



July 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

As the school year draws to a close, I would like to start by saying congratulations and thank you once again to all students and staff for their resilience and positivity throughout a very busy yet productive year. As I have said before, it is a privilege to work with such a supportive and dedicated team.

GCSE Exams

Year 11 students conducted themselves very well during their exams and the vast majority should be very proud of their efforts. I am sure that these will be rewarded in August, when we will all be nervous yet confident that their achievements will be cause for celebration.

The Year 11 prom at Cedar Court Hotel was a fabulous occasion and a great time was had by all.

Positive Attitude to Learning

As previously communicated, we will be implementing our new "PA2L" policy in September. The vast majority of our expectations and rules will remain the same, but the way in which we reward positive behaviour and administer sanctions if students do not meet these expectations, will be significantly different and I encourage all parents and carers to read the new policy, which will be on the school website before September.

Central to this, is the "ARCK Record" which is replacing the current planner. **It is essential that this is brought to school every day**, as students will need this to gain their recognition stamps, and we will be using it to communicate with you. If a student does not bring their ARCK record with them on two or more occasions within a half term, they will be isolated in school.

Class Charts

Along with the ARCK Record replacing our current planners, homework will be set and submitted in a different way from September. Individual teachers will set home learning through an online platform called **Class Charts**. Parents/Carers and students will be able to view all the activities which have been set, and will be able to download the Class Charts App to monitor progress. Individual log in details will be sent to you in September, along with further guidance.

Our after-school Home Learning Club will continue and can be accessed in the school library. A member of staff will be present to help your child with their questions and ideas. Encouraging your child to attend this club will help them to take ownership of their learning, which will enable them to become independent learners.

Student Parliament

Our Student Parliament has continued its work on inclusion by planning a Pride event and embedding the Sports for You and Cooking club.

Next year, we plan to change our Student Parliament prefect system slightly by reducing the number to 30-40 prefects who will work together on three common priorities:

1. **Collating and sharing student voice.** We will have our own Prefects' "Surgery" where students will be provided with the opportunity to share their views in guided listening sessions in tutor times. This will then be shared with prefects who will present to SLT and beyond. We will be working alongside Citizens UK to match the priorities of the Bradford Citizens project which gives young people a voice on a variety of issue to create social change in the community.

2. **Volunteer work in the community.** We will connect with local charities to volunteer our time and fundraise for local projects such as foodbanks and breakfast clubs.
3. **Diversity and inclusion.** We will continue to work on ensuring all students feel like they belong at BBEC by continuing to celebrate awareness months/days, running an inclusive sports/cooking club and creating student-led assemblies to celebrate diversity and tackle discrimination.

We will conduct student elections for prefects in the third week back and we will hold our **third** annual Inauguration ceremony at Bradford City Hall on Wednesday 1 November 2023. We will also take our annual trip to London and the Houses of Parliament in Spring term 1 as well as running a rewards trip for prefects in the Summer term. If you are interested in becoming involved with our prefect system, please see Miss Kaur.

Minimum Entitlement

Our Y9 Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award Scheme is progressing well and we have dates for both the practice and assessed expeditions in September 2023. All students who have progressed their skills, volunteering and physical sections will receive a letter with full details. In the meantime, please contact Mr. Pollard for more information.

Rewards Assemblies take place in the final week with students receiving recognition from staff across the school. Eligible students will be receiving Gold, Silver and Bronze Certificates for achievement points, together with stickers to claim rewards from the canteen. There will also be "Just Eat" Prize Draws for Gold Award winners.

In addition, we have a competition running for all students to share their best experience from this academic year, around anything enjoyed from our extensive programme of personal development and enrichment. This is the link for the survey to complete and be eligible for the prize draw of "Just Eat" Vouchers:

<https://forms.office.com/e/nWZMnuXfTq>

Employability and Skills Week

The BBEC work experience and employability skills week took place between 3 and 7 July, with an overwhelming majority of students taking part in work placements or employability skills sessions in school.

The feedback from placements was incredibly positive and, in some instances, has resulted in offers of part time employment, whilst the students in school enjoyed the sessions delivered by Talent Foundry and Barclays Bank

Positive Choices

On Tuesday 4 July and Thursday 6 July, all of Year 8 were involved in a series of Positive Choices workshops, provided by the Leeds United Foundation. The incredible speakers discussed a wide range of topics such as knife crime, resilience and gang culture. Students were moved by the day and listened excellently to our speakers sharing their lived experiences and advice on making positive choices moving forwards.

B-FEST

The sun certainly shone for our first 'B-FEST' event on Thursday 13th July! The whole BBEC family enjoyed a range of activities from face painting, flower crown making and much more. Our BBQ was enjoyed by all, and our guests certainly enjoyed an Ice Cream or two! Special thanks go to local businesses who supported the event; 'The Little Soap Box', 'Sweet Confectionery' and 'Rossi's Ices'. If you have a small business and you would like to hold a stall at our 'Winter Wonderland' event this Christmas, please email: zainab.asghar@bbec.bdat-academies.org for more information.

High School Musical

'We're all in this together!'

