

## Open Academy Update 5<sup>th</sup> June 2020

**For parents and students – please do discuss the contents with your child!**

Welcome to our first update of the new half term. As the near future of education looks very much to be distance learning and home based for the majority of students at least until the summer break, you will notice our increased expectations promoted through this update and our whole academy assembly which you are welcome to view with your child here

<https://www.loom.com/share/1dccfa51c020462098d315d40cf797b7>

We know also that there are a few students still struggling with the TEAMS platform and to help and, as it is so crucial that everyone gets on top of the technology as quickly as possible now, Miss Ling our Librarian has created a set of very clear helpful videos to show you how to get work done in teams so please see the TEAMS user guide PowerPoint slide attached to this email

Next, our move from SIMS to TEAMS continues and parents should begin to receive their update emails from today – these emails should give you a clear indication of the work that has been set for your child and an indication of whether they have completed it or not – along with an idea of what work is to come for the following week. Many will start to receive the update emails this week and the rest by next Friday

Finally, Thank you for your responses to our proposals regarding a careful minor partial re-opening of the Academy for initially students in year 10 and 12, give the controversial challenging situation I was heartened to see an agreement with our proposals of over 85% from a significant number of responses. Given that I will describe within this week's newsletter what we are proposing to do and when and when you can come and see for yourselves how things may work if required

### Contents

1. **OVA Expectations of Students from 1<sup>st</sup> June**
2. **Partial re-opening plans – face to face with year 12 and 10**
3. **Year 7 News**
4. **Year 8 News**
5. **Year 9 News**
6. **Year 10 News**
7. **Year 11 News**
8. **Sixth Form News**
9. **Wellbeing reminders**
10. **Free Sanitary Products – challenging period poverty**
11. **General TEAMS help**
12. **Library News and Activities**
13. **Careers Update**
14. **Mark's Chaplain's Reflection**

### 1. **OVA Expectations of Students from 1<sup>st</sup> June**

It is clear that online learning is the way forward for a significant time to come and even where we will be trying to get students in in year 10 and 12 it is vital that all students are accessing our online learning provision. Thankfully I can see the numbers engaging are

steadily increasing all the time however I would encourage you to view the assembly prepared by Miss Wenlock that I have shared the link to both in my introduction and here

<https://www.loom.com/share/1dccfa51c020462098d315d40cf797b7>

as it really does clarify what our new expectations are as we go forward.

I am delighted to say that we are expecting to receive a number of laptops as per the government scheme specifically to support year 10, and whilst there are nowhere near enough for all, many of you with children in year 10 who have expressed challenges with your technology should be receiving some practical help very soon – more information will be forthcoming from the year 10 team as and when the equipment arrives

## **2. Partial re-opening plans Step 2 – face to face with year 12 and 10**

At the moment we remain in our first step of re-opening – accepting more students for the Childcare offer that we have provided all along.

According to our proposed re-opening plan, the next step is to get some students back into the building for a one to one meeting with teachers, first year 12, then year 10 for face to face academic tutorials

### **When will these happen?**

As per our stepped re-opening plan, we will be inviting year 12 students for a one-hour face to face academic conversation with one of their sixth form teachers during the week beginning the 15<sup>th</sup> June.

Year 10 Face to Face Academic tutorials will happen during the week beginning the 22<sup>nd</sup> June. During this week year 12 will remain at home

### **What will happen?**

During these two weeks your child will be offered an appointment time to attend the academy where they will spend an hour discussing their work, their challenges and their successes with a member of teaching staff. Please note teachers will have full oversight of their work in TEAMS and other platforms as a starting point, however we would ask year 12 students to bring in their work folders to be able to show their current progress.

There will be more detail in the individual invitation letters which will be sent out next week, including what will happen if you prefer your child not to attend due to heightened risk factors for them, you or your household.

### **Will it be safe?**

We believe that we can enforce strict social distancing for all during this second step of our re-opening plan, however we fully respect the wishes of those not yet ready to send their children back in at this time.

