

Sixth Form Newsletter

December 2020



Update from Mr Coates

I have been delighted with how well Year 12 and Year 13 have settled back into school this term. Having not been in school for almost six months, I have been so impressed with the resilience, tenacity and motivation that both year groups have demonstrated since their return in September. We have worked very hard in school to make the environment Covid-19 secure and our Sixth Form students have shown huge levels of adaptability and compliance in adjusting to new arrangements and routines. It has been great to see students back in the classroom, engaging in lessons and making progress in their subjects. Where students have been required to isolate at home, students have shown diligence and embraced new technologies to keep engaged with their learning. We look forward to a busy term ahead with Pre-Public Exams (PPEs) for Year 13 in January and some exciting and innovative careers preparation for Year 12. From all in the Sixth Form Team, we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Student mobile phone numbers

To improve our direct communication with students, we will shortly be requesting that students provide us with their mobile phone numbers. These will be uploaded securely to Bromcom (our school information system) and will mean that teachers and the Sixth Form Team can text students key reminders and information. Students will be sent a link in the new year to an MS Form to submit their number, which is optional.

Year 13 PPEs

Year 13 Pre-Public Examinations (PPE) week will take place during the week beginning Monday 18th January 2021. Students have recently been emailed their exam timetables. To support the students in preparing for these exams, **all students in Year 13** will have study leave in the week beginning 18th January. During this week, students should prepare for their exams or work on outstanding BTEC assignments.

If students wish to come into school to study or to work on assignments, they must tap-in/tap-out using the electronic terminals and they must sit in their designated seat in the main Hall. All students will return to school as normal on Monday 25th January 2021.

Sixth Form Staff

Miss Wilkin will be leaving us at the end of term to take up a new post in the South East. Miss Wilkin has been at South for almost 15 years and has worked in the Sixth Form team for the last four. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Miss Wilkin for her service to the school and Sixth Form, and wish her all the best for the future. Miss Dodd will be joining the Sixth Form team in January and will take over pastoral responsibility for Year 12. Mr Coates will take over pastoral responsibility for Year 13 in their final two terms.



PSD/Assembly Update

This term Year 13 have been working hard finalising their post-18 applications during their PSD time, supported by Miss Wilkin and their tutors. At the time of writing over 100 UCAS applications have been submitted.

Year 12 have started their post-18 planning, and have been using Unifrog, our careers and destinations platform, to record their skills and research their next steps. They have also recently started working through the Change Makers PSD programme, which will continue into the new year.

Both year groups have also recently had assemblies from Ms Talbot on study skills and revision strategies, especially useful for Year 13 with PPEs on the horizon.

Reminders

To report a Sixth Form absence, please remember to let us know by 8.30am by calling the main school number (01527 831783) and selecting the option to report a Sixth Form absence or by emailing sixthform@southbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk.

Year 12 GSCE/BTEC Certificates

These have now arrived in school and have been collated by the Exams Office. These will be distributed directly to students in the first two weeks after the Christmas holidays. Students should ensure that they take them home for safe-keeping and do not leave them in school—missing or lost certificates are very costly to replace.