



## The Sixth Form

Wednesday, 01 April 2020

Dear Students and Parents,

Please find enclosed a set of tasks designed to help you prepare for your transition on to A Level subjects in September.

Usually, these tasks are given to students after GCSE exams and before the summer holidays in order to help 'bridge the gap' between Year 11 and the start of post-16 study. However, we are aware that Year 11 students have some more time on their hands, so we have boosted our expectations and increased the amount of work provided.

Students will find the leap to A Level (and BTEC) a considerable challenge, particularly after such a prolonged gap in contact time. It is vital that students develop independent study skills and an ability to self-motivate. Post-16 study requires significant independent study (we ask for independent study to 'mirror' contact time – therefore 9 hours over a fortnight in lessons is supported with at least 9 hours of home study. Over three subjects this equates to a full-time study programme!)

Key to the 'bridging tasks' provided here is the reading list component. Perhaps the most valuable activity for students is to read the course textbooks and supplementary texts in preparation for next year. Students will see an increase in the level of challenge presented by these texts – they are 'advanced' in content and vocabulary. Students should not be put off, however. Help is always available via subject teachers.

In terms of support, students have been added to Microsoft 'TEAMS'. These TEAMS are led by subject teachers and offer a platform for students to discuss tasks with their teachers and with each other. Teachers will use TEAMS to offer advice, next steps and other reading opportunities. **Students can also access all of the bridging content via the 'work during closure' section of the school website (<https://www.colfox.org/summer-bridging-work/>).**

I will be in touch in the near future with further information about starting A Levels in the new academic year. Until that time, please do not hesitate to contact me with any queries that you might have:  
[teasdalea@colfox.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:teasdalea@colfox.dorset.sch.uk)

Yours faithfully,

Adam Teasdale

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