### **Can I see for myself and visit?**

In order to help you decide whether you wish to send your child in you may like to see for yourself the arrangements that we are putting in place in the academy to ensure social distancing. If you would like to visit and see what we have planned and talk through your concerns, please give your name to [Office@open-academy.org.uk](mailto:Office@open-academy.org.uk) and specify the name of your child, and whether you would like to attend on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June between 2pm and 3.30pm or Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June between 9.30am and 11AM. We are not expecting anyone to attend but thought we would offer it for the few who may be concerned and unsure. Please do let us know in advance however so that we can stagger your arrival depending upon numbers (as we will be with the students)

### **What happens next?**

We will continually review how each step of the return plan is going. If the Face to Face meetings have gone as planned, we will be ready to start small group tutoring from the week beginning the 29<sup>th</sup> June. Year 10 and 12 will be assigned a day per week to attend the academy where year 10 will receive academic support for their English Maths Science and one of their options and year 12 will get one day in each week with time with at least one of their subject teachers – I will go into more detail nearer the time as and when we get there

### **3. Year 7 News**

A big hello from the Year 7 Team!

Starting off the half term with bang, I'd like to congratulate the following people for their excellent work and engagement already this week!

Keisha Smith, Gemma Smith, Harisan Martin, Molly Hammond, Hollie Smith, Xylia Sparkes, Dylan Atkinson, Ethan Walker, Liliana Read, Gracie Britcher and Elsie Auger for their amazing participation during their live Music lessons

Rosie Coman for her great contribution to a tutor project this week

Lilly Barker for her amazing Mars Rover design and Ebon Gossland for his great work on photosynthesis

Jacob Cook for his DT cushion work over half term as well as Keisha Smith and Harisan Martin

Kai Mann and Liliana Read for their engagement in Languages before half term

Well done to all those students and I look forward to receiving even more nominations over the course of this week!

Our main focus this term is getting as many Year 7 students to engage with their timetabled lessons as much as possible. That means submitting work on Teams accurately, attending live support sessions and learning to manage their school life at home. We would be very grateful of your support in helping your child with this and in turn, we can then support you. Our phone calls home will be more academic in nature going forward.

Tutor groups projects are still on-going and our Student Council are busily working away on our Time Capsule project which will be opened in Year 11! However, we would love to hear and celebrate other achievements you've had during lockdown – don't forget to pass them onto your tutors or join us in the breakroom at breaktimes!

Finally, a new BBC article has been published about sleep, the topic of this week's assembly! Check out the article here <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-52911395> and the assembly here <https://www.loom.com/share/6a59f980c1284287bcdefe92287bec1c>

Best wishes and stay safe from Miss Lines, Miss Moss and Mrs Edwards

### **4. Year 8 News**

Welcome back from a sunny half term. We hope you all made the best of the good weather and are ready to learn this half term. Please carry on with all the good work that you are doing. If you haven't created a routine for yourselves each day then please find one that works for you and your family. Keep an eye on Microsoft Teams for live lessons and plan your day around them. Any queries or problems then please contact your teacher or let myself or Mrs Roe know. We have 7 weeks this half term before the Summer holidays so let's finish the academic year off with some dedicated learning to prove we are not beaten by this virus we are battling on and continuing to learn.

It was great to see so many of you attend the mental health presentation on Wednesday run by Positive Pathways (CSF). There was some good tips and interesting information and we hope you found it useful. The recording is in the Year 8 channel if anyone missed it and would like to have a look.

Those students involved in the Inspires programme have a meeting arranged for 1.30 p.m. on Tuesday 9th June. Nathan would like a catch up with you all to see how you are doing and any ideas for the project you may have.

Some great work going on this week for year 8 students. Special shout outs to the following:

Computer Science from Mr Thompson for superb engagement in the end of term quiz -

George Colledge, Corey Sorrento, Dylan Scott, Joe Sanderson, Ella Iftimie-Hau, Gera Dergacovs, Owen Middleton, Demi Robins, Toby Thompson, Luke Copping, Josh Wilsea, Bradley Copping, Hayden Cobbett, Sophie Swatman, James Hoye, Kimora Alexander, Erin O'Neill, Sara Szarafinska, Hannah Jordan, Harry Robinson, Dalia Rosca, Samuel Yellop, Jake Folkes, Lauren Aldous and William Orr.

