

Sixth Form Bulletin 22/05/20

Queen Elizabeth High School, Hexham



Sixth Form Notices

BOTH YEARS QEHS Sixth Form Students - follow our new **Instagram page!** We are @qehs_sixth_form (https://www.instagram.com/qehs_sixth_form/)

Today the Curriculum Team are launching a new Instagram page, to pass on **relevant information and resources for progression** that we would normally be covering in special sessions if we were in school. After half term we will also regularly **highlight opportunities that have been advertised in the Sixth Form Bulletin.**

To start the Instagram page, Miss Innes, Rebecca and Michelle have **recorded a video** for Year 12 to cover changes we are making to the way we communicate with you and advice we would normally be giving you at this time of year if we were able to hold assemblies. For anyone without an Instagram account, the video will also shortly be available on the school website on the Next Steps page, under the Sixth Form drop-down menu.

University/College

YEAR 12 Some universities require you to sit an **admissions test** as part of their application process. Traditionally Oxford, Cambridge, medicine and dentistry courses have required these tests but increasingly a number of other competitive universities and courses are requiring them too. You need to research carefully to check if this is the case for you.

If you apply for a course that requires an admissions test, you will need to check the registration deadline for the test, when you will sit it, and what it includes, as well as the deadline for your UCAS application. This also gives you time to prepare for your test/s using online preparation and practice tests. Most admissions tests happen between August and November the year before you're due to start your studies – some even earlier, before you've sent your UCAS application! As some of these tests are quite soon, universities are currently considering how this can be done with current Covid-19 restrictions. Universities should have the most up to date information on their websites.

Many courses that require you to sit a test have a 15 October deadline, but your course may be different, so it's important you [check key dates and deadlines](#) on the UCAS website. To see if your course/university requires you to sit an admissions test, check the course description in the [search tool](#) on the same page.

Remember to check the date of your admissions test – some take place before the UCAS application deadline. It is your responsibility to **register for any additional testing and assessments** as determined by your individual university courses so it is important that you read carefully through **each university's requirements** and organise yourselves to meet their deadlines for entry in good time. Check individual university websites but the UCAS article on admissions tests is a good starting point: <https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/applying-university/admissions-tests>

YEAR 12 The next ‘**Webinar Wednesdays**’ event, held by UK University Search, is on Wednesday 27 May 2020 and will explore **Life at University**. A panel with **four institutions** from across the UK (University of Kent, University of Bradford, University of Roehampton, and University of Wales: Trinity St David) will discuss all aspects of university life, including applying for and choosing accommodation, budgeting and finances, balancing studying with a social life, and getting involved in extra-curricular activities such as societies and sports. The panel will also be able to provide information on additional support, and there will be a Q&A session. We will advertise the next Webinar Wednesday event in each weekly bulletin. For more information and to sign up, see <https://www.ukuniversitysearch.com/blog/post/webinar-wednesdays>

YEAR 12 Channel Talent, the interactive school and university webinar organisation, are facilitating a number of **Online HE Faculty Fairs** on Facebook Live, where institutions have a two-hour window to **present talks, discussions and Q&A sessions** involving their academics, university staff, and students. Prospective students and parents/carers joining the Faculty Fair on Facebook can **move between the different universities** as they would do during a normal fair. There is also the option to comment and ask questions on each university’s broadcast, which the university speakers will respond to. The next upcoming Faculty Fairs are:

- **Social Sciences: Online HE Faculty Fair with the University of Bath and the University of East Anglia** (27 May 2020, 1pm – 3pm) <https://www.channeltalent.co.uk/event/social-sciences-online-he-faculty-fair-with-bath-uea/>
- **Science and Engineering: Online HE Faculty Fair with the University of Warwick, the University of East Anglia, and the University of Glasgow** (3 June 2020, 1pm – 3pm) <https://www.channeltalent.co.uk/event/science-engineering-online-he-faculty-fair-with-glasgow-warwick-uea/>

The broadcasts will also be **recorded** and available on the Facebook event page for visitors’ future reference.

YEAR 12 **Northumbria University** are now running a ‘Virtual Evolve’ programme, a short series of **virtual sessions** for Year 12 students. The first two sessions are:

- Wednesday 27 May 2020: **NU Entry Introduction** (NU Entry is Northumbria University’s supported entry scheme that can result in an extra 16 UCAS points to apply for Northumbria courses)
- Wednesday 3 June 2020: **Working Independently**

All sessions will run from 2pm – 2.30pm. Northumbria will also **record** the broadcasts and make them available for students to watch at any time. For more information, see <https://www.northumbria.ac.uk/study-at-northumbria/information-for-schools-and-colleges/visit-northumbria/virtual-evolve-sessions/>

Enrichment

BOTH YEARS The **Cambridge Science Festival** has published an extensive collection of **online resources and activities** for students with the theme of ‘do try this at home’. The resources come from across the University of Cambridge and their partner organisations and include a **very broad range of topics**, from Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Maths to Archaeology, Computer Science,

