



The Charter School
East Dulwich | Sixth Form

Sixth Form Bulletin vol.4

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En route

Hard to believe but we are now nearly a third of the way through your time as a Sixth Former here at Charter East Dulwich. This time next year students will be ramping up the final revision and preparations for their real exams, and we expect most of you will have offers from university and colleges, or apprenticeships, or be busy planning gap years – for the next stage of your lives.

For now, as spring approaches, and alongside your curriculum learning and routines that are now firmly bedded in, we are looking forward to plenty of opportunities for trips and activities related to subjects and your future. These include learning about university and UCAS, work experience week planning, reward trips, mentoring and more.

Key dates for your diary

Summer Term Exams – Mon 13 June to
Thursday 23 June 2022
Destinations Week – tbc
Inset Day – Friday 4 July 2022

Work Experience Week (WEX) – Mon 18 July
to Friday 22 July 2022
BTEC WEX – in addition to above – Mon 11
July to Friday 15 July

Applications to Sixth Form

The application process for our next year's cohort is in full flight and we are running a Taster Day of lessons for our Year 11s near the end of this half term – Wednesday 30 March from 14.05. After then we make conditional offers to our applicants early in the summer term, and provide various details on what's next; including the enrolment process on GCSE day, summer transition homework, and what to expect in Sixth Form.

We provide these Sixth Form Bulletins to our Year 11s at this stage so they can see what's ahead in the months after GCSEs and during their time at Sixth Form. The whole of the Sixth Form wishes you well in your forthcoming GCSEs.

The Taster Day means an early finish for our Year 12s as they will be dismissed from Sixth Form at 14.05, after their Period 4 lesson. If they have no Period 4 lesson, they may go home at lunchtime from 12.20. Year 11s leave at 13.20 go home and log on to attend the Taster Lessons.

Assessment

February mock exams for our Year 12s took place last half term, and reports were issued to parents and students a couple of weeks ago. The purpose of the assessment is to practise the exams as they will be at the end of Year 13. Exams are both mentally and physically challenging. It is important to give students the opportunity to rehearse learning behaviours such as revision, as well as learn coping strategies such as sleeping well, for stressful periods of their lives such as exams. Sixth Formers will have in total three mock exam periods before their real exams.

Students were diligent and focused throughout the week, which was run under exam conditions in the large sports hall, where their A levels and BTECs will take place in summer of 2023. This provides the students with as close an experience of the real exams process as possible, enabling them to feel equipped and relaxed with the routine, hopefully contributing to minimum stress and anxiety when faced with the real thing next year.

Support

This half term we are delighted to welcome Ms Saffron Morgan who is supporting us in a learning mentor and pastoral capacity for two days a week. She is available to students to help plan study timetables and manage workload – to ensure they're making best use of time and reaching their full potential. She is also key in maintaining the focus of our Study Space to be exactly that – a location for silent and effective study.

Don't forget as well, our Year 12 Tutors are also the front line of support for each student in their form group. Tutors are there to support the students with all and any issues or concerns that might be affecting their academic progress; so please be sure to contact them if you need to discuss anything at all. This applies to parents / carers and students alike.



WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING...

It's been a busy half term with various supercurricular activities undertaken by our Sixth Formers.

The Drop Down PHSE Day a couple of weeks ago enabled the whole school to take part in a range of activities delivered by external specialists in youth programmes, including Everyone's Invited / The Rap Foundation, The Nest, The REACH Project and Brook.

Year 12 sessions covered topics such as peer-on-peer harassment, stop and search, anxiety and low mood, and contraception. Sixth Formers also had the opportunity to stretch their leadership skills supporting younger students in the dynamic 'Hub Challenge' activity, an exhilarating team building exercise run by Wise Up.

Our Law Club is running a mock criminal trial in the last week of term and the Debate Club meet weekly, developing their oratory and negotiation skills.

Other trips

Various subject related trips have taken place or are due this term.

