

Scarborough UTC News Flash Friday 11th February 2022

INTRODUCTION

Dear Parent/Carer

Summer exams for GCSEs, AS and A levels will be taking place in 2022 for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic began. OfQUAL and the Department for Education recognise the difficulties students may have faced during the pandemic, and changes have been made to this year's arrangements to help students.

This week saw the issue of the OfQUAL guidance on additional help for students taking exams in summer 2022. According to the DfE:

"An unprecedented package of support has been put in place for students. Advance information will help them focus their revision. Exam boards have provided advance information for exams in most subjects. Students will have a choice of topics or content in some other GCSE subjects. Exam boards will also provide a formulae sheet and an updated equation sheet that students will have in their GCSE maths, physics and combined science exams. This advance information will also help teachers manage revision time in the lead-up to exams. In addition, more generous grading will provide a safety net for students."

Alongside this guidance the government have issued a helpful postcard which summarises the main details:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1052385/advance_information_postcard_2022-02-03_1446.pdf

I wanted to reassure all parents that alongside the support being provided by exam boards for students we have ourselves developed a wide range of strategies and interventions so that our students are best prepared for sitting their GCSE and A level exams this summer.

One of these strategies is students sitting Pre-Public Examination (PPEs) this week and next so that they get the practice scenario of the formality and challenge of sitting examination papers in examination rooms. We will use the outcomes from these PPEs to help determine the teaching and interventions needed on a student level to close any gaps in students' learning. We have an intervention plan in place to support this process and we will use this and the additional information from exam boards to ensure your child is as well prepared as possible for the upcoming summer exams.

Thank you for your support in ensuring your child is working at their best in college and during revision at home during the next weeks.

Mr. Kilgour
Principal

T&L@SUTC

Teachers at Scarborough UTC have been working hard recently to develop a bank of resources and information to help clearly communicate our Professional Values and Employability Skills to students within lessons across the curriculum. Every classroom at Scarborough UTC has a poster that shows the

key skills we demand of our students and promote within lessons and beyond; those key areas are self-management, understanding, teamwork and communication. Students are rewarded for their performance in lessons within these areas which contribute to the awarding of certificates, prizes and extra opportunities both within and at the end of each term.

In order to ensure that students leave us with outstanding employability skills, as is the intention, we have been working hard this academic year to embed our Professional Values and Employability Skills across the curriculum subjects. But it doesn't end there; you could encourage your son/daughter to demonstrate these valuable life skills beyond the college too, and to talk about their application within lessons and employer project activities.

ASSESSMENT AND CURRICULUM

All Years: All assessment information, Attendance, Professional values, behaviour and target information is published on the "My Child at school" app. This is a secure and personal portal that allows you to assess the progress of your child at any time. Invites for the portal have been issued. If there are any issues accessing the app, please report this to enquiries@scarboroughutc.co.uk for further assistance. Registering for the app is vital as this is the primary method of regular communication to parents.

Behaviour and Safety

It is important to continue the highest standards of business dress policy, with masks worn in communal areas. Please check and ensure that equipment, stationary and scientific calculators are in good working order.

Maintaining 100% attendance is important to ensure we can continue to support progress effectively. Students are supported through tutor time with attendance challenges. Attendance is a very important focus for all students to ensure we can support attainment throughout the Spring term. A hard-working environment is vital to ensure students feel safe and make continued progress.

Firstly, structures are in place to guarantee that all students gain best opportunity to meet high standards and are recognised for hard work in areas identified by Professional Values and Employability Skills (PVES), these positive points are identified on your MCAS parental account. By tracking this information regularly, you will be able to identify areas of strength and development for your child.

Curriculum, Feedback and Assessment

Year 10 & 12

Good routine revision practice is essential in Year 10 and 12. Students complete a number of assessments across statutory subjects and Engineering or Health Pathways, it is important that students pay due attention to coursework deadlines and revise regularly.

Year 11 & Y13

Pre-Public exams commenced on Thursday 10th February. These are full practice exams with external invigilators. The exams finish on Friday 18th February. Both the invigilators and staff have commended students for their professional attitude and excellent manners.