We were so pleased to stage the musical 'High School Musical' this week. We had a superb cast of students from across the school that have been rehearsing since February twice a week showing dedication and resilience. We had a professional set, professional band and professional performances. Please look out for more performing arts opportunities in the autumn term.



Uniform

I urge parents and carers to take careful note of uniform expectations in preparation for the new school year. When students arrive to school, their uniform will be checked, along with challenging any banned items such as trainers, rings, bracelets, necklaces etc. These items will be removed by students and if seen again or are repeatedly a problem they will be confiscated for the rest of the day.

The only footwear that is appropriate are plain **all** black leather footwear (**no fabric sections anywhere on the shoe**). There should be no different coloured soles and staff decision on what is appropriate is final.

Any types of leggings/joggers/jeggings/jeans are not acceptable under any circumstances.

Students who arrive at school with incorrect uniform **will be expected to borrow** correct uniform and then attend lessons as normal. Refusal of this will be dealt with as defiance and the student will be isolated for the remainder of the day.

Please also be reminded that coats should not be worn in the school building. We have enough lockers for all students and they are all encouraged to use one. Coats and any other non-essential items should be kept in lockers, which can be accessed on the way down to break and lunch only.

Equipment

All students are expected to come to school with the correct equipment and uniform each and every day. As a reminder the minimum expected equipment is our **SIMPLE 7** which is detailed below:

- 2 x pens
- 2 x pencils
- ruler
- rubber
- Casio scientific calculator (as illustrated)
- ARCK Record
- Bag (large enough to fit A4)



Every student must have a school bag, large enough to carry their ARCK Record, books and PE kit when they have PE. This bag should be brought to school every day.

If possible, students should also have a green and purple pen.

All students will be assigned a locker in September, in which any items can be stored safely. Coats and any other items of clothing which are not part of the uniform must be stored in lockers at the beginning of the day.

School Day from September

A reminder of the new timings of the school day from September:

MONDAY - FRIDAY			
Start 8.30am			
	Start	End	Duration
To classrooms/Equipment Check	08.30	08.35	5 minutes
Lesson 1 (VIP and Assemblies)	08.35	09.15	40 minutes
Lesson 2	09.15	10.15	60 minutes
Lesson 3	10.15	11.30	60minutes lesson
Break (Years 7, 9 and 11)	10.15	10.30	15 minutes
Break (Years 8 and 10)	11.15	11.30	15 minutes
Lesson 4	11.30	12.30	60 minutes
Lesson 5	12.30	14.00	60minutes lesson
Lunch (Years 7, 9 and 11)	12.30	13.00	30 minutes
Lunch (Years 8 and 10)	13.30	14.00	30 minutes
Lesson 6	14.00	15.00	60 minutes
End 3.00pm			

The school day is slightly different for students in Bridge and Connect. Parents will be contacted separately regarding these timings.

Fond Farewells

This time of year is often tinged with sadness as we say farewell and thank you to staff who are leaving for pastures new.

Ms Anwar has been a Maths tutor at BBEC for one year and has had a significant impact on students, boosting their confidence and skills in this area. Likewise, **Ms Khatun** carried out her role as English tutor with professionalism, helping students to become more confident in their reading and literacy.

Miss Safdar has been an invaluable support in her role as IT Support Officer, a huge undertaking in a school of this size, especially given the sharp rise in technology in recent years.

Many students will miss **Mr Kirkbride** who, as Pastoral Manager, was held in very high regard in a short space of time and formed positive relationships with both students and families.

Mr Hussain, who supported students in the LDC, is also leaving for pastures new, and has supported some of our more anxious learners with both their academic and social skills to enable them to reintegrate into the main school.

Ms Qureshi has taught Science at BBEC this year and has done so with ambition, resilience and care. I know students in her lessons and tutor group will miss her dearly.

Miss Davies has had a very successful time at BBEC within the English department and we wish her well in her new career within the primary phase.

Mr Pollard has been a popular and dedicated member of the PE team, as well as an Assistant Head of Year. His commitment to both high quality teaching and the wider development of students through enrichment activities, including the Duke of Edinburgh Scheme, cannot be underestimated and we wish him well in his new adventures in China.

Mrs Kirby has gained a leadership role in another school, following four very successful years at BBEC. Her skills as a teacher and as an Assistant Headteacher have benefitted students and staff alike. Although a major part of her role was in coaching and mentoring Early Career Teachers, we have all benefitted from her expertise, professional challenge and training, and her new school is very lucky to have her.



AMBITION

RESILIENCE

COURTESY

KINDNESS

Congratulations to **Mr Mazacs**, who has gained a well-deserved promotion to Senior Leadership in another local school. His leadership of the Maths department has been second to none, with students in that area leaving BBEC with some very impressive outcomes. We send him our best wishes in this new role.

Mr Akeel has led the Science Department for six years, during which time he has played a very important role in the development of the curriculum and teaching methods, including the promotion of our STEM provision, which I am sure he will continue in his new school.

Mr Gaskin will also be leaving BBEC after six years. His calm and purposeful approach in the Geography department will be missed by many students, as will his good humour and support for colleagues.

