

17 July 2020

Dear Student,

I hope you and your family are well.

I wanted to give you an update about what we are planning at the start of the autumn term. You have done so well during lockdown, we are immensely proud of the way you have responded so positively in these challenging circumstances. I am sure you are looking forward to getting back to College.

Please read the following carefully because somethings have changed including dates:

Start of Term - Tuesday, 1 September 2020. The College term officially starts for second years on 1 September 2020. This year we will dedicate the first week of term to holding online one-to-ones between subject staff and their students. These meetings will provide an opportunity to catch up, review the first year, look ahead to the challenges of the second year and discuss formal predicted grades. Teachers will make arrangements with their students regarding times and dates, these meetings will set the scene for the new academic year, so we hope that you will make every effort to attend.

Teaching starts - Monday, 7 September 2020.

As per the current Department for Education guidance, we are planning to have all students attending their academic lessons on site in September. In order to accommodate this, we are going to start with an altered timetable, with two 3 hour lessons a day; one in the morning and one in the afternoon. This is in order to reduce the number of students on site in a day and minimise the movement of students around College. Across a two week period, a student will have three double lessons per academic subject. Some elements of a student's programme, such as Prospects, may be delivered remotely. If students are not in a timetabled lesson, they will be encouraged and supported to work from home. The Learning Resource Centres will be open for students who are unable to travel home.

If the College's plan has to change based on the situation in the local area, we will update you.

Catering - We are unable to offer the usual catering options for the time being. It will be possible for you to buy a limited range of food, but we are encouraging students to bring in their own lunch if they are timetabled to be in lessons all day.

Preparing the College site - Work will be ongoing over the summer break to prepare the site for the return of the students. We will have one way systems, hand sanitiser stations and signage to inform students and staff of the health and safety regulations.

Changes to October half term dates - Please note that October half term will now be a two week break from 19 - 30 October 2020. This is because staff are returning a week earlier in the summer.

UCAS

Please be aware that the timeline for making applications to university has not changed this year (see below), which means you need to take some time over the summer break to make sure you are ready! Those of you applying for Conservatoire, Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science and Oxford or Cambridge must take note of the earlier deadlines for completion.

Here are some actions for you:

- Complete the second draft of your personal statement to submit to your Tutor during the first week of teaching, from 7 September.
- Make sure that you have registered for UCAS - your Tutor set this as a task on Google-Classroom.
- Complete that further reading or MOOCs to boost your profile.
- Research which University courses you wish to apply to (up to 5). Remember to use the study directory for guidance.



Higher Education Application deadlines (for September 2021 entry)

Early application deadlines:

- **Conservatoire** applications must be received by UCAS by **Tues 1 October** and so need to be submitted to Personal Tutors by **12.15 on Mon 21 Sept.**
- **Early applications** (Oxford, Cambridge, Medicine, Veterinary Medicine and Dentistry) must reach UCAS by **Tuesday 15 October**, and so need to be submitted to Personal Tutors by **12.15 on Wed 23 September.**

All applications are processed strictly in the order they are signed in to Personal Tutors and we allow a minimum of **15 COLLEGE WORKING DAYS** for staff to check the application, write and ratify the reference. *At busy times this may be longer.* Applications will be processed as follows:

Date application signed in with Tutor:	Date guaranteed to be sent by:
<i>Monday 21 September @12.15 (Conservatoire applicants only)</i>	<i>Wednesday 30 September (for Thurs 1 Oct @18.00 UCAS Conservatoires deadline)</i>
Wednesday 23 September @12.15 (Early deadline courses)	Thursday 15 October (for @18.00 deadline)
Wednesday 30 September @12.15	Wednesday 21 October
Wednesday 7 October @12.15	Thursday 5 November
Wednesday 14 October @12.15	Friday 13 November
<i>Submission of Personal Statement draft #3: Friday 16 October</i>	
Tuesday 20 October @12.15	Friday 20 November
OPEN EVENINGS: Wednesday 21 October & Thursday 22 October	
Wednesday 4 November @12.15	Wednesday 25 November
Wednesday 11 November @12.15	Wednesday 2 December
FINAL COLLEGE DEADLINE: Wednesday 18 November 2019 @12.15	UCAS FINAL DEADLINE: Friday 15 January 2021 (for @18.00 deadline)

- Applications which are signed in with Tutors after 12.15 on an interim deadline day will move into the next time period.
- We recommend that any application to top ranking universities including Russell Group www.russellgroup.ac.uk should be completed as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. They should be given to Personal Tutors by early **October** at the latest.
- All other applications should be completed as soon as possible and **no later than Wednesday 18 November** to allow sufficient time to reach UCAS by **15 January 2021**. **After this date applications are marked as LATE and do not have to be considered by universities.**

Prospects Diploma

We will continue to guide you through the stages of the Prospects Diploma in the second year - for those of you that have not managed to fulfil the work experience quota for the Silver Award, we will update you in September. Remember to make a record of any work-based experiences you have undertaken as well as training, MOOCs or Virtual-Open-Days (these all count towards your quota). We will also be introducing the Gold Award - if you want to get ahead on this, get started with the *Disabled Go Equality and Diversity* Online training. This is a compulsory component of the second year for all which can be done in small modules, one at a time. When you return in September you will be busy, so why not begin now by following the link:

<https://training.disabledgo.com/auth/register/The-6th-Form-College-Farnborough-Students>

Centre Assessed Grading

First year students who are receiving grades this summer (AS Further Maths, GCSE and some vocational courses) should make sure they read and understand the information on the exams page “Understanding Centre Assessed Grading” before exam results are issued.

<https://sites.google.com/a/farnborough.ac.uk/student-exam-information>

We will be continuing to update the College website, farnborough.ac.uk, over the summer so please keep an eye out for updates. This is especially relevant for those of you who travel on public transport. We are speaking to the service providers and are hoping to have an update about this nearer the start of term.

I do hope you have a lovely holiday and stay safe.

Best wishes,

Catherine Cole

Principal