

20 April 2020

Dear Year 13 Parents

I hope this email finds you and your families well.

Plans are now in place for the Year 13 Post A-level Programme and the dates for this are below:

COURSE DATES:				
Week 1 - 11 May	Post A-level programme			
Week 2 - 18 May	Post A-level programme			
23 May – 31 May half term				
Week 3 - 1 June	Post A-level programme			
Week 4 - 8 June	Post A-level programme			
Week 5 - 15 June	Post A-level programme			
Week 6 - 22 June	'Being World Class' (David Harkins)			
Week 7 - 29 June	Virtual Work Experience/Professional Skills Course (TM/ZL) plus Super-Curricular Supervisions			

The programme will run for seven weeks following the start of what would have been study leave. For the last two weeks of this programme, Mr Harkins (Entrepreneur in Residence) will be running a course for all Year 13 students called 'Being World Class' and the Careers Department will be co-ordinating a week of virtual work experience. Further details for these will be sent to the students in due course.

For the first five weeks, pupils will have the opportunity to complete a range of sessions which will provide depth to their previous studies, develop their academic skills in preparation for university/higher education and widen their interests.

Principal Mrs Rebecca Glover B.Ed(Hons)



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The programme contains five elements:

- Subject-based tutorials i.e. Psychology beyond the A-level, Geography Stretch and Challenge, Music Performance at degree level etc. Students will need to choose between one and three of these courses. Each tutorial will require between two and four hours of preparation and this should be considered when choosing the number of courses to take.
- Non-subject based tutorials i.e. An Introduction to Sports Science, Research Skills for University etc. Students should choose between one and two of these courses. I would encourage all students to complete one of the Research Skills courses to help them prepare for university/high education.
- 3. A University Preparation Course, which will run every Tuesday during Period 4. This course will cover applying for student loans, managing money, settling in at university, accessing additional support etc. There will also be two, live online cooking courses to help students prepare for life away from home.
- 4. Alumnae Discussion groups will be run every Friday lunchtime. We have over fifty alumnae from a range of backgrounds and careers who will be online to offer help and guidance on university life, applying for graduate jobs, career choices etc.
- 5. Mr McDermott and a team of staff will lead weekly small group supervisions via MS Teams, with, where possible, students broadly grouped by degree subject. These are designed to check-in on students' pre-university studies and give guidance on further relevant supercurricular endeavours. Information on this will be sent to the students once term starts.

The weekly timetable for this programme is included in the attached document. This document also contains a synopsis of each course to help your daughter choose the courses which are most appropriate and interesting to them.

I have also sent an 'Overview for Pupils' to your daughter, which explains the programme and the steps they need to take to sign-up for the courses of their choice. Included with this email is a short video to help your daughter understand the structure of this course and the sign-up process.

At this stage, to enable the organisation of groups, could you please complete the MIS online reply to indicate your daughter's choices of subject-based tutorials and non-subject based tutorials. Once we have this information, the member of staff organising each session will be in contact with your daughter with an invite to the MS Teams lessons.

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I am sure this programme will provide an opportunity for your daughter to maintain the academic momentum from last term whilst also providing fresh opportunities to learn something new.

Kind regards

Jon Owen
Assistant Principal/Director of Sixth Form

Principal Mrs Rebecca Glover B.Ed(Hons)



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Post A-level Programme Overview



What you need to do:

One

Subject-based tutorials (choose one, two or three)

Two

Non-subject based tutorials - open to anyone (choose one or two)

Three

Courses/Opportunities which all students will be automatically signed-up for

Four

The Careers Department will be in touch with students separately regarding weekly super-curricular small group supervisions.

One

Synopsis

Subject-Based Tutorials

(Choose one, two or three)

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1.	Extension English and Introduction to Liberal Arts	French Extension - Molière's "Le Tartuffe	'A History of Economic Thought?'	An Introduction to Law 'An Introduction to Economics for a Business Course'	Biomedical Stretch and Challenge
2.	Advanced Research Skills (for students who have completed the EPQ taught course)	Art Extension An Introduction to Law	Research Skills for University Drama - "Game Changing" Moments in Theatrical History	In Our Time Discussion Group An Introduction to International Relations	Design Technology Textiles Extension Chemistry Stretch and Challenge
3.	An Introduction to Sport Science	Coaching Skills to Develop Others Psychology Beyond the A-level	Geography Stretch and Challenge Design Technology Textiles Extension	Extension History	Advanced Research Skills (for students who have completed the EPQ taught course)
Lunch 12.45pm to 1.30pm	Super-curricular Small Group Supervision	Super-curricular Small Group Supervision	Super-curricular Small Group Supervision	Super-curricular Small Group Supervision	Virtual Alumnae Lunch Meeting (Ms Rumbold) (All students)
4.	Medical Physics Spanish Grammar and Entry Level Translation	University Transition Course (All students)	Contemporary British Fiction	Introductory study of French Poetry	Advanced Research Skills (for students who have completed the EPQ taught course) Music Performance at Degree Level
5.	Financial Derivatives - Talk like a Trader	Introduction to Coding Research Skills for University	Extension Art History Further, Further Maths	The Theology of the Book of Revelation Maths Extension	Biology Beyond the A-level

Art Extension

The Art extension course aims to continue developing your artistic and creative skills in preparation for Art Foundation. You will be exploring and refining technical skills, as well as broadening your knowledge of art history through online resources of leading artists, curators and academics. We will come together as a group weekly to discuss and share your findings.



