



DENTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE PARENT BULLETIN

EASTER 2020



I hope this Easter edition of the Denton Community College Parent Bulletin finds you and your families safe and well. As always, our aim is to keep you updated with all latest College and community news as well as providing help and ideas for keeping students engaged during this period of 'lockdown'.

In addition to the bulletin, we have our school app aimed at helping you keep in touch with the College on the go. A 'how to...' guide for the app can be found at the end of this bulletin.

Don't forget the College is now operating four official twitter feeds to help keep students, parents and carers up to date with the latest news at DCC. In many cases these, along with the College website, are the most effective way of keeping up with what is going on. These can be found at:

- CollegeNews @DCC_News
- Headteacher @HeadteacherDcc
- PE News @dcc_pe
- RE & PSHE News @dcc_re

Our website has all the essential information linked to the current situation. We are trying to keep the content practical and up to date with tips on Google Classroom, government guidance and how to access childcare if you are a key worker in a critical industry.

NEWS



Congratulations to Mr Spencer who has been recognised by the UK Parliament and awarded Parliament Gold Teacher Ambassador status for his curriculum development and enrichment work with the young people at DCC.

Prior to the lockdown, four of our finest mathematicians represented the College at a regional maths competition. They tackled some very challenging questions as well as a variety of individual, paired and group activities. Well done to each of them for their fantastic performance!



Congratulations to the 93 students who have already achieved their Bronze iDEA Award and the 8 who have reached their Silver Award. The iDEA Award is an internationally recognised accreditation and develops students' talents, allowing them to gain important knowledge, skills and information about the digital world. Students can continue to complete their module whilst in lockdown and further information regarding the award can be found [here](#).

In January, we were very pleased to be recognised by the 'Proud Trust' for our work in developing the curriculum for our students at Denton Community College. As a result, we were awarded the 'Inclusive Curriculum' strand of the Rainbow Flag Award.



Year 11

On 18th March 2020, the Secretary of State for Education announced that the summer 2020 examination series would be cancelled in order to fight coronavirus (COVID-19). Ofqual and the examination boards have now agreed that grades will be based upon an assessment of the grades a student would likely achieve if they examinations were to have taken place.

Please see Ofqual guidance to students, teachers and parents [here](#).

Please see Ofqual letter to students [here](#).

Having read the guidance, which we believe to be very fair, it is clear that there will be a standard process which will be applied by Ofqual in all schools to enable the examination boards to arrive at a grade for each student. It is important to remember that we are not at liberty to share grades with families of students as they are subject to standardisation by the examination boards and, therefore, may change before they are awarded on 20th August 2020.

The government has also issued guidelines on how vocational qualifications (BTEC) will be awarded. Please see the link below which explains the current position, with more information expected soon. As with GCSE, the grades will be awarded by the examination boards based on teacher/school judgements.

Please see Ofqual guidance on vocation qualifications to students, teachers and parents [here](#).

We will keep you informed of any further updates.

If any Year 11 students are concerned about college courses starting in September, help and support is available. Colleges will be writing to you directly with further guidance regarding their individual arrangements. For those students who have not yet had their college interview, these will be taking place over the next month, so please keep checking your emails for dates and times.

Any student who needs to speak to a careers advisor or has any concerns over apprenticeships should contact Positive Steps directly. This can be done via telephone: 0800 484 0407 / 0161 621 9292 or by email: tamesidecareers@positive-steps-org.uk.

Additional Help & Support

Tameside have set up a telephone hotline (0161 342 8355) for anyone who needs support during the current situation. They can arrange delivery of essentials if someone is self-isolating and has no way of accessing the shops. They can help with deliveries of medication - or even just be there at the end of a phone if you are struggling and want to talk. They are working with Tameside Action Together to coordinate voluntary groups and charities to ensure that support is there if it is needed. Further details are available at the end of the bulletin.

If you are in self-isolation and have a pre-payment meter, you can contact your utility provider who may be able to assist by sending out two weeks' worth of gas/electricity.

Please see contact details below:

British Gas:	0333 202 9802
EDF:	0333 200 5100
EON:	0345 303 3040
N Power:	0800 073 3000
Scottish Power:	0800 027 0072
SSE:	0345 026 2658

Well-being

None of us has ever experienced times like this and it is very important to be aware of our own wellbeing as well as that of others. There are some fantastic tips on the NHS [Every Mind Matters](#) website, all aimed at promoting mental well-being while we are stuck at home. If you have ever wanted to try meditation and never got round to it, the 60 second online resources which can be found [here](#) may be just what you are looking for. In addition, the Tameside Early Help team have produced a booklet containing some family well-being activities. These can be accessed [here](#).

Needing help with Google Classroom?