History from Ms Wenlock for excellent participation in their WW1 live support session this week:

Jayden Muzembe, Rhy-Lee Dawson, Millie Woodhouse and Lauren Aldous.

Science from Miss Matthews for great work on pressure:

Tommy Taylor.

PE from Miss Matthews for a brilliant self-reflection of her performance in PE.

Teyla Young.

Science from Mr Lambert for clearly following Pond practically

James Hoye

Poetry in English

Lilli Aldis, Ryan Howe

Great work in Spanish

Dylan Scott,

Excellent and extra work in Maths

William Orr, Mia Crowe and Gerrard Sandell

Contribution to his tutor from Miss Luter

Luca Bush

Great RS and History work.

Summer MacCormack

Overall contribution to Virtual Open Academy

Paige Berry

Life skills:



Sean Passmore and his older brother Ryan have been busy making a treehouse in their garden. Fantastic creativity and team work going on – well done.

There has been some excellent cooking skills being demonstrated at home too by lots of students – even cooking family meals and obviously plenty of cake baking and we all know how Mrs Roe likes to talk about cakes (and chocolate).



Well done to Cody Collins for making what looked like a delicious lasagne and lemon drizzle cake.

Dutch Apple cake from James Hoye.



Well done to Millie Woodhouse for a delicious looking macaroni cheese and a lasagne.



Alongside cooking Grace Moreton has been crafting, artwork, skateboarding and cricket. Impressively she has been learning Japanese - よくやった.

Grace is also showing signs of political awareness and spotting moral or ethical ineptitude and social injustice. It is always good to get involved and be interested in the world around us and hope that you are all participating in the lockdown diary tutor project – we are all living in an important part of history right now.

Please continue to tell us about all the activities you are doing at home and send in any photos if you can. We want to keep in touch with you all and hear about the varied things you are doing to fill your time while we are all at home. Stay safe and well.

## 5. Year 9 News

Good afternoon,

A great start to our new half-term and the final one of Year 9! I hope that the new system of information via Teams is working well, but please let either myself or Ms Hewitt-Coleman know of any teething issues. As we move closer to the end of term thoughts are turning to September and Options – Mr Ward is working very hard to try and ensure that as many

people as possible get their first choices and there should be some news on this by the end of the month.

May I thank every student who attended the Year 9 Live Assembly on Wednesday at 3:00 – it would be great to see as many Year 9s as possible at next week's.

I'm getting so much positive feedback from teachers about Year 9s work and their participation in Live Support Lessons too – if you could encourage attendance to these lessons where possible, they really help them feel part of the school community and 'iron out' any issues they may be having with their learning. Feedback from those students who are attending is really positive! If you would like any further information on the Live Support Lessons, then feel free to ask either myself or Ms Hewitt-Coleman.

I have received lots of amazing feedback from teachers so far this week, so our list of 'shout outs' is quite long – fingers cross it will continue to lengthen!

Lauren Duff – excellent Shot Putt

Leah Walker – Reading Quizzes

Chloe Warner – excellent work in Music for listening quiz

Jess Waterfield & Zak Pitts – attendance and effort in tutor time quiz

Chloe Smith – enthusiasm in PE

Noah Scott, Joseph Sizer, Jessica Waterfield, Tom Jordan, Ethan Walpole, Oskar Wyszynski, Amber Mawby, Kieran Baxter, Alex Money, Kasey Richards, Ema Vaskyte, Gabe Morgan, Leah Walker, Ellie Wilson, Scarlett Taylor, Ollie Broom, Estela Gudzikaite, Freya Tilney, Maddy Tilney, Jessica Ramm, Tristan Drean-Reilly and Aimee Walters - Superb Engagement in End of Term Quiz in Computing

Faith Berry – attendance and input in live support lessons

Kieran Baxter, Scarlett Taylor and Lauren Duff - produced excellent pieces of Spanish work

Joseph Sizer - great effort with the online Spanish work

Maddy Tilney, Izzy Taylor & Emma Tyrell – AR quizzes completed during half-term

Amelie Treacy, Emily Perrett, Katie Lambert-Sharp, Jess Druce & Joseph Sizer – outstanding contributions in History Live Support Lesson

Really, really well done to all those mentioned; it is so nice to have so many names to keep adding to my list throughout the week!

