



Our ref: MME/HFT
Date: 3rd April 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Information for Year 11 and 13 parents regarding GCSE and A level results 2020

As you will be aware due to the current coronavirus pandemic the Government made the decision to cancel the GCSE and A level examinations. I held assemblies on Thursday 19th March with both Year 11 and 13 students to discuss the matter and reassure them but I wanted to wait until the situation was slightly clearer before I wrote to you all.

Today Ofqual announced the system for awarding students' results this year for A level and GCSE courses (the system for awarding vocational courses such as BTECs and Applied Generals is yet to be decided). Schools are required to submit a grade for each student and each qualification and we will have to rank students within the grade we award them. As we are one of the most rapidly improving schools in the country we expected these students to achieve our best ever exam results. We expect the system Ofqual has announced to reflect this. We are not allowed to issue the grades we are submitting to parents or students at present but it is my understanding that we can share them with you once the final results are published and we fully intend to do this.

Please follow these links to the letter for students which is also in my parents' briefing and this more detailed guide for teachers and parents <http://www.pudseygrangefield.co.uk/for-parents-carers/letters-home/>.

After Easter

We will move the Year 11 and 13 students' focus onto their plans for next year. The students can use the time wisely to prepare for the next step of their education. We will take the opportunity below to outline the plans for Year 11 and Year 13.

Year 11 into 12

In light of the cancellation of GCSE examinations, we feel it is important to keep students engaged over the exam season and ensure that they come into Year 12 in the best possible state of preparation for A Level study. In order to achieve this goal, after the Easter break, subjects will set bridging work to help students manage the gap between GCSE and A Level and offer a taste of the content on offer and the skills needed to undertake Post 16 study.

In the first week after the Easter break, Google Classrooms for your son or daughter's chosen Year 12 courses will be available. Current Year 11 students will be able to access a range of



further reading, resources and work that are all directly relevant to the courses they have chosen in September. Work will be set once a week and teachers will request that evidence of work is uploaded to the classroom by a specified deadline.

We understand that Year 11 have worked incredibly hard and will be looking forward to an extended summer break. With this in mind, we plan to set work until the end of June which mirrors the end date of the traditional Year 11 examination season.

Year 13 into University and employment

Ordinarily, at this time of year, Year 13 would be entering the final week of preparation for A Level examinations. Unfortunately, the Covid 19 disruption means that this is not the case this year. In place of the focus on exams at present, we would like to offer students the opportunity to prepare thoroughly for their chosen university course or career by accessing a range of online learning opportunities.

We encourage all students currently in Year 13 to undertake a MOOC over the coming weeks. MOOC stands for Massive Open Online Courses. These are provided by universities all over the world – including all British Russell Group universities and Harvard and Stamford - and are available to join immediately and free of charge.* Courses are designed to be taken part time and can last from as little as two weeks to two months. Students engage with online lectures, presentations, video content and written tasks in order to complete work. MOOCs can be accessed through Unifrog, our existing careers and University pathways tool - or through a range of other secure online platforms.

The range of courses is extraordinary. The list below gives an idea of the breadth on offer:

- Sustainable Food Systems: A Mediterranean Perspective
- Learning How to Learn: Powerful mental tools to help you master tough subjects
- Introduction to Computer Science
- Fashion and Sustainability: Understanding Luxury Fashion in a Changing World
- Astrobiology and the Search for Extra-terrestrial Life

Why choose a MOOC?

It is possible that universities will employ their own assessment processes in September and that entrance exams and interviews may play a part in these. Studying a MOOC will give students a deeper knowledge of key concepts in their chosen subject and demonstrate a level of enthusiasm and commitment that could give them the edge in an interview situation and be the deciding factor when candidates are competing for places.

Further Reading

The links below will help you to find out more and explore the endless possibilities.

<https://www.unifrog.org/know-how/what-are-moocs-and-why-should-you-take-one>



<https://www.futurelearn.com/subjects>

<https://www.edx.org/course/?availability=current>

Alternatively, students can access activities and further reading through the University of Cambridge's HE+ website which provides introductory material for University courses that covers some of the key concepts in the full range of subjects.

<https://www.myheplus.com/>

Details of how to use Unifrog to find MOOCs in a students' specific subject can be found in the guide contained at the end of this letter.

If you have any questions regarding any of the above please contact Mr Sammons (Year 11 Director of Studies P.Sammon01@pudseygrangefield.co.uk) or Mrs Smith (Sixth Form Director of Studies L.Smith01@pudseygrangefield.co.uk).

Yours sincerely,

**Mr M McKelvie
Principal**



Appendix - Year 13 students - using Unifrog

1. Log in to Unifrog.org (if you do not remember your username/password please contact Miss Fisher h.fisher@pudseygrangefield.co.uk)
2. Scroll down until and click the blue MOOC box

3. Select up to 10 topics that you have an interest in - this will then produce a list of available MOOCs within that field.
4. When creating your shortlist only use the courses listed under 'on demand'. This means you can start them at any time. Make sure that there are no cost implications. The MOOCs are free but they often ask you to pay for a certificate. You do not need to pay for this certificate, you will



receive an email on completion.

- Once you have created your shortlist it will be emailed to you and saved on Unifrog.
- Click Shortlists along the top of the page.



Your Shortlist has been emailed to you.

What to do next...

Download your Shortlist

Before you apply:

- How to get the most out of MOOCs [Watch a video](#)
- Why take a MOOC? [Find out here](#)
- How much it costs [Find out here](#)

<https://www.unifrog.org/student/shortlists>





7. Click Open on your selected Shortlist this will produce a PDF File.

Shortlist 1 / 3

unifrog-eu-west-2.s3.amazonaws.com/student/34b8f/shortlist/n9g6c1y4w5e80a44hbcc2f24ycf9h2l9s6y5o1df.pdf

Unifrog MOOCs Shortlist

Helen Fisher

Topic(s)	Art; Astronomy
Completed	30/03/2020 12:24

[Get started](#)

Conceptos y Herramientas para la Física Universitaria

On demand so get started any time
Technológico de Monterrey
Coursera

Quick facts

Overall World Ranking	Subject World Ranking	Workload	Certification	Language
Not ranked	Not ranked	9 semanas de estudio, 4-5 horas por semana	Yes	Spanish

Course summary

Este curso provee al estudiante con conceptos y herramientas matemáticas para modelar problemas en física, que al aplicar podrá enfrentar con éxito los cursos de física universitarios. Así pues, la filosofía de este curso consiste en cubrir temas conceptuales relativos a la Física y desarrollar tu capacidad de aprender y aplicarlos en tu vida profesional. El curso se aborda en dos fases a través de las cuales el alumno: - Aprenderá a aplicar el cálculo diferencial e integral para interpretar y modelar la cinemática de una partícula en una dimensión. - Aprenderá el manejo de cantidades físicas vectoriales en forma

Sign out GB 12:28

8. Once you have selected which MOOC you would like to complete, click Get Started. This will then take you to the registration page.