light grow,
until it gets rid of the crows.
Dark, black clouds leave,
and the sun weaves through.
Kindness and perseverance can be true,
even if it takes a couple of brews,
to see the world like one big crew.
See the world in a better place,
several say but never replay.
The words do nothing,
WE NEED ACTION!
Time to put evil in its place,
and show justice to the world once and for all,
speak up for people who are not allowed power,
and fight for them.
No matter if we are white or black we are all equal,
Black and white are the colours that work well together,
we shall protect each other and fight for the world.
Because no matter who you are,
You Do Matter,
and that's all we believe in,
so stand up, stand up, stand up!
And we will save our country,
Forever...



Year 10 Winner – Gurleen K

Miracle

Life works in mysterious ways,
Sometimes it even abandons me.
When that happens, there sounds
A cry for help, a shout of fear,
Waiting, for a miracle to appear.
A shaking hand reaches forward,
Pleading to life
Like an innocent child,
But even the empty air turns away,
So, it rises to fight.
On my knees to my feet,
I stand to walk on my own,
Stumbling with my foreign legs
I suddenly feel grown.
Walking through life,
I learn to trust my step,
One in front of the other,
Cautious to pass every test.
When I stumble again,
The walls begin to crumble again.
But this time,
Someone's there, with a hand to lend,
The innocent child looks up,
At the simple hand
And a smile so bright,
Providing strange comfort
At this strangely simple sight.
Hand in hand,
I begin to stand,

Staring the miracle in the eye,
Finding strength,
The desiderium dies,
My lips lift up,
Finally facing the sky.
The warmth of the hand,
The gentle of the touch,
An act so small,
Something that doesn't take much.
Now I walk through life,
With a companion beside me,
I call it kindness,
Something that lives inside me.
I wander, with a smile so bright,
Waiting to lend a hand at just a sight.
When you live with kindness,
Life begins to feel so beautiful,
So pure, worth living,
Absolutely wonderful.
Even the smallest acts,
Like a simple smile,
Or a few kind words,
Can change a person most cynical,
This unique beauty of kindness
Is what makes it,
Nothing short of, A Miracle.

Year 11 Winner – Berrie R

Rise

Further
Further
They drag you down
A lifeless ghost
You drift
You drown

Tempting
Tempting
The voices whisper
Let go, give up
Like a chilling warmth
In you deathly winter

Fighting
Fighting
You pry from their grasp
You scream
A song of beauty
A reviving gasp

Further
Further
You rise
A weight has lifted
You reach for hope
Feeling alive

You break
The surface
The light
Blinding
Liberating
A clean slate
Awaiting
You won
You are strong
Your life has now begun

Breathe



SCOOTER AND BIKE SAFETY

We have received reports of dangerous situations involving young people on bikes and scooters in the local area. To keep safe when travelling to and from school it is important that students follow the following safety rules.

- Kick-scooters should be ridden on the pavement, footpath or in a cycle lane, and not the road.
- Kick-scooters do not have right of way on the pavement or footpath. Scooter-riders should always be prepared to stop or slow down to give way to pedestrians. Pedestrians *always* have right of way
- Kick-scooters should be ridden with caution. Riding that causes injury to another person could lead to a prosecution.
- When riding a bike, look out for pedestrians and vehicles.
- Wear a cycle-helmet for your protection.
- Don't listen to music when riding on the road; you need to use all your senses to keep yourself and others safe.
- Follow the rules of the road, eg give way at junctions, use hand signals when turning.
- Look out for potholes, cars leaving driveways, pedestrians walking out between parked vehicles and overtaking vehicles.



YMCA YOUTH HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION PROJECT

The Homelessness Prevention Project is an East Sussex based initiative that aims to promote awareness of the risks of homelessness and the realities of living independently. The Homelessness Prevention Project presentation ([CLICK HERE](#)) has been shown to Year 10 students and shows video interviews of people who have real-life experience of homelessness. The video also covers the following areas:

- Planning to leave home
- Leaving home in an unplanned way
- Budgeting and independent living
- Risks of becoming homeless
- Accessing support (including accommodation, Single Point of Advice (SPOA) and mediation.



