



Monday 7 March 2022

This term has already been a busy one with the Upper Sixth sitting their mock examinations. We are in the unique situation whereby the majority of students at College have never taken a significant public examination. Despite this, I have been nothing but impressed by the dedication of all of our students to their ongoing assessments. It is important to remember that regardless of the outcome of a piece of homework, structured learning task or Key Assessment, it should be used as a learning experience to better prepare for the next. Do not forget, the College has a huge amount of support available for students, so please encourage your son/daughter/young person to speak to their Tutor or Senior Tutor if they are in need of additional assistance.

As the Covid restrictions have continued to ease, I would like to remind everyone that there is still an expectation that students will continue to self-isolate if they are symptomatic or test positive for Covid-19. Remaining vigilant is still very important, but this opening up has meant we are able to begin to enjoy a more normal way of life. With that in mind, I encourage you to consider coming to one or more of our upcoming Performing Arts and Music performances. More information is available in this bulletin.

Nick Clark, Principal

E-Safety

As I am sure you are aware, many teenagers use social media to stay connected with their friends. This, however, does come with its dangers.

On the Reigate College website, under the Policies section, we do have a document called 'e-Safety guide for Parents/Guardians.' Please look at this for some useful advice.

In certain areas of the College, we display posters that remind students to be SMART with their online activity. See link here [E-Safety Poster](#).

We also remind students about their 'digital footprint' and highlight the 'Billboard Test' with regards to sharing/posting images. See [Billboard Poster](#). Please could I encourage you to have discussions about this with your son/daughter/young person.

Sexting remains an issue for young people with some children pressured into sharing images. We need to remind young people that it is ok to say 'no.' An app called 'Zipit' helps young people respond to requests of this nature in a humorous way.

For some parents/guardians/carers, these topics might be uncomfortable to discuss. Nevertheless, we would always encourage you to try and have an open dialogue with your son/daughter/young person regarding these issues, if possible.

Coping with Exam Pressure

We are aware that many of our students will not have sat formal exams, due to the pandemic. The Government have produced a useful resource that contains advice and guidance for students on how to cope with pressure associated with test and exam anxiety. We will share it with our students, but please have a look at the link below. It might be something you want to discuss with your son/daughter/young person. [Coping with exam pressure – a guide for students – GOV UK \(ww.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coping-with-exam-pressure-a-guide-for-students)

College Performances

There are several College performances coming up and tickets are available from the [box office](#)

Production	Performances
Little Shop of Horrors-the students of the College present the Broadway musical about a man eating plant !!	8 and 9 March 7pm
Headshotz – an evening of solo work from our extended diploma students.	23 March 7pm
Dance IT - The performance will include some work from our previously cancelled 'Hot Feet' performance as well as new and exciting assessment work from this term.	24 March at 6.30pm and 8pm
Fen – the play is brought to life by our students in the Studio Theatre	29 and 30 March 6.30pm
Spring Concert	31 March 7pm

Extended Tutor Sessions

Three times during the academic year, the Lower Sixth and Intermediate students have an Extended Tutor Period, which lasts for one hour rather than 30 minutes. The next one of these is the week beginning 14 March. In the first Extended Tutor session back in November, we covered the 'Prevent Agenda.' This is a Government initiative designed to highlight the signs that someone may be drawn into terrorism. In the second session we will cover 'consent,' building on from previous sessions relating to Healthy Relationships. In the third session in May, we will look at 'County Lines.'

At the end of every Tutor session, we inform (and remind) students what they should do if they have concerns about the issues we cover, either related to themselves or someone they know. We advise the students to speak to their Tutor, Senior Tutor, or someone from the Safeguarding Team.

If a parent/guardian/carer has a concern about any of these issues, or any issue related to one of our students which might put them at risk, they can email safeguarding@reigate.ac.uk.

Attendance

Can parents/guardians/carers let us know of any absences due to sickness before 8.50am, either through the parent portal, e-mailing attendance@reigate.ac.uk or by phoning the College to speak with a member of staff. If the notification is made after this time we cannot guarantee that the register will be recorded accurately as lessons have commenced. We would recommend checking the attendance record on the portal at the end of the day or replying to attendance@reigate.ac.uk if an absence e-mail is received, in order to correct the register retrospectively. Thank you for your support with this.