Our website has a whole area designed to help with Google Classroom, simply click [here](#) to get there. The 'FAQ' should answer most questions and we are adding to these as we find new tips and solutions. You can access these [here](#).

If a student has access issues with Google Classroom relating to Password and Username issues or class codes, please ask them to email: googlereset@dentoncommunitycollege.org.uk. If they have a work-related query or an issue with an online task then please contact the class teacher via Google Classroom or email.

Artist of the Week

This fantastic piece on the theme of 'Sea Life' was produced by GCSE Art student Monica (10 Redgrave).

Year 8

A gentle reminder to Year 8 students that a response to the Creative Expressive Performing Arts email from Mrs Bird and Technology email from Mr Dennison is required by Friday 24th April 2020. Please complete the forms or email the following members of staff directly with your choices for 2020/21:

n.bird@dentoncommunitycollege.org.uk
m.prestonwebb@dentoncommunitycollege.org.uk
s.dennison@dentoncommunitycollege.org.uk
p.arkinstall@dentoncommunitycollege.org.uk



Year 10

Just because we are in lockdown, some things have to continue as normal. If you think you have missed the opportunity to put yourself forward for the post of Prefect or Senior Prefect, don't panic. The deadline for applications has been extended until Monday 4th May 2020 and should be submitted directly to Mrs Bird at n.bird@dentoncommunitycollege.org.uk.

BBC Education

From Monday 20th April BBC education are launching a new online service [BBC Teach](#) to help and support parents and teachers with home learning. The resources available include age appropriate curriculum mapped videos as well as access to interactive lessons. To access lessons for KS3 click [here](#) and for KS4 click [here](#).



In addition to BBC Teach, [BBC Bitesize](#) now includes home schooling lessons which have been created with teachers and other educational experts and feature a mix of videos, animations, practice activities, quizzes and games. Lessons for today can be found [here](#).

In addition BBC iPlayer and the Red Button are hosting Bitesize Daily each weekday for learners aged five to 14, and for families throughout the UK. Each show will include a combination of core subjects like English, maths and science, as well as other subjects such as history, geography, music and art. To view the schedule for this week click [here](#).

CURRICULUM ENRICHMENT

Whilst students are receiving regular work and feedback from their class teachers via Google Classroom, the Heads of Subject in the College have been looking at a number of ways we can further enrich the curriculum the students are receiving. Below are a number of activity suggestions that students may wish to engage with to broaden their knowledge and understanding.

Art

Whilst art galleries and museums are currently closed, many of the finest collections in the world are available to view through virtual tours. By clicking [here](#), you will be able to visit the national gallery in London. Maybe you would like to walk through the Sistine Chapel in the Vatican, if so click [here](#). The Guggenheim in Bilbao can be visited [here](#) and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York [here](#). If actually having a go is more your thing then find an online tutorial like the one [here](#) and develop your skills.

Business Studies

In addition to the work already set on Google Classroom, Business Studies students may want to check out some of the following programmes available online:

- [The Nine To Five With Stacey Dooley](#)
- [The Job Interview](#)
- [Dragons' Den](#)

Careers

Whilst at home, it is a great time for the students to start considering their long term career aspirations and begin some research into a particular field. This is of particular importance for our students in Year 10 who should now start to consider some of their post 16 choices.

If you require some inspiration, the National Careers Service website is a great place to start with an online skills assessment and a wealth of resources. Just follow the link [here](#). In College, we use an online platform called SACU, which provides students with information on jobs, apprenticeships, post 16 opportunities and higher education courses. Follow the link [here](#) to create your own account and have a go.

Child Development

A new six part BBC 1 series starts on Tuesday 21st April 2020 at 8.00pm. 'Life and Birth' reveals what it takes to deliver Britain's next generation through the eyes of parents and staff at three of Birmingham's busiest maternity hospitals. This is a must for students currently taking Child Development, as well as those who have opted for it next year. If you miss an episode, you can catch up on BBC iPlayer.

Citizenship

For an insight into what really goes on at Parliament, try the 'MP for a week' online game. Try to keep the voters, the media and your party happy by clicking [here](#).

Computing

Got a passion for computer coding then click [here](#) to have a go at creating your very own interactive adventure story.

Drama

Theatres across the country are currently closed but this doesn't mean you can't watch a classic stage performance. By clicking [here](#), you can visit the National Theatre, who are streaming recordings of their live performances every Thursday. Currently available is the Robert Louis Stevenson classic 'Treasure Island'.

English

By clicking [here](#), you can visit our very Mr Watson's You Tube channel, set up specifically to help DCC students improve their English skills. All year groups will find this resource useful, however, every Year 10 students will definitely benefit from the GCSE content that is specifically linked to their syllabus. Follow Mr Watson on Twitter @MrJWatson to ensure you don't miss a post.

