



Newfield School  
Lees Hall Road  
Sheffield  
S8 9JP

0114 255 7331 📞  
enquiries@newfield.sheffield.sch.uk ✉️  
www.newfield.sheffield.sch.uk 🌐

**Headteacher:** Mrs Emma Anderson  
**Chair of Governors:** Mr Steve Chew

Our ref: NI/EB

13 October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Since I last wrote to you, our Year 11 students have settled back into school routines well and have shown commitment and curiosity in their lessons. We have been impressed by the dedication and hard work they have shown and I want to thank you for all the support you have given them so far. I also want to let you know of some of the things we have coming up over the next few weeks for our Year 11 students.

On **Thursday 7 October** we held our Post-16 event for all Year 11 students. This was a fantastic event with extremely high attendance from our Year 11 students. Students spent some time in sessions from a range of different providers and then time writing their personal statements. We were extremely impressed by the curiosity and maturity shown by our students and we hope this helped to provide them with some information about their options for post-16 study. Over the next few months, post-16 providers across the city will be hosting open events. I have included the overview of these dates at the end of this letter for your information.

Our next event coming up is the Year 11 Mock Interviews on **Friday 22 October**. These will be during school time and all Year 11 students will have an opportunity to undergo a mock interview. This is something that has been very successful in previous years and is a great opportunity to prepare students for the interviews they will have for their post-16 courses. Students will receive support for this in school and we will also be running a drop-in session after school on Wednesday 20 October for further advice and guidance. If you have any questions around this, please do not hesitate to contact [careers@newfield.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:careers@newfield.sheffield.sch.uk)

Continued...../



For the rest of this term, Year 11 Personal Development lessons will have a focus around post-16 applications. In the first instance, we will be guiding students through the process of writing a personal statement. This is a big part of the application process and we are aiming for all Year 11 students to have one written by **October Half Term**. This will mean that when we return after the holiday, students can use their Personal Development lessons to research providers and courses, and then start submitting their applications. This will all be done through a website called Sheffield Progress ([www.sheffieldprogress.co.uk](http://www.sheffieldprogress.co.uk)) and students will be receiving their login details over the next couple of weeks. This website can also be accessed at home so, as parents, you can be fully involved in the application process. All post-16 applications need to be submitted before we break up for the Christmas holidays on Friday 17 December. Students will be fully supported in school throughout this process, but I would like to thank you in advance for the support you will be giving them at home.

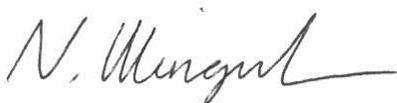
At the end of this first term, Year 11 students will all be sitting a set of Mock Exams. These will take place in school from **Monday 29 November**. We are in the process of finalising the exam timetable and this will be shared with students and parents very soon. To support students with their preparation for these exams, teachers will be running after school revision sessions, so please encourage your child to speak to their subject teachers about when these are taking place. Some have started already, but when we return after October Half Term, Maths, English and Science will be running every week on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday respectively. We are also starting our breakfast revision clubs from next week. These will run every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday morning 8.00am to 8.25am.

There has recently been some updates shared in the news around the arrangements for the exams our Year 11 students will be sitting in the summer. Mr Kirton has summarised these updates and I have included them at the end of this letter. We will continue to share any further updates as and when we receive them.

Finally, I want to end with the details of our Winter Ball this year. Sadly, we were not able to host this event last year, so we are very excited to say this is something that will be returning this year. The Winter Ball is held at Newfield School and is always a highlight of the year for our Year 11 students. It is a fantastic event which celebrates all the hard work Year 11 students put in to complete their mock exams. This year, the Winter Ball will be on **Thursday 16 December**.

As always, I want to thank you for all the support you are giving your child. Year 11 is always a challenging time for our students and we are really pleased with how they have started. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me by emailing [nillingworth@newfield.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:nillingworth@newfield.sheffield.sch.uk)

Yours faithfully



**Miss N Illingworth**  
**Head of Upper School**

# 6th Form and College Open Events

Sheffield  
**Futures**



2021-22

**All Saints Sixth Form**  
**Birkdale Sixth Form (independent)**  
**Chapelton Academy**  
**Forge Valley Sixth Form**  
**High Storrs Sixth Form**  
**King Egbert Sixth Form**  
**King Edward VII Sixth Form**  
**Longley Park Sixth Form**  
**Meadowhead Sixth Form**  
**Notre Dame Sixth Form**  
**Sheffield Girls' (independent)**  
**Sheffield South East VI Form (Park Academy)**  
**Silverdale Sixth Form**  
**Tapton Sixth Form**