These include three theatre trips, including Hamilton and a Young Vic production; the Black Cultural Archives for a history workshop; a maths inspiration event at the Phoenix Theatre; science quiz trip at Alleyns; and an economics lecture at North Dulwich. In addition, we took the whole year group to the UCAS fair in the London Excel centre.





Rewards

Before the end of term, a bespoke Reward Trip is running for our students who have achieved the highest and most consistent grades in their recent exams and engagement in learning. Future rewards and awards are in the planning for students who achieve their full potential through sustained academic effort, as well as those who contribute above and beyond to the culture and community of the school and Sixth Form. We'll be updating with specific details very shortly – watch this space.

Careers and Higher Education

This term there have been a number of career and higher education sessions and trips. These will become a feature of the Sixth Formers' time here as they progress towards choices and decisions about and moving onto their ultimate destinations.

So far, there have been:

- Sessions on CV writing and Year 12 work experience placements
- trip to Pembroke College, University of Cambridge
- The Elephant Group trip
- UCAS fair and UCAS sessions in tutor time
- PWC and Target Oxbridge sessions
- Dulwich College Higher Education Fair and Oxbridge panel
- Corpus Christi, Cambridge – masterclasses
- Blackwood mentoring programme
- individual meetings with our independent Careers Advisor. These are available on request; a good few students have had these and more planned.

Next term we will provide details of Destinations Week in which all students take part.

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS

EDUCATIONAL TRUST

present

SPRING / SUMMER 2022



SUPER-
CURRICULAR
LECTURE SERIES.

Launched this term also is an exciting new lecture series especially designed for our Sixth Formers at Charter East Dulwich and Charter North Dulwich.

This bi-weekly lecture is delivered by high calibre, expert guest speakers on a variety of professional topics, aimed to enhance the cultural and social capital of our Sixth Formers across both schools. By helping our students to engage with subjects beyond the curriculum this will contribute to successful university, apprenticeship and job applications as well as support closing the gap between disadvantaged students and

non-disadvantaged peers. So far we've had talks on offshore wind and energy and also from Cambridge University's Centre for the Study of Existential Risk.

Students are also strongly encouraged to regularly check the SSLP Think About Series for talks they can attend. This programme of webinars is a joint project between Dulwich College and the Southwark Schools Learning Partnership, and offers a wide range of talks and speakers on topics as wide ranging as high finance, to stained glass, to dystopian fantasy. There is something for everyone, so check the programme list regularly.

Shout outs...

A hearty congratulations are due to two of our Drama A level students, Maggie Porter and Lily Murphy-Butchers – who have been the driving force behind the organisation of our very first school-wide drama production. As a relatively new school, and then hit with the pandemic, there had not been full scale in-house drama production in recent times, so Maggie and Lily took that in hand and directed our young actors and stage crew from Years 7 to 10, to produce *Our Town*, by Thornton Wilder. It played to a full house in our drama studio a couple of weeks ago. Well done to everyone involved.

Also, congratulations to Jayden Singh who has been selected to participate in the 2022 Target Oxbridge programme. Sponsored by the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, Target Oxbridge aims to support high achieving UK black students from African or Caribbean heritage to make a competitive application to either the University of Oxford or Cambridge. The programme, devised by Rare Recruitment, is supported by both universities.

This year, there were over 700 applications for the programme, of which 160 were selected to be full programme participants. Participants were selected on the basis of their academic potential.

The basketball team has been competing in the knockout stages of the national school dynamic league, where they were narrowly defeated. Coach Omar has said that despite the loss the boys were brilliant representatives of the Trust and that the dedication of the East Dulwich students is exceptional, so a big well done to all involved.

Well done and keep it up

As a final word, the Sixth Form team want to say well done to our Year 12s for all their sterling effort so far. They have come together as a strong cohesive group, supporting each other, and maturing as each week goes by. Keep up the commitment and focus into the summer and beyond to Year 13.

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