Food Technology

We know the supermarket shelves are a little bit sparse at the minute, but if you do fancy an afternoon in the kitchen, a number of famous chefs/cooks are providing inspiration via their websites. Click on [Jamie Oliver](#) or the [Hairy Bikers](#) to visit their websites for some culinary inspiration.

Geography

There are some brilliant Geographical films, documentaries and series out at the moment and these are being shared with Year 10 students via the 'Geoggle Box' information sheet on Google classroom. All students (especially Year 8) are encouraged to watch 'Sacred Rivers' with Simon Reeve by clicking [here](#). 'Race Across the World' is currently showing at 8pm on BBC2 every Sunday. The programme will help you see the world in a very different way and might even help you to plan your next adventure, post lockdown. The latest episode can be viewed [here](#) and all previous episodes are available on BBC iPlayer.

Music

Being at home provides a great opportunity to discover new genres of music. If you have ever wanted to experience a big 'West End' show, click [here](#) to watch a different Andrew Lloyd Webber musical each week. Be bold and click [here](#) to watch an operatic performance by Opera North. Also, you can join in with Gareth Malone and his social distancing choir right [here](#).

PE

Regular exercise and a healthy diet are good for both your physical and mental health. The PE department have given students a fitness programme which can be found below. When following the programme, students should rest in between each activity for 30 to 40 seconds and aim to repeat the circuit 4 to 6 times. We appreciate fitness levels differ from person to person so if 20 reps of an activity are too much then scale down the number of reps or the number of sets.

Week	Session activities (to be done 2-3 times a week)	Extension task video clip
1	20 squats; 20 high/low planks; 20 sit ups; 20 tricep dips & 20 ski jumps	Body coach - 20 min
2	20 lunges; 20 crunches; 20-40s plank hold; 20 cycling legs & 20 press ups	Body coach - 20 min
3	20 arms circles; 20 step ups; 20 bicep curls; 20-40s Superman hold & 20 star jumps	Body coach - 15 min Fat Burner
4	20 burpees; 20 side planks; 20 press ups; 20 crunches & 20-40s shuttle runs	Body coach - 15 min Fat Burner
5	20 bicep curls; 20 tricep dips; 20 high/low planks; 20 jump squats & 20 step ups	Body coach - 20 min Fat Burner
6	20-40s wall sit; 20 tricep dips; 20 punches (with a tin in each hand); 20 lunges & 20-40s Superman hold	Body coach - 20 min Fat Burner

PSHE

Our first assembly theme after Easter looks at 'fake news' and we feel it is something that you might like to discuss as a family. Clicking [here](#) and watching the BBC Newsround clip is a great starting point for a discussion about 'Why is it important to have reliable, trustworthy news?'. The BBC has also produced a useful video that unpicks some of the rumours and myths surrounding the coronavirus, which can be viewed by clicking [here](#).

Virtual Field Trips

Whilst in lock down, we will be tweeting an idea for a virtual field trip each day of term. Just follow the links to visit (virtually) and find out more about some of the amazing places and cultures on planet Earth. So far, we have visited [Robben Island Museum](#) in Cape Town, South Africa, where you can view the cell where Nelson Mandela spent 18 years of his 27 year imprisonment. We toured an aircraft carrier, nuclear submarine, Concorde and a Space Shuttle at the [Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum](#), New York. We also visited the wonders of the [Palace of Versailles](#) on the outskirts of Paris.

Coronavirus - What to do if you have no family, friends or neighbours to support you

If you are self-isolating and have no family, friends or neighbours to support you with the delivery of essential items, please do get in touch with us so that we can arrange the support you need.

0161 342 8355

The staff at Tameside Council's dedicated call centre will be happy to talk you through the support available and make any necessary arrangements to help you.

We realise this may be a lonely and difficult time for those of you without any support and we are working hard to ensure that our residents most in need at this time are looked after. You may need us to arrange food or medication deliveries or perhaps someone to give you a call for a chat. We are working closely with Action Together who support and co-ordinate our many community and voluntary workers across the borough so please do give us a call if you need to access this support.

 **Tameside**
Metropolitan Borough

 **action together**

 **NHS**
Tameside and Glossop
Clinical Commissioning Group

 **NHS**
Tameside and Glossop
Integrated Care
NHS Foundation Trust

www.tameside.gov.uk/coronavirus



The 'MyEd' app shows you up to date information about all aspects of your child's school life.

Simply download the 'My Ed' app and create yourself an account using your current mobile number and email address (please make sure we have your up to date contact details).

A sync will then take place overnight to authenticate your account and providing the details you provide match our school records your children will appear the next day under the 'My Students' section.



GET THE APP

Step 1:

Go to your app store

Step 2:

Search for 'My Ed'

Step 3:

Download the app

MY ED IS AVAILABLE ON..