Extension sessions for biologists covering topics above and beyond the A-level.

Biomedicine/Medics Extension

An introduction to physiology and pharmacology for students interested in biological sciences, medicine, vet sciences etc. We will explore the physiology that is not included in the A-level course and aspects of pharmacology etc.

Susiness and Economics

An Introduction to Economics for Business

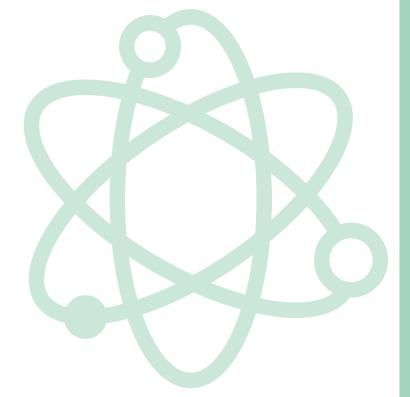
These sessions will aim to develop an understanding of staple economic theory to prepare you for a Business course a university, where often Economics is a core module.

Business and Economics

'Financial Derivatives - Talk like a Trader' - A practical introduction to financial derivatives (aka 'Talk like a Trader'): The most commonly traded financial instruments, how derivative markets function and practical applications for financial risk management.

Chemistry Stretch and Challenge

Chemistry stretch and challenge for students who would like to take their studies beyond the A-level syllabus.



D&T Textiles

Please note there are two sessions per week

Session 1 will focus on contemporary and historical millinery as a research project. The student will then have an introduction to millinery techniques through live feed and a series of practical projects to undertake, developing a range of samples that can be transferred to both millinery and costume.

Session 2 will be delivered as focused individual learning reflecting on **Year 1 of the BA Fashion Marketing at Leeds**; especially looking at units that will be taught in the first semester of Year 1

Topics to be covered include fashion in context and fashion marketing. We will look at the fashion life cycle, the development of a new brand and how fashion evolves and regenerates over time, what will constitute a good product and how some products fail.

'Game Changing' Moments in Theatrical History

Developing a useful general knowledge and understanding of how key genres and historical moments affected, influenced and changed theatre history. Useful for any university course involving theatre.



History Research Skills

We will be focusing on research skills for studying History, International Relations or a related subject at university. We will also consider historiography in more depth, in particular why historians reach their conclusions. These skills will build on what you have done at A-level.

The History of Economic Thought

Economics emerged only slowly as a distinct discipline. While initially borne out of theology and moral philosophy, it later drew influence from scientific theories and mathematical principles. From the ancient world to the present day, this short course will examine well known figures such as Adam Smith, Malthus, Marx and Keynes as well as investigating other key economic events, which have shaped the society we live in today.

Contemporary British Literature

Designed for those students who will be studying Literature. This course will aim to demystify some of the -isms a student might come across. Through fiction by C.S. Lewis, Jean Rhys, Ian McEwan, and Ali Smith, this course will explain concepts such as realism, postmodernism, and allegory.

Extension English and an Introduction to Liberal Arts

For students of English Literature or the Liberal Arts:

- 1. Introduction to modernism
- 2. Modernist writers
- 3. LGBTQIA literature and history
- 4. Feminist literature and culture

Introduction to French Poetry

Introduction to French Poetry "Les plus beaux poèmes pour la jeunesse, choisis par les poètes d'aujourd'hui" where we will be looking at accessible poems by the greats: Jean de la Fontaine, Victor Hugo, Guillaume Apollinaire, Joachim du Bellay, Francois Villon, Arthur Rimbaud, Charles Baudelaire, Pierre de Ronsard, Paul Verlaine, et autres!

French Extension

Molière's 'Le Tartuffe'



What you should know about the British Isles.



Further Maths Extension

Further Further Maths - Extension maths to stretch and challenge anyone who has already completed the Further Maths A-level course.

Maths Extension

Maths Extension - Extension maths to stretch and challenge anyone who has already completed the Maths A-level course.

Physics

Medical Physics

Medical Physics - An introduction to medical physics for non-physicists. Useful for biologists, biomedical scientists, medics, chemists etc. or anyone who just would like to know more.