Many thanks,

Mrs Clayton

## **6. Year 10 News**

Hello!

Welcome back, we hope you all had a lovely half term break. We are pleased to report that on the whole our Year 10 students have picked up where they left off at the end of last half term, submitting work in a timely fashion and acting on feedback where required.

Firstly, we would like to congratulate our Year 10 superstars for this week, who are as follows:

- Harrison Foster for reading and quizzing over half term and a superb narrative of a person trapped below ground in English.
- Bailey Dukker for some great work on drumming rhythms in Music.
- Kye Nichols for working hard to try and overcome technical difficulties in BTEC Sport.
- Ben Kimpton, Lucy Moscrop and Dylan Skitmore for excellent effort and work produced in Maths.
- Oliver Attoe for outstanding methods shown for all Maths work.
- Ben Ashby and Calli Atkins for superb participation in live support lessons in Computer Science
- Dominic Kubeisa, Dylan Skitmore and Daniel Swatman for superb participation in live support lessons in IT.
- Ben Ashby for completing all 3 sections on eDofE for his Duke of Edinburgh Award.
- Ryan Morely for an amazing tree house designed over half term for DT.
- Shadrak Mushengezi and Dylan Skitmore for excellent work in English.
- Oliver Attoe, Ellie Chapman, Lilia Colledge, Jack Morries, Amelie Orr and Jess Roll for excellent engagement with the live support lesson in English.
- Ben Ashby, Calvin Smith, Bailey Dukker, Lilia Colledge, Lola Thompson, Lucy Moscrop, Lottie Sanderson and Samuel Leverett for excellent engagement with all lessons in Science.

Well done to you all! Keep up the incredible efforts and engagement.

You may have already noticed that the work has been arriving on Teams in a slightly different format this half term for your child/ward. Their lessons will arrive on Teams at the time their lesson would have been during that day. For example, if your child/ward had English P4 then their work will arrive at 12:20pm. This will hopefully make their work seem more manageable and less overwhelming than seeing five pieces of outstanding work waiting for them when they log-in in the morning.

Virtual “live support” lessons will be continuing and increasing in the number on offer this half term so please encourage your child/ward to keep an eye out for invitations in their inbox. A quick heads up for you all; their next English lesson is on Monday 8th at 1:00pm. We really cannot recommend these lessons enough as a chance for your child/ward to have a chance to ask questions regarding work and their teacher be there to respond immediately.

Thank you again for your unwavering support during this continued period of uncertainty. From speaking to parents, it is amazing to hear so many of you taking a keen interest in your child/ward’s education.

As always, if you have any questions or queries, you are more than welcome to contact either of us at emma.matthews@open-academy.org.uk or debbie.lamb@open-academy.org.uk.

Many thanks,

Miss E Matthews (Head of Year 10) and Mrs D Lamb (Assistant Head of Year 10)

## **7. Year 11 News**

I hope that all your family is keeping well and managing the easing of restrictions mentally as well as practically. Initially I did find it difficult to break out from the safety bubble of our home but now we are all getting our head around the idea.

Teachers may be setting optional work for yr 11 students to complete as we appreciate their focus should be on their next steps but keeping learning is important for maintaining and improving mental health.

If your son or daughter has not received work from their sixth form provider or apprenticeship course they could email or phone and ask. They could also look on the website and then research the course and any preparation work online. This will be a huge help in reducing the large jump from KS4 to KS5.

Learning also doesn't need educationally formal, currently there are lots of free courses available online, for example British Sign Language (BSL) are offering a free course online to everyone under the age of 18, and of course there are lots of life skills to be learned at home.

Take care

Mrs R Pearsall and Mrs M Middleton

## **8. Sixth Form News**

Welcome back after a sunny and hopefully relaxing half term.

