



February 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

It is hard to believe that we are beyond the half way point of the school year already! With hopefully a glimmer of Spring before too long, please find some updates and reminders as we approach Easter.

Industrial Action 28 February

As previously communicated, the next National Education Union (NEU) strike will take place on Tuesday 28 February.

The safety and wellbeing of our students remains my top priority, therefore as with the first strike action at the beginning of the month, we will be unable to remain open for the majority of students on this day, as there will not be sufficient staff for us to supervise them safely.

We will, however, be contacting the parents and carers of identified students separately to this letter, as we will still be hosting provision for certain groups of students.

If you have not received this separate communication by the end of Friday 24 February, please note that the school will not be open for your child on Tuesday 28 February, and we will be providing remote learning for them to complete at home.

In addition, **all Year 11 students will be expected to be in school** and will be undertaking their scheduled mock exams in English (am) and Science (pm). Please note that Year 11 will have an earlier finish time of approximately 2.15pm. If you require your child to be supervised until 3pm, please contact us accordingly and this can be arranged.

Students not invited into school should go the following websites to complete work in the following subjects.

English	Seneca - Learn 2x Faster (senecalearning.com)
Maths	Sparx Maths www.corbettmaths.com
Science	Seneca - Learn 2x Faster (senecalearning.com)
Geography	Seneca - Learn 2x Faster (senecalearning.com)
French and Spanish	Seneca - Learn 2x Faster (senecalearning.com)

Students have their own login for all the above sites and can also access Oak National Academy for a range of lessons and learning in all subjects using the following link: [Oak National Academy \(thenational.academy\)](https://www.thenational.academy)

If you are considered to be a “critical worker” and would like to request your child attends school, please contact us as soon as possible at admin@bbec.bdat-academies.org to discuss provision. So that we can ensure the safety of everyone on the school site, please do not send your child before contacting us.

Critical workers are classed as those in the following fields:

- Health and Social Care
- Education and Childcare
- Public Services
- Local Government



- Food and other necessary goods
- Public Safety
- Transport
- Utilities, Communication and Financial Services

Ofsted

As you are aware, a team of five Ofsted Inspectors visited BBEC on 6 and 7 February. We will, of course, share the full findings of the inspection as soon as the report is published.

Planners

Thank you for your continued support for our procedures for dealing with students who are late to lessons. These have been in place for a term now and have had a significant impact on students being on time, limiting any disruption to learning. It is noticeable, however, that a number of students arrive at school without their planner, and therefore their timetable, inevitably delaying their arrival to lessons. **Please ensure that your child has their planner with them every day.** These are checked on arrival to school each morning and detentions will be issued for those who do not have them and therefore do not know where their lesson is.

Mock Exams

The second mock exam season is now underway, with Year 11 students conducting themselves very well in preparation for the summer. These will continue until Friday 3 March and will serve as a good benchmark to help students focus on specific areas of revision. Each has been assigned a mentor who will also support either in groups or on a 1:1 basis.

Year 9 to Year 10 Pathways

Current Year 9 students will be introduced to their curriculum options after the Easter holidays. Information will be presented to students and sent to parents at that time.

Student Parliament

During February half term the council completed our new zebra crossing, vastly improving the safety of our children as they arrive and leave for school. This came as a result of the hard work of one of our parents and School Parliament who have campaigned and lobbied tirelessly to see this happen. Parliament are also busy working on various student led projects including the set of a free uniform swap shop for parent, a lunchtime sports club, a project with Grange Academy aimed at challenging stereotypes and much more!

Ski Trip

A group of five teachers led another successful ski trip to Italy. Students treasured the experience of visiting another country, engrossing themselves in the culture and of course, plentiful skiing. Each student made fantastic progress and left the trip with memories they will never forget. A huge thank you to the staff who made this trip a reality.

Enrichment Activities/Clubs



**We all belong
at BBEC**

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Before school Badminton Mr Ward	Before school Basketball Mr Ward	Before school Basketball Mr Ward	Before school Basketball Mr Ward	Before school Basketball Mr Ward
Yr 8 Boys Football 3G Mr Ward	Yr 10 Boys Bugby 3G Mr Pollard/ Mr Ugarte	Yr 7 Boys Football 3G Mr Hillam	Yr 9 & 10 Boys Football 3G Mr Ward	Basketball Sports Hall Mr Taylor
Learn To Swim Outside Provider	Sanctus Boys Boxing Fitness Suite	Badminton Sports Hall Miss Carr	Yr 7 & 8 Boys Rugby 3G Mr Ugarte	Fitness (Invitation Only) Fitness Suite Mr Pollard
Karate Fitness Suite All Years Boys/Girls	Dungeons & Dragons Y1.20 Mr Lovelock	Trampolining Sports Hall Miss Cawood	Sanctus Girls Boxing Fitness Suite	Dance Small Gym Outside provider
School Choir Y1.08	Summer Musical (After Half Term) Y0.10	Multisport Fitness Suite Mr Pollard	Drum Club (Lunchtimes) Music	Chess Club B1.11 Mr Ryan
		Comic Book Club (Silver week only) Mr McKenny	Soul Band All years Y1.08	
		Summer Musical (After Half Term) Y0,10	Volleyball Small Gym Ms Faragher	

I would like to extend my thanks to all the staff who make all these activities such a valuable experience for our students.

Dates for diaries

W/C 20 February	Year 11 Mock Exams
W/C 27 February	Year 11 Mock Exams
Thur 2 March	World Book Day
Thur 2 March	Year 8 Parent's Evening
Thur 16 March	Year 11 Reports & Parents' Evening – to be rearranged due to industrial action. New details to follow
Fri 17 March	Red Nose Day
W/C 20 March	Year 8 Residential / Year 9 Residential / Year 8-10 Horizons Days
W/C 27 March	Easter Rewards Week
Friday 31 March	Break up for Easter Holiday, returning Monday 17 April

Once again, thank you for all your support and I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Yours faithfully

Andrew Taylor
Headteacher