Careers Information

Careers Bulletin

Our new look [Careers Bulletin](#) is e-mailed to students every Monday and can be viewed on the College website. After Easter we will be trialling sending this out to parents every Monday.

Investors in Careers

The College is about to undergo re-accreditation for our Investor in Careers Award. Investor in Careers is an accredited National Licensed Awarding Body for The Quality in Careers Standard for careers education, information, advice and guidance (CEIAG) provision.

Careers interviews

A careers guidance interview is an impartial, one-to-one meeting between the student and one of our professionally qualified careers advisers lasting about 45 minutes. To find out how these can support your son/daughter/young person, click the link and listen to a short video [Your Careers Interview - What to expect 2021-](#)

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Work Experience

A reminder that all students are required to complete at least one 'experience of the workplace' during their Lower Sixth year. This can be either a day's Insight Visit, Work Shadowing or a longer period of Work Experience which should ideally be linked to future career aspirations. Part time jobs do not count towards this. Where possible, experiences should be arranged in the holidays, during work experience week, which is 11-15 July 2022, or on 28 and 30 June when lower sixth students are not required to be in College. As you will be aware from previous communications we are running an internship programme with the company "8 Billion Ideas", which will take place 13-15 July and will count as an experience of the workplace. There are a few places remaining on this, which can be booked on the parent portal. Please contact workexperience@reigate.ac.uk if you require further information about this.

If you work for an organisation which may be able to offer an experience of the workplace for one or more Reigate College students, please e-mail workexperience@reigate.ac.uk.

Community Update

This term we are focusing on raising money for our chosen charities, Guide Dogs for the Blind, The Lucy Rayner Foundation and our very own counselling service, Relate. There are number of activities that students can get involved with, to raise money and contribute to our wider community. All donations are collected electronically at www.rcsuevents.co.uk.

Intermediates/Lower Sixth students are focusing on raising money for the Guide Dogs for the Blind. The College has worked to support this charity for over five years now and have helped lots of local people. To get involved in fundraising students can: simply donate, buy a raffle ticket to win a cuddly dog, or enter the dog trick competition by filming their own dog completing a trick (this is then judged by panel of experts).

February – Last month we celebrated LGBTQ+ history month. The College provides an inclusive community for students and runs a Rainbow Club and this month the Club has contributed to developing resources to raise awareness around the LGBTQ+ community.

Wellbeing and Mental Health

At all times, the College promotes positive wellbeing and mental health. We are aware that some students are struggling, and the College offers a lot of support. All students can get support from their Tutor, Senior Tutor or Pastoral Director. We want to encourage students to speak out if they need support, we also have more targeted support with Wellbeing mentors and our Relate counsellors. If you need more advice or are concerned about a young person's mental health, the NHS have developed a new helpline where support and advice can be gained 24/7 - this number is 0800 915 4644.

Meeting New Friends

At College we run various activities to help students settle in and transition from their school, including community afternoon in week two, community projects, activities and pop-up events. However, we appreciate that some students find it easier than others to make new friends. If you think your son/daughter/young person is still struggling to meet others, please let us know their name and we will try and help. We don't even have to let the student know you have informed us. Please email studentservices@reigate.ac.uk if we can help.

ILC closure

The students have been made aware that the ILC Forum will be closed on Friday 18 March.

Diary dates

What	When	Details
Cross College Show – Little Shop of Horrors	Tuesday 8 March and Wednesday 9 March	Performances at 7pm.
Headshotz 2022	Wednesday 23 March	Performance at 7pm
Dance IT 2022	Thursday 24 March	Performances at 6.30pm and 8pm
Cross College Show – Fen	Tuesday 29 March and Wednesday 30 March	Performance at 6.30pm
Spring Concert	Thursday 31 March	Performance at 7pm
Last day of Spring Term	Friday 1 April	
Start of Summer Term	Wednesday 20 April	
Progression Exams	25 April to 29 April	
Last day of teaching	8 July	
U6 Re-enrolment	Tuesday 6 September	

Tickets for College Productions are available from the [box office](#)