

Our current Year 13 cohort have experienced huge disruption to their A level studies as a result of COVID-19.

In line with government guidance, The Heathland School closed to all but children of key workers and vulnerable students on March 20<sup>th</sup> 2020. There were a small number of children in the current Year 13 cohort that met the criteria to continue to attend school.

In the main, students were not present in school for 15 weeks of planned teaching time. Alternative provision was put in place via remote learning, using the school shared area and, subsequently, Microsoft teams for students to access daily work set by teachers. Staff worked hard in and out of school to ensure the continuation of a broad and balanced curriculum for students. Whilst up-take of remote provision was generally good, we recognise that this did not replace the rigour of classroom teaching and learning. Our normal UCAS launch had to be cancelled, with support provided digitally to students.

In the autumn term 2020, the school worked hard to implement a recovery curriculum alongside targeted intervention. Significant changes were adopted by the school in order to mitigate the disruption caused by COVID-19. This resulted in A level students not being able to access in-school study support and intervention as would normally be the case.

The school was closed again from January to March 2021 and students received live teaching via Microsoft Teams. Technology was a significant barrier for many of our students. Some students were sharing a limited number of devices with family members, some accessing work on mobile phones, and others were unable to access work at all. The Heathland School ensured access for many students by printing and sending work home as well as providing laptops wherever possible.