



Manor Community College

a DCSF designated Specialist Creative and Performing Arts College
Principal Ben Slade BA (Hons) Ed, NPQH

Arbury Road, Cambridge, CB4 2JF
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Dear Parent/Carer,

RE: YEAR 11 INTERVENTION UPDATE

We wanted to write to update you on what we have been doing with the students in the Year 11 intervention cohort since our initial meeting with parents back in December 2008.

Study skills day – 6th January

A whole day focused on study skills was organised and took place on 06/01/2009. In the afternoon there was an additional session on study skills and revision techniques for this group. This was very well received.

Mentoring

We have tried to improve the quality of mentoring this year. All students should have had a few sessions with their mentors and should also feel comfortable to approach them about a range of issues in between meetings. We are recording the meetings and any actions we are taking to ensure things are followed up.

After college sessions in English and Maths

There have been lots of after college sessions in a range of subject areas but especially in English and Maths. Again these have been targeted (specific tasks for specific students) and reasonably well attended. Students report that the help they are receiving is useful.

Study Support sessions

Mrs Davies and me have been running a number of study support sessions on a Tuesday evening. We have been providing refreshments as an added incentive. Again attendance has been good at these and students seem to have enjoyed the sessions?!

Half term coursework catch-up and revision sessions

A wide range of students came in to engage in coursework sessions (English and a few other subject areas) and exam practice/revision (Maths) during half term. However, the attendance at the latter (Maths) was disappointing with some students also going home at lunchtime.

This is disappointing as a number of teachers have given up their time and there are considerable costs involved in opening and staffing the college for such sessions.

That said the students who did attend got some valuable work done! Well done!

1:1 tuition

A small number of students have been targeted for 1:1 tuition which is being delivered in a variety of ways. This is in its infancy and will be extended to more students shortly. Please note this is costing us over £35 per hour so it is vital students respond positively.

Deputy Principal: Jane Davies
Chair of Governors: Phillip Ward
PA to the Principal: Lucy Crebo
Bursar: John Moloney

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Forums to discuss how effective we have been

I have deliberately asked a range of Year 10 and 11 students to speak with the Director of Education and our National Challenge Adviser, Mrs Janet Morrison about whether the college is doing all it can to support students. Their responses have been extremely encouraging and very positive.

That said, please contact me (via lcrebo@manorcc.org.uk) or Mrs Jane Davies, Deputy Principal, (jdavies@manorcc.org.uk) if you have any issues or concerns.

Still to come:

CCSS course

We will be selecting a range of students to attend the FREE revision course at Cambridge Centre for Sixth Form Studies in the Easter holidays. Once selected it is vital that students show 100% commitment to this as it should cost £500 per student! ***More details will follow shortly.***

Intensive mentoring

We aim to increase the focus on mentoring so that staff are supporting students with their study where possible and making more regular contact with you as parents/carers

Online Revision

We are currently investigating this but hope to offer this in some subject areas to all students in the Year 11 intervention cohort at around Easter time.

More 1:1 tuition

As mentioned above, we would like to extend this to more students as the term advances.

Attendance

As always our biggest issue is ATTENDANCE. Please could you do everything in your power to ensure that students are in college every day, on time and prepared for work.

I hope this update has been useful and that you feel we are doing all we can to support our students. Any ideas, please get in contact with us.

Very best wishes and thanks for your support,

Ben Slade
Principal

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