ONLINE GAMING

A report from Mrs Poston:

Gaming can be both good and bad for children's mental health.

As a mum of two boys, I have seen the good, the bad and the sometimes ugly of online gaming. I know that for both of them, online gaming has been a real help during lockdown by staying connected with friends and helping their moods. I have also witnessed times where tempers are fraught and sleep is lost. It's challenging sometimes for children to become responsible in finding the balance to stay mentally healthy.

This excellent Young Minds article covers both sides of online gaming. If your child is a gamer, I would recommend [THIS ARTICLE](#).



WHO ARE WE?

STAFF PEN PORTRAITS

This week is all about Mrs Dolan. Mrs Dolan is our receptionist and a face many of our parents may recognise. This is Mrs Dolan



I was born in London and spent most of my childhood there. I had several friends in the music industry, so I was often out at a concert!

When I first left school, I was a trainee computer programmer but soon decided I preferred people to machines and became a Personnel Officer.

When I was 12 years old, I had a wonderful experience of living in South Africa for a year with my Dutch Grandmother, where I attended a local school.

I know I am very fortunate and have travelled a lot, I have even attended an amazing sheik wedding in Delhi. The things I have seen and learnt have given me a greater understanding of the wonderful world we live in.

My favourite sport is athletics and I enjoyed managing the women's and youth teams at Eastbourne Rovers.

I also trained to be a qualified youth leader and spent my evenings working in various youth clubs and The Duke of Edinburgh Award Centre for the London Borough of Merton.

One of my biggest achievements has been our school trips to The Gambia. We have been able to help so many less fortunate people and it's been really amazing to see how much our students enjoy these trips.

I've have been a Beaver Leader and a Group Scout Leader and attended many Cub Scout summer camps. However, these days, I prefer a comfy mattress and hot running water!

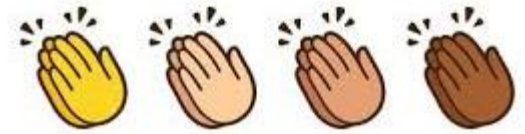
I love my garden and the summertime in England so always try to holiday in the winter somewhere hot and sunny. This is how I discovered The Gambia - The Smiley Coast of Africa.

I am so passionate about my plants and garden. As an adult, I studied and passed eight City Guilds in Horticulture.





TOP HOUSE POINT ACHIEVERS



| YEAR 7 | YEAR 8 | YEAR 9 | YEAR 10 | YEAR 11 |
|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Rebecca C 913 | Jack D 829 | Lauren D 809 | Jade D 660 | Aaron A 790 |
| Sophie C 807 | Logan A 821 | Millie B 727 | Solen S 645 | Ailsa C 770 |
| Isla C 781 | Eva B 790 | Caedmon M 726 | Isabelle W 573 | Berrie R 769 |
| Archie M 739 | Teriza W 749 | Daniella B 691 | Naiem Z 555 | Amber M 648 |
| Max T 732 | Jasmine G 724 | Isabelle L 683 | Cyrine E 547 | Samuel H 582 |



Free

YMCA Youth Clubs

Eastbourne

We are back open from 19th April

Monday Youth Club

Shinewater Park For Ages 11-21 - 6pm to 8pm

Join professional scooter rider Michael Winn at Shinewater skatepark. Not a fan of scooting? Don't worry Kirsty has your back. Kirsty will be supporting multi activities in the sports court- and yes chilling is one of the activities.

Tuesday Youth Club

Langney Village Hall For Ages 11-18 - 6pm to 8pm

Join Claire and Tash at Langney village hall every Tuesday for fun, games and activities. Come chill with friends, play pool, play table tennis or be creative with arts and crafts.

Tuesday LGBTQU+ Group For Ages 11-21

Get in touch to find out more

Friday Youth Club

Willingdon Community Centre For Ages 11-18 - 6pm to 8pm

Join Claire, Tash and Michael at willingdon community centre every Friday for fun, games and activities. Come ride the indoor halfpipe, chill with friends, play pool, play table tennis or be creative with arts and crafts.

