



THVS Newsletter

Spring 2021: No 1

Welcome!

Happy new year and happy new term!

2021 has started with another level of uncertainty and a return to lockdown. We find ourselves back to where we were in March, but this time with a sense of familiarity as we are navigating homeschooling and finding the motivation to attend classes online.

The government has announced that GCSE and A-level exams are cancelled this year and results will once again be teacher assessed. No doubt this is causing students some concern and worry when considering their future options. The Virtual School remains in place to provide advice and support for post 16 students in further education and beyond. We can offer advice on alternative pathways, apprenticeships, college and university courses as well as meeting with colleges to discuss how best to support students.

Aside from the Virtual School, check the post 16 section in this newsletter to find links to other forms of support on offer for students.

Lastly, stay safe and look after your mental health by finding new and enjoyable things to do during lockdown!

Emma Abboh
Virtual School KS5 Officer

In this edition:

Year 10, 11 and Post 16 help and guidance.

Training for Designated Teachers.

Home schooling on and offline.

Do you have a story for our newsletter?

Contact us vsinfo@towerhamlets.gov.uk



Teacher Support
Carer and Teacher
Health and Wellbeing
Have you visited our website?

The DT Role, [Support and Guidance Training and resources 2020-2021](#)
[Kooth App](#) and [GP Service Video](#)
<http://virtualschool.towerhamlets.gov.uk>



Online Learning, Help and Guidance

The **Virtual School** is here to help you on your learning journey at home, school and higher education. We will provide advice, quality online and physical resources to make access to achieving your goals as simple as possible.

Working on and offline

The previous lockdown was difficult, especially if you found it hard to get access to a laptop. Social workers can apply for a laptop for every child in the Virtual School. This will make studying at home easier if your pod, group or whole year are ever sent home. Please contact your social worker if you don't have a laptop.

You will find access to extra resources on the Virtual School website, and [BBC Bitesize](#). You will also be able to access our new Life Skills and Learning app called [THVS Learn](#). You will find everything from how to manage money, coping with bullying, stress and independent living, to English Literature, History and Maths resources. You will need a username and password for the new learning app. Please contact the Virtual School, if you haven't received a username and password by the end of February 2021.

Shahirul.Bashar@towerhamlets.gov.uk
020 7364 3692

Don't forget that there are many exciting ways to learn at home without going online. See some of our ideas for [primary](#) and [secondary](#) students.

Post 16 Help and Guidance

There is always help and advice available, if you're unsure about what to do next.

The **Virtual School KS5 Officer**, Emma Abboh, can be contacted on 020 7364 6459 emma.abboh@towerhamlets.gov.uk.



For careers advice, **Young WorkPath** can offer support for young people both in and out of education. Reach them online at www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/youngworkpath or via email youngworkpath@towerhamlets.gov.uk

UCL University has some great online activities, events and resources for Year 12 and 13 students. Find out more at <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/widening-participation/learners/year-12-and-13>

Universities can be visited virtually for campus tours. Visit the [Guardian University Guide](#) website to find out what universities offer your chosen course and go on an online visit?

Pathways

In Year 10 or 11? Want to discover your passion? UEL run great [workshops](#) and Myth busting sessions, to help you on your way!

Beyond Secondary School. Post 16 skills for success! **28th January @4.14pm**. Register [here!](#)

Your teacher can sign you up for Higher Education activities, [here!](#)

UCAS support young people in care. See [here](#).

Rich Mix is teaming up with **The People Speak** art group to invite young people in Tower Hamlets to **Talkaoke** - a television-style talk show! Contact **Margot** for more information Margot.Przymierska@richmix.org.uk
078124389548

RICH MIX

"Thank you for everything! Honestly, I wouldn't be at university if you didn't encourage me to go to Attlee A Level Academy!" Post 16 student.



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