



## January/February 2021

Welcome to the start of our Spring Term, we hope you are all keeping safe and well. It has been a strange start to the new term, but our students have taken this in their stride and engaged well with online learning. It is important that they continue to do this until we return to college if they are to be successful with their studies this year.

If you have not yet completed the office form for remote learning, then can I please ask for your support in completing this and submitting it back to college as soon as possible.

This newsletter will outline important events and information that you will find useful for the rest of this academic year.

### **EXAMS (GCSE/BTEC)**

As you may be aware GCSE exams have been cancelled for Summer 2021 and it has also just been announced that there will not be any BTEC examinations either. At the time of writing, the Department of Education and Ofqual who govern all examinations and assessments in the UK are in consultation to finalise the details of these announcements.

It is likely that for GCSE exams, teacher assessments - in addition to a set task from the exam boards - will be used to assess progress and provide an accurate student grade. It is therefore vitally important that students who are sitting GCSE resit exams engage in all online learning. This includes attending all lessons remotely and completing all the work that has been set by teachers to the required standard. Students have already been assessed for progress to date, but we cannot stress how important it is to complete all tasks given within the submission date required. Students have access to extra support sessions within maths & English and work is set through Firefly

on a regular basis. Work is easily assessed this way and minimum engagement shows little or no progress.

BTEC examinations will also be assessed by teachers and we are well prepared for this. Exam questions and tasks have been constantly set throughout the first term and progress assessed. This will continue this term, especially for Year 12 Level 3 learners who have not yet completed their syllabus. Work will be supported by online lessons and set exam questions to constantly track the progress of all learners. Progress and marks will reflect engagement and submission of work and marks will be allocated accordingly. In addition, students will have the opportunity to sit the exams allocated for January throughout this term; these will be marked internally using the formal mark scheme and this will give a truly accurate and fair reflection of progress and grades awarded.

### **EXTERNAL MODERATION & COURSEWORK**

We have been allocated External Examiners for all elements of our coursework for Levels 1-3 Sport. These examiners will moderate the work and marks given to students by all tutors and they will ask for work to be sent to them from February half term onwards; this will affect all students at Everton Football College. We are extremely robust in our approach to work and standards throughout all sites and our external reports reflect accurately the grades allocated and the hard work and excellent support and feedback our tutors provide to all students.

### **REMOTE LEARNING**

Students are now settled into remote learning and attend during their normal timetabled hours. Deadlines for all work are set and work is submitted via Firefly. It has been pleasing to note that students are generally working hard



## January/February 2021

and engaging with study. We make regular health and wellbeing calls home to those students who are not engaging, and tutors will make contact if non-attendance is noted.

There are various Government schemes that can assist with internet access if required during lockdown for home learning and we have tried to support all learners with the ability to complete work from home. If you have any concerns, then please contact us.

### COVID 19 RESTRICTIONS

These restrictions are likely to continue till at least February half-term and it may be that schools and colleges do not fully open until the Summer term - this also affects our football programme. We do not have any consistent answers yet, but we will keep you updated on any developments.

### HEALTH & WELLBEING

It is important that students establish a routine during lockdown that includes learning and exercise for health and wellbeing. We are working hard with our students via engagement online daily so that we have contact with all students and via our twitter account and challenges or events which are happening this term.

A tutor challenge is posted daily on Twitter at [@evertoncollege](https://twitter.com/evertoncollege) which we encourage our students to engage in. This is normally based around fitness and there have been some excellent responses to this. There are also tips for establishing routines, ideas to maintain mental health and wellbeing and other challenges are also posted. Please encourage students to follow us via our Twitter and Instagram accounts.

We also post lots of videos, articles, documentaries and courses for students to engage in whilst under lockdown so please so keep an eye on our Twitter account. Most recent posts have been related to documentaries including Mark Wright -The Last Chance, elite training videos, Women In Sport (to help with Research Methods). All of these make an interesting watch! The FA also have free online coaching courses such as Playmaker that students can sign up with to start their coaching journey.

We are fortunate enough as part of the Everton Family to invite our students (both present and those wishing to join in September) to join in with our virtual interviews with people from the world of sport. These are a series of '**In The Blue Chair**' interviews where students can get an insight into the world of sport and ask questions related to their course or current affairs. If your son/daughter would like to join in with these interviews please let us know and a Teams invite will be sent to you. Look out for an email from College!

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### 'In The Blue Chair'

(times and dates are provisional, additional dates once confirmed will be added)

20/1/21	10am	Joe Parkinson
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25/1/21	10am	Chris Foy
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1/2/21	1.30pm	Phil Jevons
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12/2	1pm	Lee Trundle
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### REPORTS

We are in the process of writing our mid-year reports to demonstrate the progress made by our students with their academic and football achievements to date. These will be distributed over February half term via email. Please ensure that we have a current up to date email address for you.

Stay safe,

Staff @evertoncollege