Friday LGBTQU+ Group

YMCA YAC Devonshire For Ages 11-21 - 6pm to 8pm

I AM WHO I AM LGBTQU+ Youth Group offers young people who identify LGBTQU+ a safe supported space to meet new people, learn new things and take part in fun activities.

YMCA YOUTH CLUBS

The YMCA is looking forward to welcoming back all those who attended Youth Club before lockdown and can't wait to meet new faces! Pre booking is a must for your first session; direct message on Instagram or email gary.crowhurst@ymcadlg.org.

Due to Covid restrictions, facemasks are required.

Due to Covid restrictions please ensure you contact us before attending your first session
To find out more and to get involved please email Gary.Crowhurst@ymcadlg.org
Call Gary on 07943911479 or find us on Instagram @YMCA.Youth.Eastbourne



Shinewater + Willingdon



YMCA YOUTH
ENGAGEMENT

YMCA
DOWNSLINK GROUP



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ARE YOU A
FUTURE
DR?



DR.EAM

Virtual Year 10 & 11 Healthcare Admissions Conference

A free national event for state school pupils.

Talks from doctors, dentists, nurses, life as a healthcare student,
work experience advice, Q&A panels and MORE!

Saturday 15th May 2021
10am to 2.30pm

Birmingham Widening Access to Medical
Sciences

<https://bham.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/dream-big-2021-application>



What can you expect?

The day will consist of inspiring talks,
workshops and panels made up of
doctors, nurses, dentists and
students from around the country.

Journey of a Patient

Learn all about the
typical journey of a
patient with all the
different professionals
in the NHS!



Introduction to Work Experience

Still not sure about what you want to
do? Then work experience is for you!
Learn about how to make the most of
your work experience to help you
stand out in your application.



Day in the Life of a Healthcare Professional

Step into the shoes of a doctor, a
nurse, and a dentist to hear about
what it's like!

Some incredibly inspiring doctors,
nurses, and dentists will be here to
talk to us about their experiences
and answer your questions about
all things healthcare.



Healthcare Students Q&A

We will have some incredible
medical, dental and nursing
to answer all of your budding
questions about work
experience, interview advice
and life as a healthcare
student.



Roadmap to Medicine and Dentistry

Confused about all the
steps en route to
becoming a doctor?
We've got you covered!

Our team will walk you
through the timeline
from now till you're
ready to go to medical
or dental school.



Loads of helpful resources!

We've put together a
booklet with lots of
additional information,
helpful resources, and
some tips and tricks to
help guide you through
this chapter.



DR.EAM Big Virtual Conference

The DR.EAM Big Conference is
a **free** outreach event aimed at **Year 10-11
students** who are considering a career
in healthcare, specifically medicine,
dentistry and nursing.

The aim is to inspire and inform students
about pursuing a career in healthcare.
Dr.eam Big will provide students with an
insight into life as both a student on a
healthcare course and as a healthcare
professional, as well as advising on next
steps to prepare for an application. The
day will consist of inspiring talks and
panels made up of medical students,
doctors, dental students, dentists,
nurses and nursing students

This event will be hugely beneficial for
students considering studying medicine,
dentistry, nursing or any healthcare related
career at University. Please apply
before **Wednesday 12 May 2021** using
[THIS LINK.](#)



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PARENT GOVERNOR VACANCY

The Governing Body at St Catherine's College currently has a vacancy for a Parent Governor.

Parent Governors play a vital role on governing bodies, holding the unique position of having a parental viewpoint of the College. Through their children, they have a first-hand experience of the delivery of the curriculum and how the College is perceived from the 'consumers' point of view. This enables Parent Governors to bring a different perspective to the strategic management of the College.