Psychology Beyond the A-level

Exploring topics in Psychology that you will explore further at university level. You will also build confidence in reading original journal articles and distilling information from them to debate the original research's impact on society.



Religious Studies

'I saw a beast coming out of the sea. It had ten horns and seven heads' - Revelation is the final book of the bible and its symbolism has inspired many movies, such as 'The Omen', but what is the real meaning behind this book?



Two

Non-Subject Based Tutorials

Open to anyone

(Choose one or two)

Advanced Research Skills

Advanced Research Skills - Suitable for students who have completed the EPQ Taught Course syllabus. Taking the independent research skills learnt on EPQ to the next level. Develop advanced skills such as constructing keywords, improving search results, and ranking resource evaluation criteria. All this will help to give you a head start at university.

Art History Extension

An extension course for those studying A-level Art History as well as for those with an interest in the history of art. We will be looking in more academic detail at some of the most important movements in western art as well as an introduction to non-western art such as ancient and contemporary Chinese and Japanese art, politics in 20th century art and graphics, and Western African sculpture.

oaching skills

Coaching Skills

Coaching Skills Course - Not the sports kind... this is learning how to ask questions to allow others to maximise their potential. Develop a new leadership skill. You don't need the answers because the coaches hold them. What could be better than asking questions without knowing the answers? Learn to withhold advice and give the people around you the power... a skill in itself.



Coding

An Introduction to Coding - A coding course for absolute beginners, using the Python language. Coding will soon be essential for most careers and your degree may well have some coding modules.





Discussion

In Our Times Discussion - 'In Our Time' is a live BBC radio discussion series exploring a wide variety of historical, art, scientific and social science topics, presented by Melvyn Bragg, since 15 October 1998. Over 800 episodes have been produced ranging from Marie Antoinette to the evolution of horses, solar winds to coffee. Each episode is between 45-60 minutes long. Each week on Friday, I will share a specific episode with the group. Then, on Thursday, we will discuss what we found out, what questions we have subsequently developed and where further research could be carried out. I will purposely pick one episode from the following categories: fine art, European history, life sciences, physical sciences, world changing ideas or people and literature.

To have a look at the back catalogue and get a taste for what 'In Our Tme' is like follow this link: bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006qykl

Introduction to Law

These sessions will start with discussion on the main principles of UK law before looking at how these have been applied in a range of historical/landmark cases.



about Music

Politics/History/ Int. Relations

Writing about Music

"Writing about music is like dancing about architecture." Writing about Music is notoriously difficult. These sessions will explore various ways in which people have tried to explain how and why music affects us so profoundly. Through this, we will start to think about some of the hard questions surrounding the subject: 'What is the point of music?' 'What makes a piece of music 'good'?'

Suitable for any student with an interest in music.



Politics/History/International Relations

An Introduction to International Relations: We will be doing sessions on international relations, including learning about organisations like the United Nations, NATO and the G7. Students will then be able to pick political systems they are interested in, do research projects on them and we will discuss them in tutorial sessions.



Research Skills for University

Research Skills for University - Suitable for students who have not completed an EPQ Taught Skills programme - Reading, time management, note-taking and IT literacy skills can help you to research your university assignment topics in a quicker, more effective, way. This course will walk you through how to approach university work and provide practical tips for higher study.



Sport Science

An Introduction to Sport Science - A short course covering the basics of sports science. No need to be a "scientist" to do these sessions, but an interest in sport or science will help. Topics will include nutrition for sport, physiology, energy systems and sports psychology.



Three

Courses/Opportunities
which all students
will be automatically
signed-up for

University Transition Course

For all Year 13 students, this is an introduction to living away from home including managing money, accessing student support, using a washing machine and some helpful cooking tips.



Virtual Alumnae Lunch Meeting

Come and meet alumnae for a lunchtime discussion about transitions to university, graduate jobs, setting up you own company etc. Each week, a group of alumnae will be available to answer your questions and share their experiences and advice with you. This should be an invaluable session as you move on to higher education or employment later this year.



Additional Activities

Super Curricular Small Group Supervisions - once weekly 12.45-1.30pm

Your should attend one of the small group supervisions running each week and The Careers Department will be in next week with further details. These once weekly group sessions via MS Teams will be, where possible, organised by degree/higher education subject area and should help you to check progress in your studies and guide on further super curricular endeavours relevant to her aspirations and interests.

The Careers Department will also supply you with a comprehensive booklet of online super-curricular activities that will be used in and outside these sessions. It will include MOOCs (free online university courses from many of the world's leading institutions), ebooks, subject activities, podcasts and lectures.

'Being World Class' Programme

Weeks beginning 22 and 29 June

Mr Harkin (Entrepreneur in Residence) will be in contact in due course regarding the 'Being World Class' programme he will be running for Year 13 students.

In the week beginning 29 June, the Careers Department will put on a virtual work experience week and further details will follow.





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