



## November 2020

Welcome to the winter term, we hope you are all keeping safe and well.

This month's newsletter contains information about goings on from the recent term as well as upcoming events.

### COVID-19

We have been pleased with the maturity of our students across all sites who are very aware of our Covid regulations and have acted in a sensible and appropriate manner. We are encouraging the use of face masks in all communal areas and within class if students choose to wear them. Regular hand washing and use of sanitiser is encouraged. As part of the mass Covid study that is currently being undertaken across the region our students took part in the testing process at Jericho Lane. Thank you to our students and parents for contributing to this valuable research.



### Academic Progress

All of our students have access to our virtual learning platform Firefly with all resources and lessons being accessible via this platform as well as well as being able to access tasks, homework and assessments for students to complete whilst working from home. This easy-to-use learning platform compliments the work that we complete in class and is proving invaluable for students who may find themselves having to self-isolate in the current pandemic as it enables all learners to keep on top of their studies. In addition to Firefly, all students across all sites have access to Office 365 accounts which allows them to work from any location via any device. Office 365 also provides students with access to Word, PowerPoint and Publisher which are all important apps to complete coursework.

Our students are also able to access live lessons from home in real time thanks to 'Teams'. This platform allows us to enhance our blended learning with tutors also utilising Teams to engage with home learning.

To enable student progress and predicted grades we are adopting a unit approach to our teaching and learning across all levels and sites; exam units are being taught weekly all year and in addition students are concentrating on completing one unit of coursework in short six-week blocks. This is proving popular as it enables students to concentrate on one piece of coursework at a time rather than becoming overloading with units.

We would like to take this opportunity to ask for your support in encouraging your son/ daughter with their GCSE Maths and/or English resit. Some of these lessons are virtual lessons via Teams with all work set on Firefly and this is set-up specifically to benefit those students



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who do not attend college on the relevant day and ensures that they are up to date and prepared for their exams.

Week beginning 7 December will be a formal assessment week for all students studying for a GCSE resit and this will involve assessment under exam conditions that students will be required to complete in order for us to check progress and predict grades to date.

### BTEC Exams

Our Year 13 students have two formal examinations during the first two weeks of January; they have been studying Sport Business and Sport Provision & Development from September and are well prepared for these; both are pre-seen case studies which involve preparation under exam conditions prior to the actual exam. We are still waiting on the exact exam dates for these and will communicate these with you as soon as we know. We wanted to enable our students to sit these exams in January with a resit available in the summer exam series to ensure they gain the best possible outcome.

### UCAS

We appreciate that some students do not know what they want to do when they leave college. Some may want scholarships in America, some may choose to gain employment, and some may wish to go onto University. Our Year 13 students have had UCAS workshops to complete their University applications with most being nearly ready to be submitted and we would welcome your support in encouraging these to be completed ASAP.

### Foundation Degree

Everton College runs a very successful Foundation Degree in partnership with Liverpool John Moores University. The Foundation Degree in Sport Development & Coaching is combined with work-based learning and is assessed both practically and academically. Students also have the opportunity to continue playing in the National Youth League for our Everton Under-23 side. This year has seen our students travel to Aruba for work placements and America/Canada this summer for sport camp employment. Students apply through UCAS course code SDC1. See tutors for more details





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### Football Progress

It has been difficult to fulfil all our fixtures to date due to Covid regulations and the current lockdown restrictions not allowing us to travel between sites for in-house fixtures. However, we have continued to train hard and enjoyed in-house competitions separately across all our sites. We are continuing to work hard to fulfil and organise as many games as we are currently allowed. Plans for football teams after lockdown for students based at Spellow are:

Wednesday 9 December against a local college (Coaching Connexions) and Wednesday 16 December **ALL** students at Spellow will take part in our end-of-term Christmas tournament.

National/Regional League fixtures if they are allowed to resume are planned as follows prior to the Christmas break:

### Midlands Premier

2/12/2020 vs Northampton Town (a)  
9/12/2020 vs Leeds United (a)  
16/12/2020 vs Stoke (a)

### North West Championship

2/12/2020 vs Chesterfield FC (a)  
9/12/2020 vs Carlisle United (a)  
16/12/2020 vs Rochdale (a)

### North East Championship

2/12/2020 vs Sunderland (a)  
9/12/2020 vs Rochdale (a)  
16/12/2020 vs Barnsley (a)

### And to close...

*Our three travelling degree students* have returned from a very successful project coaching in Aruba. They are looking forward to completing their studies this year and securing places with Challenger Sport in the spring/summer for coaching placements in America. Our Level 1 Spellow students are leading on a Christmas Pyjama Party Project for Alder Hey as part of their course. We are asking if you would like to contribute a pair of new pyjamas for those children who do not any for their stay in hospital. For two weeks from Monday 23 November we are trying to collect as many pairs of pyjamas as possible to donate them to this worthwhile cause. If you wish to contribute, then please pass over a pair of children's pyjamas to one of the tutors who will collect them for our Level 1 students to donate.

### Brooke Clinic

On Wednesday 9 December, the Brooke Clinic are running a virtual workshop on relationship and sexual health education. This is a compulsory aspect of our curriculum and all new Year 12 students are required to attend this session. The virtual sessions will run across all of our sites and will be supervised by tutors. The Brooke Clinic delivered excellent workshops on this topic next year receiving excellent feedback from our students.



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### Challenger Sports

Challenger Sports offer students the opportunity to coach at one of the many soccer/sport camps they run throughout America and Canada. On Monday 14 December they will be delivering both virtual and face-to-face presentations for Sixth Form students who are 18 and our Higher Education degree students who are interested in spending the summer coaching at one of these camps to gain valuable experience to take into the wider world. These coaching opportunities are always very popular and students are encouraged to let staff know if they wish to become involved in this project.

# **CHALLENGER**

## **SPORTS™**

### Other

We are able to offer student support to those who need it. If you think you qualify for this then please let us know what support you require. All our bursary information is on our website and available to all students via Firefly. In addition to this support, students have access to a school nurse and counsellor if the need arises. Appointments can be made via Teams.

Lastly, I know you are aware that we have had problems with the delivery of our Hummel Everton kit. Whilst this has been frustrating for us and students, it is not just our kit that has been delayed. However I am pleased to inform you that we have just taken delivery of our remaining order and once this has been stock-checked, it will be available to all our students who are missing parts of their playing kit.

Stay safe,

Everton Football College Staff