If you are interested in helping with this important role, please complete the nomination form which is being sent out via EduLink by 9.00am on Friday 14 May 2021. Forms need to be returned to the College in a sealed envelope and marked for the attention of the Clerk to Governor's. If more than one nomination is received, a ballot will be arranged which will include the election statement required on the attached form.

If you would like more information, you might find it helpful to talk to one of our Governors. This can be arranged by emailing Paula Palmer, our Clerk to Governors, on: ppalmer@stcatherines.college.



ARE YOU A SURVIVOR OR VICTIM OF CHURCH RELATED ABUSE? COULD YOU HELP THE DIOCESE OF CHICHESTER TO LEARN FROM THE PAST AND PROTECT THE FUTURE?

Please find below a message from The Diocese of Chichester Communication Team:

In line with the national Past Case Review 2 (PCR2) project in the Church of England, the Diocese of Chichester is currently reviewing all its records, across all its parishes, to ensure that all safeguarding concerns and allegations have been identified, reported, and appropriately actioned. Critical to this, is the voice of survivors and victims. The Diocese of Chichester wants to listen to and to learn from your experiences and ensure that your voices are heard throughout this review process. Information about PCR2 can be found [HERE](#)

COMING FORWARD

Anybody who would like to give information or make disclosures about church-related abuse is asked to contact Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor, Colin Perkins at Colin.perkins@chichester.anglican.org or telephone 01273 421021. For anyone who would rather not contact the diocese directly, an independent helpline has also been opened for survivors of church-related abuse in the UK, which is operated by the **NSPCC: 0800 802020**. Anyone can use the helpline to provide information or to raise concerns regarding abuse within a Church of England context. Both the diocese and the NSPCC will be able to assist people coming forward with where they can access appropriate advice and support.

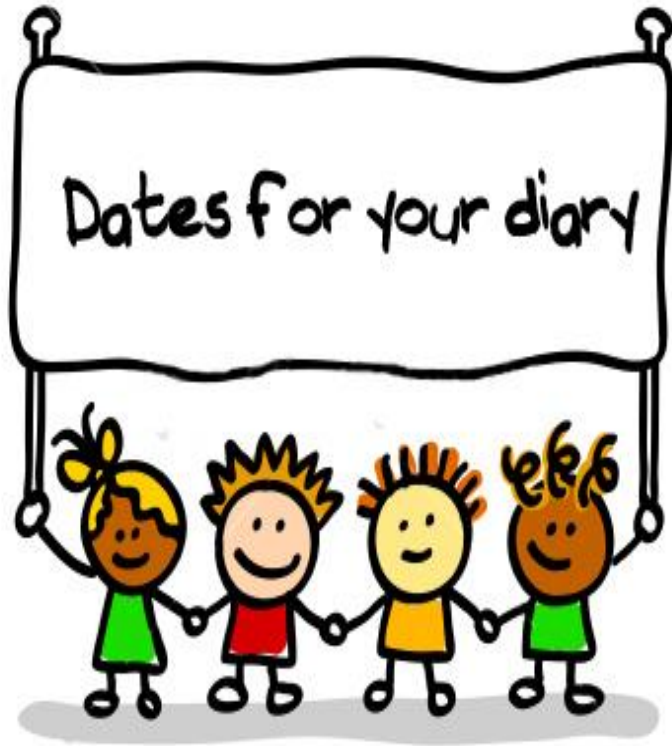
BUILDING THE SAFEST COMMUNITY WE CAN

Bishop Martin, Diocesan Bishop for the Diocese of Chichester explains why we are doing this: “The main purpose of this review is to ensure that any allegation against current or former church officers has received a proper response. It is a project that requires and demands our diligent attention.

“We all recognise the importance of being as sure as possible that all known instances of concern have been properly addressed. Additionally, it is an opportunity to ensure that all safeguarding casework across the Diocese is being properly managed, and it is a crucial step in ensuring safety and building confidence.

“Survivors and victims voices are critical in this review. The care and support offered is of the high quality that people rightly deserve, so I urge you to please come forward. “

If you are worried or concerned and would like to talk to someone, please contact Mrs Guppy at kguppy@stcatherines.college.



