

20 April 2020

Dear Parents

Year 11 Post Easter Plans

I hope you have all had a wonderful Easter, albeit in unique circumstances. Thank you for the huge amount of positive and constructive feedback we received before the Easter break, it was much appreciated. We are immensely proud of how the school community has come together during this challenging time. With such challenges, opportunities can also arise. This current situation for Year 11 has allowed us the chance to review our usual plans for the summer term. We feel there is an opportunity to think outside the box and to be creative in what we can provide for your young men. With this in mind **post Easter, the students will continue to study their GCSE subjects for two weeks**. In the third week of term, we have prepared for all students to complete an EtonX qualification in interview skills.

EtonX (<https://etonx.com/>) creates innovative online courses and software for teenagers to develop the skills they need to thrive in a rapidly changing world. Its *Future Skills Programme* is a series of short online courses designed to equip young people with the practical, entrepreneurial and transferable skills they need for university entrance and a successful career beyond.

During this period Eton have kindly made their courses freely available for schools. We have been offered one free course for Year 11. The course our students will enrol on is the Interview Skills Course. We feel this is the most relevant to all members of the year group.

By the end of this course, students will be able to demonstrate:

- Effective pre-interview research and preparation
- Understanding what the interviewer is looking for
- Structuring effective answers
- Thinking on your feet
- Strategies for dealing with tricky questions
- Managing nerves
- Body language and interview etiquette
- Assertiveness and resilience

I will send out login details shortly. We hope to start the course in Week 3 of this term. It will require 7-10 hours of self-study following the online resources. We would therefore expect students to complete the course during the week. We will look forward to tracking their progress and celebrating their success.

At the beginning of Week 4 this term we will start a 4-week A-level preparation programme in the subjects your son has chosen to study next year. He will begin his Summer Holiday on Monday 15 June.

We are bitterly disappointed that these young men have not been able to sit their public exams. However, there are great opportunities which we need to make the most of in the coming months. We have a chance to give your sons a real springboard into next year. Thank you for all the support you give your sons and the School.

Yours sincerely,

Alex Wallace
Deputy Headmaster