

Blessed George Napier Catholic School and Sixth Form

A Youth Sport Trust Lead School for Inclusion

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www.bgn.oxon.sch.uk

Compassion

Respect

Truth

Service

Forgiveness



October 2020

Information for University and College Admissions Teams: The impact of Coronavirus

Teaching and Learning during lockdown

BGN closed on 20th March at which point all teaching and learning was online via our Virtual Learning Environment platform, Fusion. Lessons were planned in accordance to time allocated on the timetable, however not many lessons were 'live'; most required students to download resources, complete guided tasks and upload responses for assessment. Each student in year 12 was invited to attend a face to face session of four hours duration per subject in June/July. Engagement with online learning varied and many students struggled to work remotely.

Assessment of student progress during lockdown

We had to cancel our scheduled formal mock exams as a result of lockdown. As an alternative, student progress was assessed in July 2020 and every student undertook an assessment per subject online with the internet access disabled. Students were given written feedback before the summer holiday. Progress was again assessed in early October when students sat an A level paper under timed conditions. They were given written and oral feedback and this together with continued assessment will be used to inform predicted grades and to identify gaps in student learning over lockdown.

Predicted grades 2020

We use the ALPS system to calculate minimum expected grades based on attainment at GCSE. In the case of a split grade we use the higher grade. Students are aware of their expected grade and are monitored against it throughout year 12 and 13. We are continuing to use this benchmark currently despite the interruption to learning caused by lockdown.

UCAS application process

All students attended the UCAS exhibition at Brunel University on 11th March 2020 and we replaced our planned 13th July UCAS conference with a day of 'live' interactive tutorials online which covered:

- Post 18 options
- Choosing a university course
- Virtual work experience
- Completing UCAS online application
- Writing a personal statement
- Super-curricular ideas
- Using *Unifrog* effectively

Principal: **Mr Fraser Long, B.Eng (Hons), MA.** headteacher@bgn.oxon.sch.uk

An academy within The Pope Francis Catholic Multi Academy Company which is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity registered in England and Wales with company number 9113542 and registered address Addison Road, Banbury, Oxon, OX16 9DG.

"The school's contribution to pupils' personal, spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is exemplary. Pupils go out of their way to do good things. They act as positive role models for younger children." *Ofsted, June 2017*

As a response to lockdown, all students were sent a copy of *Apply 2020* to their home address and were also given an account with *George Teaches*. All students have had access to *Unifrog* since year 11 to enable them to research their options.

In addition, we compile a weekly student/parent bulletin which focuses on careers guidance and wellbeing. This regularly contains information from UCAS and universities and includes hyperlinks to open days; virtual work experiences; subject taster days; MOOCs etc

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