



Our Reference: SMC April update

2<sup>nd</sup> April 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Sigma Sixth Update**

As we draw to the end of the spring term, I thought I would take this opportunity to update you on some key information.

### **2025 Examinations**

The link to the Summer 2025 Examination timetable can be found [here](#). After the Easter break, students will receive further guidance and information about revision sessions.

The National Exam Contingency dates are on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> of June. These dates are set aside in case of a national emergency or a local issue resulting in the cancellation of any scheduled nationwide examinations. All students must remain available up until and including 25<sup>th</sup> June. Please understand that these dates are not a “catch-up” for individual students; students cannot miss any external exams.

We are unable to change the dates of any examinations, these are legally set. Should a student be too ill to sit an exam, the exams officer must be contacted at the earliest opportunity (before the start of the examination). The Exam Board will request a doctor's note. Due to the nature of public examinations, there is no opportunity to take any missed exams at a later date within this exam window. Missing an exam has serious implications for the final awarded grades.

Once an exam has started, students are not permitted to enter. If you feel your child may be late for the start of their exam, please contact the exams officer as a matter of urgency. Please note that a ‘missed bus’ or ‘bad traffic’ cannot be accepted as a reason for missing the start of examinations. Our advice is to ensure that every student plans to arrive on site at least 30 minutes before the start of each exam.

### **Year 13 – Leaving Arrangements**

Year 13 students will continue their lessons with us until they have completed their final exams within their subjects. On Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> June, all year 13 students will have completed their studies and are invited to attend our leavers Pizza Party, which will take place on campus between 12.00-1.00 pm. We will be sad to say our fond farewells to them, but we are excited for their futures.

### **Post-18 Pathways Support**

For both year 12 and year 13 students, we continue to look for ways to enhance the wider opportunities we are able to offer. We inform students of events they should consider attending through our student bulletin board on Google Classroom, the careers hub, and emails. These include: Summer Schools, Taster Events, and Open Days run by universities, colleges, and employers, both local and nationally.

These events give students the opportunity to explore their career ideas and ambitions. We strongly encourage our students to take advantage of these free events to enable them to make an informed decision about their future career progression.

In college this term, students have experienced 'pop up' stands providing information about local employment and apprenticeship offers; year 13 students have received a session on managing finances at university; a drop-in with The University of Essex to discuss late applications and all aspects of applying to university and workshops for students specifically seeking employment. Year 12 students have received sessions on apprenticeships alongside initial introductions to the University application process. Mrs Read's letter about our Pathways Week in June for year 12 can be found [here](#).

We believe that every student can succeed and achieve their goals and dreams with the right attitude and work ethic. We are always on hand to support and guide our students.

Sigma Sixth will close its doors for the Easter holidays after the morning session at 12.10 pm on Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> April. There will be no lunch service, and the Clacton bus will operate at its normal time, so students may want to arrange alternative transportation. The Harwich bus will leave at 12.20 pm

I hope you have an enjoyable Easter, and we look forward to welcoming students back to college on Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> April.

Yours sincerely

Mrs S McKarry  
Head of College  
Sigma Sixth