Earth Sciences and Psychology. For more information, see

<https://www.sciencefestival.cam.ac.uk/do-try-home>

BOTH YEARS The **School of Humanities** at the University of Worcester is offering a **History, Politics and Sociology Lockdown Lecture Series**. The lectures include introductory, entry-level, and research specialist lectures relating to not only subjects taught at the University but the individual presenters' research specialisms. The programme includes:

- 'The Jewish experience in Nazi Germany, 1933-45' – [Tuesday 26 May 2020](#)
- 'The sociological imagination today' – [Thursday 28 May 2020](#)
- 'Why did people believe in witchcraft?' – [Tuesday 2 June 2020](#)
- "'Work in the Service, just like in the home, seems never to be done": the Women's Voluntary Service in the Second World War' – [Thursday 4 June 2020](#)
- 'Rise of the civilisations: contemporary national identity politics in Russia, Turkey, and China' – [Tuesday 9 June 2020](#)

All lectures start at 5pm. For more information and to register for a lecture, see the [Lockdown Lecture Series](#).

BOTH YEARS The **University of Law** is running a **Virtual Twilight Lecture** on [Tuesday 2 June 2020](#): 'How do the police deal with critical incidents?'. The lecture will examine what the Police, and other emergency services, categorise as a critical incident, and how they respond to them from the initial management of an unfolding incident to the restoration of public confidence. The lecture is aimed at students who would be interested in studying Policing or related subjects at university and/or pursuing a career in the profession. For more information, see <https://www.law.ac.uk/events/booking/?studylevel=1>

BOTH YEARS The **Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust** is hosting an online '**Insight into Psychiatry Day**' on [Monday 13 July 2020](#). The day will include some lecture-style presentations at the start of the day, with interactive small group workshops in the afternoon. Due to the change in the event, which was originally going to be in-person work experience, the Trust has re-opened applications and there are **five additional places available**. Any interested students need to complete the [application form](#) and return it to meded@cntw.nhs.uk by 12pm on [Tuesday 2 June 2020](#). Please note that the competition for these extra places is likely to be tight!

YEAR 13 Africa and Asia Venture (AV) is offering **free gap year advice** to students leaving school this summer, in the light of the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent changes to overseas travel. AV are happy to advise on any gap year options and opportunities even if they are outside the countries that AV usually place students. To get in touch with them, email info@aventure.co.uk. For more information about AV themselves, see <https://www.aventure.co.uk/>

BOTH YEARS The University of East Anglia has a huge amount of **subject-specific online taster lectures** available to students. Topics include:

- **Business and Management:** 'Marketing planning for global growth', 'Studying accountancy for a degree'
- **Economics:** 'How much can the Government spend?', 'A leader in difficult times'

- **Engineering:** 'Innovation through design thinking'
- **Health Sciences:** 'Occupational therapy', 'Operating Department Practice', 'Paramedic Science'
- **Language and Communication Studies:** 'Translation issues across media', 'Intercultural communication in a pandemic', 'Studying abroad'
- **Literature, Drama and Creative Writing:** lyric poems, Modernist literature, creative writing prose, scriptwriting, literature and censorship.
- **Pharmacy and Pharmacology:** 'Pharmacy, pharmacology and the exciting world drug discovery'
- **Philosophy:** 'The habit of autonomy: the practice of everyday anarchism', 'Feminist theory and practice'
- **Physical Education, Sport and Health:** 'What's it like to study sports/PE for a degree?', 'Introduction to high performance sport'
- **Politics and International Relations:** 'Do nuclear weapons make us safer?', 'Who's afraid of cyberterrorism?'

The many lectures listed above are just the tip of the iceberg! The lectures are also **recorded** and are available for students to access at any time. For more information, see <http://www.uea.ac.uk/study/webinars> (the subject-specific talks are near the bottom of the page).

Careers/Apprenticeships

BOTH YEARS The **National Careers Service** can provide free and impartial advice, information and guidance to students who may be worried about their future and unsure about their career options. Their career advisers provide tailored, individual support, from helping students to understand their own skills and strengths through to taking their next steps. They can also help improve job applications and interview techniques, develop and enhance CVs, explore local volunteering opportunities, and assist with accessing additional sources of help and advice. For more information, see <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/>

YEAR 12 The Sutton Trust's first **Apprenticeship Summer School** will now be held digitally on 13-15 July 2020. The Summer School is delivered in partnership with leading employers including the Ministry of Defence, NatWest, RBS, Coca-Cola, PricewaterhouseCoopers, and Accenture. The programme will offer an **in-depth understanding of degree apprenticeships** and what they involve. Participants will be able to hear from current apprentices, attend networking opportunities, watch interactive digital sessions hosted by employers and learn about the different application processes that employers use. Please note that, as with all Sutton Trust programmes, there are **eligibility criteria** that look at aspects such as being the first generation to go to university, Free School Meals, or area of residence. The deadline for applications has been extended to Monday 1 June 2020. For more information, see <http://www.suttontrust.com/our-programmes/apprenticeship-summer-school/>