Year 13

As you are aware, Year 13 will no longer be sent any work via subject teachers. However, please look out for my weekly emails as I will still be sending you relevant webinars and virtual meetings to enrol on which I think will be relevant and useful for you at this stage. Ms Davies will also continue to make her wellbeing calls to some of you on a regular basis. Please use this opportunity to keep her up to date of what your plans are for next year, or if you have any worries or concerns. Remember you can also email me anytime! No worry or question is silly, so please make sure you contact us and talk! We have been having a number of virtual meetings with students who need some guidance with applying for apprenticeships, University finance, University accommodation etc. So although we are not physically in the Open Academy building at the moment, we are still available every day to help you with every step that you may need some guidance on.

Here's an article about what some universities are doing about starting (freshers' week and term one arrangements. The source is a magazine aimed at university and pre-university students which has got sponsorship from a university (that will be obvious) but the information will be of interest. READ

Year 12



We still haven't had confirmation about return dates for Y12, but please be reassured that we will let you know as soon as we do, but please continue to engage in the virtual lessons and the work sent home by your teachers. Very well done to those of you that have been engaging so well with the work your teachers have sent home.

Big shout outs must go to Reuben Harvey (excellent Psychology work), Sam Mixer (very detailed Psychology notes), Solomon Druce & Tyler Swallow (superb participation in Live IT & Computer science lessons), Elliot Walpole (high quality of independent work in BTEC Sport and for working his socks off in Biology), all Y12 Football Academy boys for getting involved in online lessons and submitting good quality work in preparation for next year, Matt Mixer (excellent work in Biology). Keep up the good work everyone!

As you know, I have been very busy sending you out a whole host of emails with links to webinars and virtual meetings. Please try and join at least one of these as they are immensely helpful for all choices that you will need to make next year and beyond sixth form.

Football Academy

Wroxham FC are delighted to announce the appointment of an experienced coach and manager Garth Good, to join former Norwich City player Cedric Anselin at the club's partnership project at Open Academy, WFC Open Academy. Garth, who has previously managed Norwich United and has held several roles at a number of clubs said that he is excited to be joining the Broads based club in a paid capacity to build on the successes already achieved.

Good luck!

## **9. Wellbeing reminders**

Please see the attached information regarding wellbeing. This week I am including information on a number of different levels from the very accessible Joyful June Action for Happiness poster, through Ten Top Tips for coping with change to the more in-depth Coronavirus research bite 1 self-management of anxiety paper. I hope one or more of these is useful to reflect on for you and your child during this extended time of turmoil.

For parents in years 10 and 12 I have included a poster on managing anxiety as we return to school and below you will find links from Mrs O'Kelly to some fantastic resources, one a website, the other a YouTube video which help explore the concerns you might have as we start thinking about a partial return in the next few weeks

<https://www.acamh.org/blog/helping-parents-and-teachers-deal-with-apprehension-and-anxiety-when-returning-to-school/>

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H96X6zw7rgE&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H96X6zw7rgE&feature=emb_logo)

## **10. Free Sanitary Products - Challenging period poverty**

- We know during these challenging times that some will be struggling to provide sanitary products for their children. We have always tried to ensure that students have ready access to any products they require, however as students are not in, it is hard to know how to do this as efficiently and discreetly as possible.
- Our approach is therefore going to be to supply sanitary products as a matter of course in our Free School Meal Hampers and any deliveries we make to all female students. Feel free to leave them here when you collect your hamper, or return them as we deliver if they are not required.

- For students not on free school meals we will operate a drop-in collection service - and will have carrier bags of products available for collection at all times in the reception area of the Academy so that they may feel free to come and collect a bag without having to discuss it.
- Finally, you or your child can drop a text to Mrs Roe on 07810 515978 to say what you need and she will arrange either to have some dropped off or some ready for collection.

**In this way we hope no one will struggle in this area of basic necessities.**

### **11. General TEAMS help**

Teams Support: We have created a series of videos to help students access work in Teams. These have been emailed to students but are also available for parents and carers to help you support your child's home learning. Please see the PowerPoint attached with links to the videos.

### **12. Library News and Activities**

We have had some excellent readers for our Secret Garden Read-a-long this week. Listen to the latest chapters here: <https://soundcloud.com/user-895185797/sets/the-secret-garden-open-academy>

Clubs:

We are continuing to run our Manga and Book Clubs through teams this term. These are weekly chats where we share recommendations and have a chance to catch up and talk to each other.