Forthcoming Attainment Assessment and feedback dates

Year 10/12

The assessment process at SUTC uses live assessment sheets, this means that assessment grade sheets are continually open. This allows staff to amend data and attitude to learning grades following each data capture and respond to formative assessment used within the classroom.

Year 11/13

Assessment Data Analysis for the scheduled PPE's will take place w/c 7th March and reporting information will be published on MCAS w/c 14th March 2022.

SIXTH FORM

We have had a busy week in the sixth form with Year 12 students having talks from York University.

Year 13 have started their PPE examinations. These will continue into next week.

- Year 13 have continued the MyTutor sessions online in STEM subject offering 1:1 support.
- Congratulations all year 13 student who have progressed with their apprenticeship applications.
- We advise students to visit universities for open days or applicant days after receiving an offer to help them make an informed decision about their final choices.

ETHOS AND CAREERS

Our theme of the week has been National Apprenticeship Week. Students have learnt what an apprenticeship is and about the many that are available in the world of science, technology engineering and maths. They have watched films about different apprentices and their careers. Apprenticeships provide both training and work and there are many excellent opportunities available.

There is lots of excellent information for parents and students on the apprenticeships site. See here for the link: <https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/influencers/naw-2022>

Students in Year 10 and 12 have also had an assembly with Miss Griffiths about the different apprenticeships that are available with our partner companies:

Anglo American		- mining Polyhalite https://www.angloamerican.com/careers
McCain		- food product development and manufacture https://www.mccain.com/careers/students-graduates/
GCHQ		- cybersecurity https://www.gchq-careers.co.uk/early-careers/apprenticeships.html
Firmac		- manufacture of duct forming machines https://firmac.co.uk/home/careers

Unison		- manufacture of tube bending machines https://www.unisonltd.com/careers/
Deep Sea Electronics		- PCB manufacture and generator controller development https://www.deepseaelectronics.com/careers
Northern Powergrid		- supply of electricity across the North https://careemap.co.uk/northern-powergrid-apprenticeships/
Severfield		- structural engineering https://www.severfield.com/apprenticeship-opportunities-severfield/

Our students were able to develop their communication skills in full on Thursday evening as they worked to support our open evening event with potential parents and pupils. Our student leaders were particularly strong in leading tours around the college and were able to discuss their passion for their subject with our visitors. It gave the students involved lots of opportunities to demonstrate their skills and abilities.

Well done to leaders : Mya, Xavier, Charles , Missy and Alex and those also who supported with tours : Serhii, Nathan, Phoebe , Sam and Caitlin.

CAREERS

Year 10 students participated in a speed networking event on Thursday morning to help them get started on their journey towards work experience. Students met and questioned seven local employers and learnt about their companies, jobs and apprenticeship opportunities. Thanks to Northern Powergrid, First Light Trust, Beyond Housing, Firmac, NHS, Deep Sea Electronics and Scarborough Museum's Trust for their input.

Students have been learning about their presentation skills in tutor sessions this week as part of their employability skills. They have been challenged to research a career that interests them and do a presentation about this.

Mr Forster, our careers officer has been working with our students this week in Year 10.

Unison have been working with our Year 12 and 13 engineering teaching CAD.

Students are working well in the enrichment project with UNISON .

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

We have had some technical difficulties with our website and email this week. We are pleased to confirm these matters are now resolved. If you have sent an email to college and not had a response please resend it as there is a strong possibility it wasn't received. We apologise for any inconvenience caused. Thank you to parent/carers who raised the issue with website difficulties with us, this enabled a swift response.

Please continue to encourage your child to access this resource and listen to engaging podcasts across a broad range of subjects.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Spring Half term:	Monday 21 st February to Friday 25 th February 2022
Easter holiday:	Monday 11 th April to Friday 22 nd April 2022
First day of summer term for students:	Monday 25 th April 2022
Bank holiday:	Monday 2 nd May 2022
Summer Half term:	Monday 30 th May to Friday 3 th June 2022
Term ends:	Friday 22 nd July 2022