



21<sup>st</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

## **St Edward's Routes beyond Year 11**

At St Edwards we remain committed to supporting all of our Year 11 students throughout this period of transition from Key Stage Four to Key Stage Five. Obviously during the current crisis it might be difficult for you to begin to make that transition in the way that you normally would. We understand the difficulty that this might cause for you and so in order to support you through this process we would like to offer the following support and guidance.

As featured in a recent edition of "St Edward's Spirit" we have put together a series of resources that all Year 11 students can use to help guide them with their next step. We have called these resources "Future Choices" and they contain information and advice about future careers, job profiles, online education and learning, industry information, further education, work experience, apprenticeships, universities, gap years and volunteering. Whatever future direction you are planning there will be something to help you to be more informed, and we would encourage all students to take some time and work through the information carefully.

In addition to this the Southern Universities Network having been working closely with the BCP council to produce a set of resources for Year 11 students which they have called "Flying Start". Similarly to our own resources these are aimed at helping young people think more carefully about their futures and prepare for them. Again we would encourage all Year 11 students to access and use these resources during this time. The link for these resources is <https://www.sunoutreach.org/resource-category/flying-start-dorset-wide/>. The Southern University Network have also created easy-to-use interactive workbooks complete with embedded instructional videos designed to allow students to think more about their future in an engaging way. The different topics available are discover your options, discover careerpilot, discover campus explorer and discover apprenticeships. This is available to all students at the following link: <https://www.sunoutreach.org/excluded-events/virtual-offer-students/>

## **Staying to study at St Edward's**

If you have applied to stay at St Edward's then we are inviting you to engage with the subjects you have chosen to study at A level in an exciting and novel way. You are going to be given opportunities to look at the relevance of your subjects in a wider context, engaging with your A level teachers on a different learning platform, whilst being supported in the development of some essential knowledge and skills.

Please find an outline of the Year 11 transition programme overleaf, which has taken into consideration these very different circumstances and how you might be best prepared for A Level courses. You will need to access Microsoft Teams/ SharePoint as these will be the platforms for setting activities and communication; instructions for its use will be given to you by your teachers when they add you to their team. You will find that you have been added to a team by Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May. We hope that this programme will ignite your enthusiasm for studying A Levels ahead of the new term. Your teachers are excited to be working with you.



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Month	Activities	Wider activities found in The Edge Programme
May 4th – 22nd	Complete the Moocs if started.  Subjects will set a reading list/ articles which allow you time to read properly, process and develop a wider interest in your subjects.	Consider which path you might like to pursue: university, training programmes, apprenticeships, gap years or employment
May 25 <sup>th</sup> -29th	Half Term – Course-related reading	
June 1 <sup>st</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup> June	Reading logs, or similar, with appropriate tasks related to your reading, will be issued, encouraging you to consider how your subjects relate to the real world today.  You will be expected to join a discussion forum to retain interest and encourage motivation.	
June 8 <sup>th</sup> - 17th	You will be engaged in activities/ tasks related to the development of subject specific skills.	Consider 'The Bigger Picture' from the wider reading websites in 'The Edge' version of "St Edward's Spirit"
June 18th – June 26th	You will be asked to complete an assignment or several shorter ones related to knowledge and skills	Find out where your chosen course(s) will take you and what most students who study your combinations of subjects go on to do.
June 29th – July 14th	You will receive feedback and if necessary, you might be given guidance to address any further development required at this stage, bearing in mind they you are GCSE students in transition rather than A Level students.	Create accounts, subscription specific to your subjects and log in details ( guidance will be issued)
July 17 <sup>th</sup> Summer holidays	Explore the on line resources recommended by your teachers so that you are familiar with them on starting Year 12. One piece of required reading will also be set.	



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This is a compulsory part of your transition to sixth form and, therefore, full participation is expected. Please note that this is in addition to achieving the required grades for entry to sixth form and your chosen subjects, but where you might require further evidence of your potential to study A Level, your engagement on this programme is likely to be considered.

## **Going on to study elsewhere**

Some of you will have planned the next step of your education to be somewhere else, away from St Edward's. We would like to continue to support you to make this transition as successfully and seamlessly as possible. Therefore we would like to offer you the following support and guidance.

We are aware that a number of students will have applied for courses at Bournemouth and Poole College. The College have shared a link to some subject specific resources for those who are looking to study a course at the college in September. These resources may help by offering them a chance to get prepared for their future courses.

The link for this preparation work provided by the college is <https://www.thecollege.co.uk/preparation-college>

Other colleges and providers will almost certainly also be providing guidance and resources for prospective students in the next few weeks, so we would advise all students to continue to monitor the websites of the colleges and schools that they may be planning to go to.

We have also been advised that the college is still open for applications, and will conduct telephone interviews with prospective students. If you have already applied but are unsure of the status of your application then we would advise you to contact the college directly. The same advice would apply for all other providers.

We know that some students will have applied for apprenticeships. Bournemouth and Poole College have acknowledged that there may be some difficulty in students obtaining the necessary work placement to go alongside their college course. Our understanding is that students will be offered a bridging course which will give them longer to secure their work placements. However due to the current crisis, there is no guarantee that work placements will be available and therefore students will need to think carefully about proceeding with these courses.

As we said at the start of the letter we remain committed to supporting all of our students and families in making a successful transition to Key Stage Five. In order for us to do this effectively we would be grateful if you could complete the attached form and return it to the school. If you would like any further guidance or support from our independent careers advisor, Mr Rigby, you can indicate it on this form and we would be happy to arrange that for you. We would also like to take this opportunity to inform you that there are still places available within our own Sixth Form for next year, and that we would be more than happy to discuss this as a possibility for you. If this is then the case then please apply via the school website.

Yours Sincerely

Mr D Hurley  
**Assistant Headteacher**

Mrs C Murphy-Parry  
**Head of Sixth Form**



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## St Edward's School Intended Destination Form.

Student Name: .....

What is your intended destination for post 16?

.....

(Please can you state, which Sixth Form, College, Course and Level)

Have you received an offer from the school / college for a place on this course?

.....

Do you have a back-up plan – if so please can you state what it is?

.....

Would you like any further support & guidance regarding careers and post 16 options? If yes please can you say what sort of support you might require?

.....

Would you like Mr Rigby, our careers advisor to give you a call regarding this? If yes what is the preferred number to call on?

.....

Please email this form to: [heretohelp@st-edwards.poole.sch.uk](mailto:heretohelp@st-edwards.poole.sch.uk)

It will be forwarded to the Sixth Form Administrator