Sat 6<sup>th</sup> November  
Visit: [www.birkdaleschool.org](http://www.birkdaleschool.org) for details.  
Weds 3<sup>rd</sup> November, Tues 8<sup>th</sup> February 2022  
Weds 10<sup>th</sup> November  
Weds 3<sup>rd</sup> November  
Thurs 18<sup>th</sup> November  
Thurs 11<sup>th</sup> November  
Sat 16<sup>th</sup> October, Sat 15<sup>th</sup> January 2022  
Thurs 4<sup>th</sup> November  
Sat 13<sup>th</sup> November  
Sat 6<sup>th</sup> November  
Weds 1<sup>st</sup> December  
  
Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> October  
Tues 23<sup>rd</sup> November

**The Sheffield College**  
(City, Hillsborough, Olive Grove and Peaks)

Visit: [www.sheffcol.ac.uk](http://www.sheffcol.ac.uk) for details.

**UTC City Centre**  
**UTC Olympic Legacy Park (OLP)**

Weds 10<sup>th</sup> November, Weds 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022  
Mon 4<sup>th</sup> October, Thurs 13<sup>th</sup> January 2022  
(Visit: [www.utcsheffield.org.uk](http://www.utcsheffield.org.uk) for further dates.)

## Out of Sheffield

**Barnsley College**

Visit: [www.barnsley.ac.uk](http://www.barnsley.ac.uk) for details.

**Chesterfield College**

Visit: [www.chesterfield.ac.uk](http://www.chesterfield.ac.uk) for details.

**Rotherham College**

Weds 24<sup>th</sup> November, Sat 15<sup>th</sup> January 2022

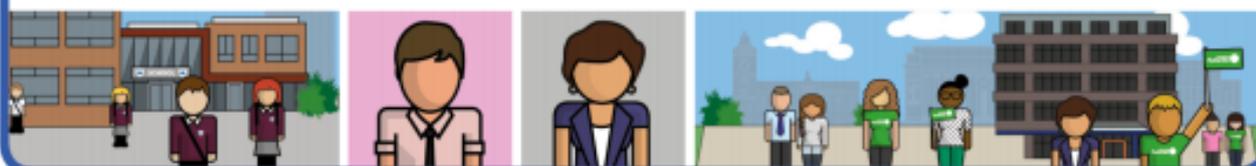
**Thomas Rotherham College**

Visit: [www.trc.ac.uk](http://www.trc.ac.uk) for details.

### Check before you go!

Events might take place on-site or they might be virtual.  
Also check the dates, times and whether you need to book.

© Sheffield Futures August 2021  
Registered Charity No. 104494



## **GCSE Examinations Summer 2022**

On Thursday 30 September 2021, following a public consultation, the Department for Education (DfE) and Ofqual published an update on the adaptations in 2022 summer exams. This is to maximise fairness for students following disruption to their studies over the last 18 months and to also help students reach their potential.

In the update, the DfE and Ofqual have confirmed changes such as a choice of topics in some GCSE exams like English literature and history; advance information on the focus of exams to focus students' revision in subjects, where there is not a choice of topics; and support materials like formulae sheets in maths. This means that the curriculum will be reviewed in the relevant subject areas and any changes will be discussed by students' subject teachers.

The plans presented aim to recognise the disruption caused to this year group's education as a result of the pandemic, while balancing the need to return to exams as the fairest form of assessment. In addition, Ofqual has also set out its approach to grading following the last two years which saw an overall higher proportion of students receiving top grades compared to pre-pandemic years. Consequently, Ofqual has stated that the 2020-21 academic year will be a transition year with grade boundaries to be set by the exam boards reflecting a midway point between 2021 and 2019 – this will in theory mean more students get higher grades in 2022 than before the pandemic.

The government are firmly intending for exams to take place in summer 2022, as the fairest way for students to show what they know and can do. They have, however, alongside Ofqual, published proposals for Teacher Assessed Grades as a contingency measure if exams cannot go ahead, in the event that the course of impact of the pandemic changes.

### **Unit-Level Teacher Assessed Grades (U-TAGs)**

#### **The following information is relevant for students studying BTEC Sport.**

During the 2020-21 academic year, students who had started studying BTEC or Vocational qualifications as part of their Year 10 studies were impacted by the cancellation of exams. At the time these students were not eligible to receive a Teacher Assessed Grade (TAG) and were classified as mid-flight learners.

In some subject areas, for some students, the Assessment Plans for the 2020-21 set out for students to sit an assessment in a particular unit or component. In these instances, we were asked by the exam boards to enter a Z-flag to indicate where we had planned to carry out assessment, which ultimately could not then take place due to the exams being cancelled. Ofqual has now published guidance alongside the exam boards that allows the entry of a grade called a Unit-Level Teacher Assessed Grade (U-TAG). Therefore, by **Wednesday 10 November 2021** we will be entering U-TAGs for the small number of students who are eligible for this.