Our Achievement Leader for MFL, **Mr Simpson**, has been successful in gaining a Head of Department role at a school in Leeds. There is no doubt that he has taken MFL from strength to strength during his tenure and we thank him sincerely for everything he has done for our students, both within the classroom and out.

Mr Waddington has taken the decision to retire after fifteen years of service at BBEC. As a Specialist Teaching Assistant, he has supported many students with their learning across a range of subjects. His patience and encouragement are to be admired, both of which have enabled many young people to achieve way beyond their own expectations. We wish Mr Waddington all the very best in his retirement.

There is no doubt that **Mr Ingham** will be missed by students, ex-students, parents and carers for a variety of reasons! As a dedicated and committed History teacher, musician and leader, he has been involved in all aspects of the school, from Teaching and Learning to Pastoral care. Never shy of a difficult conversation, Mr Ingham has, for sixteen years, supported an array of young people develop their skills and abilities through a constant determination for them to succeed. We send him our very best wishes in his new role as Deputy Headteacher at a school within the Bradford district.

Finally, I would like to say a communal and personal thank you to **Mr Humphreys**, following no less than twenty years of complete dedication and commitment to BBEC. His high expectations and passion for the achievement of all our students is second to none. As Deputy Headteacher, Headteacher and Associate Headteacher, he has witnessed so many changes to the educational landscape, both locally and nationally, always managing to weather these storms with integrity and without compromising his own values and high moral compass. We will continue to benefit from the significant work he has done for the school, both publicly and 'behind the scenes' and he will leave a lasting legacy for us to maintain and further develop. I am sure parents and carers will join me in thanking Mr Humphreys for everything he has done and send our very best wishes in his retirement.

And Welcomes

I am delighted to welcome our new staff to BBEC in September:

Mrs Cooper	Assistant Headteacher – Quality of Education
Mr Mullaney	Assistant Headteacher- Behaviour and Attitudes
Mrs McDonald	Progress Leader Health and Social Care
Ms Webster	Progress Leader English
Ms Shah	Teacher of English
Ms Corner	Teacher of Geography
Ms Athwal	Teacher of Maths
Ms Sohail	Teacher of History
Mr Cox	Teacher of PE
Ms Carroll	Progress Leader MFL
Mr Farrar	Teacher of Science
Mr Ellahi	Teacher of English
Ms Denniss	Teacher of Art
Ms Williamson	Teaching Assistant
Mr Medlock	New to English Co-ordinator
Ms Newton	Admin Assistant
Ms Warner	Pastoral Manager



Miss Chapman	Student Welfare
Ms Lewis	Lunchtime Supervisor
Ms Dawn	Catering Assistant
Ms Brown	Part-time Technology Technician

Movers and Shakers!

One of the benefits of having such a great staff team, is the potential for career progression and identifying talent to fill essential roles in school when they become vacant.

Mrs Wright (Associate Assistant Headteacher)	Assistant Headteacher – Quality of Education
Mrs Hefferin (Progress Leader - Maths)	Achievement Leader – Maths
Mr Hussain (Progress Leader - Science)	Achievement Leader – Science
Mr Mincher (Progress Leader - MFL)	Achievement Leader – MFL
Ms Martin (Teacher of English)	Progress Leader - English
Mr McKenny (Progress Leader - Media)	Progress Leader - English
Mrs Heywood (Progress Leader - English)	Added TLR 3 Reading
Mrs Gregoire (Pastoral Manager)	Teaching Assistant
Mrs Simpson Gregoire (Behaviour Admin)	Pastoral Manager
Ms Syms (LDC Manager – cover)	Pastoral Manager
Mrs King (Progress Leader - English)	Associate Assistant Headteacher - Quality of Education
Mrs Atkinson (Progress Leader – Science)	Leading Practitioner
Miss Graham (Progress Leader – Maths)	Leading Practitioner
Mrs Heywood (Progress Leader – English)	Leading Practitioner

Dates for Diaries

5 September 2023	School opens for Y7 students
6 September 2023	School opens for Y10 & Y11 students
6 September 2023	Yr7 NGRT Tests online
7 September 2023	School opens for Yr8 & Y9 students
12 & 13 September 2023	Bronze DofE practice expedition
15 September 2023	Yr11 fine Art & Photography to Yorkshire Sculpture Park
21 September 2023	Open Evening for Yr6 parents
28 September 2023	Yr7 Meet the Tutor Evening
28 & 29 September 2023	Bronze DofE Expedition
3 October 2023	Yr8 Saltaire Art Trip
5 October 2023	Yr8 Saltaire Art Trip
9 -13 October 2023	Prefect Elections
10 October 2023	Hello Yellow – World Mental Health Day
11 & 12 October 2023	Yr11 Hospitality & Catering Unit 2 practical cooking exam
13 – 19 October 2023	Yr11 Practical Mocks and MFL Speaking
19 October 2023	Show Racism the Red Card
19 October 2023	School closes
30 October 2023	School opens

Finally, I would like to thank parents and carers, as always, for your continued support. It has been a challenging but hugely productive year and I am very much looking forward to continuing our journey in September.

With best wishes for a safe and enjoyable summer.



Andrew Taylor
Headteacher