Friday 28 May

Last Day of Term 5

Monday 7 June

Inset Day

Tuesday 8 June

First Day of Term 6 (for students)

Friday 25 June

School Closed (re-arranged from 1 February)

Wednesday 7 July

Thursday 8 July

Friday 9 July

Year 6 Taster Days

Thursday 15 July

Year 11 Prom

Wednesday 21 July

Last Day of Term 6

Thursday 22 July

First Day of Summer Holidays

Thursday 12 August

GCSE Results Day

Wednesday 1 September

Inset Day

Thursday 2 September

First Day of Term 1



Post-16 College Follow-Up Information

The information on the following slides is for parents and students moving onto Post-16 education in September 2021. Each slide is information provided by the said college.

Bexhill College

We are planning to:

- Release broad transition activities on 7 June 2021 which we will send to all prospective students and to schools as requested by the Board
- Release an online transition event which will have subject specific activities on 28 June 2021
- Hold an onsite transition event the week of 5 July 2021
- We will run small group tours during the Easter holidays and May Half term. we will also run a small number during the term after school hours. These will be booked online. We will announce those next week (w/c 29/03/2021) and post on social media etc. Last time we did this they were booked up quickly.
- We are continuing to take late applications and offer interviews as well.

East Sussex Colleges (Eastbourne, Lewes, Hastings)

Year 11 Campus Tours (Starts 17 May 2021)

Come and see us! We are excited to announce that our campus tours will resume from 17th May as lockdown restrictions are lifted. We know that students can't wait to see the campus in person - and we can't wait to welcome them! We are working hard to ensure our tours are COVID-secure as we want students to feel safe and welcome. Our personalised tours lets students see the areas they're most interested in. Witness classes in action and meet tutors and current students. We can't wait to see you! Find out more about our campus tours [here](#).

Year 11 Student Care Package (19 May 2021)

Care mail! Look out for our latest student care package landing on applicants' doormats in May! Designed to keep students engaged with learning and thinking about their future plans, there's also a fantastic freebie included too! A digital version of the care pack will also be made available to schools at a later date.

Year 11 Virtual /Physical Get to Know Days (23-24 & 28-29 June and 1-2 July 2021)

Making plans. We can't wait to meet our new students, and thanks to the return of our Get to Know Days, we don't need to wait until September! Year 11 students use these events to meet new friends, experience a lesson and chill out with a fun barbecue on campus! Find out more [here](#). Eastbourne: 23 - 24 June 2021 Lewes: 28 - 29 June 2021 Hastings: 1-2 July 2021

Year 11 Summer Work Projects (Late July)

Get set. Go! New applicants will get their hands in an ESC study pack, designed to prepare them for their ESC adventure! Packed with resources, tips and activities, these packs provide essential summer reading so students are ready to hit the ground running in September. Study packs will be accessed from our student portal. See a sample of last year's packs [here](#).

Gildredge House Sixth Form

The transition programme we have put together aims to prepare you for your time with us, working alongside the Sixth Form staff to provide you with a full insight into life in the Sixth Form at Gildredge House. It is vital that you choose courses that interest you; courses that enable you to progress onto your chosen Post-18 pathway, and courses where you will want to work independently and challenge yourself to improve your own understanding. The jump from Year 11 to Year 12 is a big one. It is imperative that students arrive in September with a positive mind-set and all transition tasks and activities are completed to a high standard. Regardless of examination results, these tasks provide you with an opportunity to demonstrate your suitability for your chosen courses. Sixth Form staff will have high expectations of students and the jump from GCSE courses to A levels is significant. The Sixth Form staff will be there to support students fully with this transition. This transition period will inform staff of your ability to cope with the demands of the subjects you have chosen. In your two years with us, we hope that you develop the confidence and skills to flourish at University and in the workplace. We are here to support, guide and elevate you to fulfil your ambitions and achieve your potential.

