



## Student Update: 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2021

### Covid-19 update: Stage 3 continues

As you may be aware, we are staying at Stage 3 of lockdown restrictions. This means that we need to continue with social distancing measures, including wearing a face covering in shops, on public transport or in places where it is difficult to keep 2 metres away from other people (unless you are exempt). Your school may have asked you to wear face coverings in corridors and classrooms: please check with your teachers if you are unsure of what to do.

You can also help by taking your rapid test (which is sometimes called an LFD test) twice a week. Remember to report your result, even if it is negative.

You can find out more information here: [Guidance on what you can and cannot do](#) or ask your school.

### College open days

If you are thinking about your next steps after GCSEs, you may be interested in some virtual open days that are taking place over the next few weeks.

If you are interested in becoming an apprentice, you may want to attend Bedford College's apprenticeship open day on 24<sup>th</sup> June. More details can be found here: [Apprenticeships Virtual Open Day Thursday 24 June 2021 | Bedford College](#)

Milton Keynes College's South Central Institute of Technology has a virtual open event on 29<sup>th</sup> June. This event will focus on learning and working within the digital sector and includes information about courses, apprenticeships and higher level qualifications. You can find out more here: [South Central Institute of Technology Open Event - MK College](#). There is also a general open event for Milton Keynes College on 8<sup>th</sup> July. You can find out more here: [Virtual Open Event - MK College](#)

Central Bedfordshire College are holding a virtual open event on 30<sup>th</sup> June. This will include a tour and there is an option for one-to-one chats with tutors. You can find out more here: [Central Bedfordshire College | Courses in Luton, Dunstable and Bedfordshire - Open Events](#)

Barnfield College are also holding an open event on 1<sup>st</sup> July. This will include a tour of the campus and a chance to speak with college tutors. You can find out more details and book your place here: [Open Evening | July 1, 2021 |Barnfield College](#)



## T-levels

Lots of people have heard about A-levels, NVQs and BTECs, but have you heard about T-levels?

T-levels are a new type of course, first introduced in 2020, and they are equivalent to three A-levels. They offer industry placements and are split between classroom and practical learning.

They focus on areas such as:

- Accounting and finance
- Agriculture and animal care
- Building and construction
- Catering
- Design
- Digital development
- Education and childcare
- Hair, beauty and aesthetics
- Health and healthcare
- Law, management and administration (including human resources)
- Engineering and manufacturing
- Media, broadcast and production
- Science

T-levels are only offered at specific colleges, and not all colleges offer all T-levels. This allows colleges to specialise in certain areas of study and share their expertise.

You can find out more about T-levels and which colleges offer them via this link:

[T Levels | The Next Level Qualification](#)

## National Writing Day

23<sup>rd</sup> June is National Writing Day. This year's theme is 'Fill the Box' and the theme is connection.

Why not try these writing challenges:

- Write a poem, story or letter that fills one side of a square post-it note (or a square that is 3 inches by 3 inches)
- Write a poem, story or letter with no more than 280 characters
- Write an acrostic using the word CONNECTION
- Write a shape poem on the theme of connection

Once you've written your piece of creative writing, why not share it with your teachers, friends and family.



## Platinum Jubilee Design Competition

Next year, Queen Elizabeth II will celebrate her platinum jubilee. This means she has been the monarch for 70 years, something no other king or queen has achieved.

To help the celebrations, The Royal Household and the V & A museum in London are inviting young people between the ages of 13 and 25 to design an emblem to mark the jubilee celebrations. The emblem (like a logo) will feature on publicity, official websites and social media.

To enter, you need to design an emblem that is:

- Creative: your design must be striking and original.
- Usable: the design must be simple enough to work on small and large scales, in black and white and in colour.
- Relevant: it needs to be easy to recognise and relevant to The Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

You will also need to follow these criteria and make sure that your emblem:

- Includes a drawing of a royal crown.
- Is drawn freehand and/or using computer design software.
- Can be reproduced as a 2-dimensional flat image and also is legible on smaller screens.
- Is able to be submitted online in JPEG, PNG, TIFF or PDF file format.
- Does not contain any drawing of The Queen herself or any likeness.
- Does not include anything else apart from the design.
- Does not include any names or personal details.
- Does not include anything that you have copied from somewhere else (except drawings of the royal crown which are permitted).

You can find out more about how to enter and the full competition rules here: [V&A . The Platinum Jubilee Emblem Competition \(vam.ac.uk\)](https://vam.ac.uk)

Remember to check with an adult before entering the competition as you will need to supply their email address as your point of contact. You will also need to read the terms and conditions with an adult to check you and they are happy with the rules of the competition and what will happen to your design if you are shortlisted for the final or win the competition.

## Results 2021

For those of you taking GCSE, AS, A-level and vocational qualifications this year, OFQUAL have published a guide explaining how grades have been calculated and what to do if you think you have been given the wrong grade.

You can read the guide here: [Student guide to awarding: summer 2021 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)