We are also adding a new Library Live session this term as we begin to follow the Carnegie Book Award. This is a national programme that highlights some of the best books written for young people in the past year. Our weekly meetings will include live readings, quizzes and book discussion. See the poster attached to find out more and see what books have been nominated this year.

Manga Club: Monday 3pm

Book Club: Tuesday 12:30pm

Library Live- Carnegie Book Award: Wednesday at 3:15pm

Please contact Miss Ling if you would like to be involved in any of these clubs so you can be added to the groups in Teams.

### **13. Careers Update**

Our Sector of the Month for June is **Energy**. I thought that this would be a particularly relevant choice, as clicking my heating back on this morning, I guessed we have probably taken for granted the reliability of our energy and waste management services which have continued as normal throughout lockdown! Broadly speaking, the sector covers the sourcing and provision of energy supplies and the management of renewables and waste and as an industry companies in the East of England lead the way in the production of wind, gas and nuclear power as well as innovations in recycling. It is therefore a really important area of future employment for our students to consider. I have put together a number of resources which are listed in the attachment and could be used in the classroom or for independent research into particular career or study opportunities.

- There are a number of online careers talks happening over the next week which include the latest from **Speakers for Schools** which include discussions on singing techniques, demystifying the sports industry and ways to build your confidence.

These are definitely worth checking out and are a great way to learn from people who work in specialist fields

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

- On the apprenticeships side, opportunities with two local companies are going live. Marsh Insurance Brokers are running a number of webinars on the kinds of opportunities on offer in the insurance industry and how to apply for an apprenticeship with them. Lifeline24, a healthcare company based in Bowthorpe have recently been in touch to offer Open Academy students a chance to join their growing company and gain a qualification in Business Administration. If you are interested in this please contact Careers Facilitator, Caroline Davies at [Caroline.Davies@open-academy.org.uk](mailto:Caroline.Davies@open-academy.org.uk) for more information on how to apply.
- Finally, lots of you have signed up to Unifrog and created your own careers profiles which is fantastic. This is open to all students from Year 10 upwards and is an invaluable source for ideas and information which you can tailor to your own preferences. Sign in to [www.unifrog.org](http://www.unifrog.org) using your Open Academy email address and generate a link by clicking on 'forgotten password'. *For those of you who are interested in apprenticeships this has the best database of live opportunities available.*

#### 14. Mark's Chaplain's Reflection

The link to Marks video reflection is here...

<https://youtu.be/KN1qi1dj0Pg>

Kindness Changes the World

I hope this finds you all well and I trust you had a great half term. Over the last week I have been thinking a lot about kindness and how powerful it is even in the smallest of doses. To be kind means to be generous, helpful, and thoughtful about other people's feelings. In this time, we are going through, small acts of kindness are essential and are a must. I realised this the other day as I was out on an errand and I stopped to let a person cross the road as the traffic was quite busy. When she reached the other side of the road she turned around, waved at me with the most amazing grin on her face saying "thank you". You would have thought I had just given her a million pounds or something like that judging by the look on her face.

That really challenged me. We often think that to be kind we have to do something massive. It's not about that. Kindness is in the simple small acts of consideration and help. Kindness sets people free, it brightens their outlook and alters the course of their day. Harold Kushner quoted this, "When you are kind to others, it not only changes you, it changes the world

Don't wait to receive kindness to give it away, be a carrier of it to others and just give it anyway. I love this quote from Mother Theresa

*"People are often unreasonable, irrational, and self-centred. Forgive them anyway.  
If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives. Be kind anyway.  
If you are successful, you will win some unfaithful friends and some genuine enemies.  
Succeed anyway.*

*If you are honest and sincere people may deceive you. Be honest and sincere anyway.  
What you spend years creating, others could destroy overnight. Create anyway.  
If you find serenity and happiness, some may be jealous. Be happy anyway.*

*The good you do today, will often be forgotten. Do good anyway.  
Give the best you have, and it will never be enough. Give your best anyway.*

*In the final analysis, it is between you and God. It was never between you and them anyway”.*

In closing, the Bible talks about kindness in saying “Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people”. I pray that you will feel the kindness of God on your lives today.

God bless you all.

Mark