SUMMER TRANSITION TASKS

Our Sixth Form staff have designed tasks and activities to provide you with an insight into life in the Sixth Form. Courses at A Level and BTEC are significantly different to GCSE and provide exciting opportunities for independent learning. To support our application process, we have put together a Transition Programme which aims to prepare you for your time with us. For each subject that you intend to study, we ask you to complete the tasks set and bring them with you to your first lesson of each subject in September. Each task asks you to research or explore something, and to complete some work which will challenge your existing skills. You may find these activities difficult, but please give them your best attempt. This transition work will help you make a flying start to Sixth Form, as well as provide teachers with information to help understand your level of knowledge, skill and ability. These tasks are important because they:

- provide an introduction to key ideas within the course;
- help to bridge the gap between GSCE and A Level/BTEC;
- encourage students to think like an A-level/BTEC student; and
- demonstrate a commitment to study - Subject Teachers will expect tasks to be completed to a high standard.

Gildredge House Sixth Form (continued)

Transition Day

If the roadmap out of lockdown continues as planned, we will be holding an onsite Transition Day on **Tuesday 6 July**. The purpose of the day is to meet other students who will be joining Gildredge House Sixth Form in September 2021, meet subject staff and have a chance to ask questions about course. We hope that it will be a chance to clear up any worries you may have about the subjects, familiarise yourself with the Sixth Form building and also to get to know the rest of the student body. We look forward to meeting you then.

We are continuing to accept late applications and offer interviews for a September 2021 start.

Whilst transition work is important, it is also essential that you ensure you rest and relax over the summer to prepare yourself for the challenges of Sixth Form - it's not easy, but it is extremely rewarding. We hope you enjoy the summer and that you receive the excellent grades you deserve. We very much look forward to welcoming you to the Sixth Form in September.

Plumpton College

Plumpton College are planning a range of events and activities to welcome prospective students to access our site both physically and virtually.

Saturday 22 May - we are planning our next **Information Event** which will allow prospective students to access in-depth course information, have a one-to-one chat with one of our lecturers and have an **onsite visit**. – This event will incorporate an opportunity for prospective students, who have not previously applied, to come onsite to view our facilities and speak to curriculum and support staff alongside a online Virtual event where students can access course information, view interviews with our staff and book a 1 to 1 appointment.

June - Our curriculum staff are keen to start to engage with our potential students and are aiming to set a series of **Summer Tasks and Challenges** over the summer months which will give students (who have received an offer) a taster of the courses they will enrol on in September – details of the summer challenges will be released in **June**.

5 July - We will be running a **Parent Welcome Event**. This virtual event will equip parents with all the information they need regarding students start in September along with setting the colleges expectations of all of our students.

6 July – Parent Onsite Forum - A chance for parents to visit the site and ask our staff any questions face to face.

8 July – Student Welcome Event – This event will give all students, who have received an offer, the chance to come onsite to meet their lecturers and peers as well as familiarising themselves with our site and the facilities we have available.

Keeping in Touch - We will be sending regular **monthly** updates and information out to all students who have been offered a place here at Plumpton along with 'Keeping in touch' WhatsApp messages to keep students engaged.

Application are still being accepted - We will continue to interview students over the summer months for any late applicants or applicants who change their mind and want to come to Plumpton following exam results.

Seaford Head Sixth Form

We are looking forward to welcoming new students to the sixth form centre on our induction day on Wednesday 7 July. On this day, new students will get to tour the sixth form centre and meet their new teachers in a taster lesson. There will also be the opportunity to find out about day to day routines in the sixth form, learn about our vision and expectations for students centre and meet other key members of staff.

Students will also receive a transition unit of work for each subject which is designed to support the move from KS4 to KS5. This will give students some activities to do over the summer to help stay focused and inspired ahead of starting with us in September. There will also be a reading list and information about the course which will help you to prepare for the year ahead.

Your new teachers will take in the transition work in September, and this will give them an indication of how well prepared you are to start the KS5 program of study. We will spend some time at the beginning of Year 12 looking at study skills and independent learning techniques.

Our enrolment day is on Friday 13 August, so once students have their GCSE results on Thursday 12 August, they can enrol at the sixth form centre the following day to confirm their place.

Varndean

Transition Support Plan Year 11 Summer 2021

w/b: June 7 2021 - Varndean College Academic Project

w/b: June 14 2021 - Subject specific work online - 29 June

June 30^h - Transition DAY face to face teaching

June 31 - July-10- subject follow up (we call it A Flying Start)

BHASVIC

Will BHASVIC provide learning content for Year 11s who have completed their Level 2 (GCSE, etc) studies early in the summer term?

Some Year 11 students and their parents, carers and secondary school teachers have been asking whether they could or should begin to study for their Sixth Form courses now that the GCSE syllabus has finished and there are no GCSE exams to revise for. Year 11 students do not need to begin their Sixth Form studies early. The journey to academic readiness for Year 11s transitioning to Sixth Form study this September will follow our normal approach, which is:

1. Ensure you have completed and mastered the content of your GCSE courses to the best of your ability. Reviewing aspects of these courses which link to your course choices at BHASVIC, especially content you found more difficult, will be highly beneficial to your success at Sixth Form. Complete any work, including project work, that your schools have set you and these will provide fantastic opportunities to hone the transferable skills you will need for your next steps.
2. BHASVIC Moving On Day - Tuesday 6 July - on this day you will attend a lesson in your chosen courses and you will be set some work to do over the summer. This summer work is not designed or intended in any way to ruin your summer holiday (see below), but will enable you to keep your mind and other skills going and for you to be able to start in September with a little more confidence and familiarity with your chosen course. Our students enjoy and like the work our departments set you over the summer.

I want to keep my mind and study skills going - what do you advise I do? For those young people who love to study and develop their minds, and before our summer work becomes available to you, there are some fantastic online learning courses and wider reading opportunities. If you stick to established and reputable sources, such as exam board reading lists and recommended platforms (all our BHASVIC courses have the link to the exam board specification from the course page on our website) you can take this time as an opportunity to proactively broaden your skills and interests in all sorts of fascinating topics and areas.

If you are unsure whether an online course ('mooc') is worth your time, any course which broadens your **critical thinking skills** will always be advantageous for Sixth Form study. There are a wide range of providers such as **FutureLearn**, iTunes U, **Coursera**, **Khan Academy**, **Alison** and the slew of Universities in the UK and USA, who have lots of different courses that can be studied for free.

BHASVIC

I feel like I have not learnt as much as I should or could have done due to lockdowns and know that everyone is saying that students through Covid are now at a disadvantage. I am worried that, despite meeting the GCSE entry requirement grades for my sixth form courses, I will still struggle and be behind - what should I do about this? For those young people who are concerned they may have fallen behind in their academic abilities and feel they may be at a disadvantage when starting Sixth Form, we have three key reassuring points to make to you:

We've got this for you! Our teaching teams and staff are experts in what they do and our curriculum delivery for you when you get to BHASVIC will enable you to regain your momentum and will support the closing of knowledge and skills gaps. There is time at sixth form to do this and you will catch up.

If you feel you are lacking in any critical aspects of your Level 2 (GCSE, etc) learning, which form important building blocks for sixth form study, then do take the time and opportunity to use the extensive revision content available from your school and from central locations such as the exam boards and BBC Bitesize, to practice and close any knowledge or skills gaps you are concerned about. However, our advice is to not worry about this and to enjoy this break in academic demands whilst you have your end of secondary school summer holidays, which you have earned!

The independent study skills you will have been developing due to lockdown learning put you in a more developed position than past students. Each phase of education requires a jump in independent learning skills and the jump from secondary to sixth form is a notorious one (as is often the jump from sixth form to university and from any education to the world of work). We believe you will be an advantage here - even if you have not fared so well during lockdown learning. Despite national media rhetoric about lost learning, which has of course occurred, we'd stress at BHASVIC that this is overplayed and there are other skills that have been developed. Also the need to take up those social opportunities with friends and family and to follow your hobbies and interests are more important to your future success.