



BUTTERSHAW
BUSINESS & ENTERPRISE COLLEGE

A member of
the **bdaf** family
Bradford District
Academies Trust

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Buttershaw Business and Enterprise College
Reevy Road West
Bradford
West Yorkshire
BD6 3PX

Tel 01274 676285

Fax 01274 679228

Email admin@buttershaw.net

Visit www.buttershaw.net

Twitter: @BBEC1

Dear Parents/Carers

Start of the Year

We are so pleased that BBEC students have started well and are adapting to more normal routines back in school. You will be aware that students under the age of 18 no longer have to isolate when identified as a close contact of a positive Covid-19 case. There is a recommendation however that close contacts should have a PCR test as a precaution. We would like to remind you as well that students with any of the three main symptoms of Covid-19 (high temperature, new or continuous cough, loss of smell or taste) should take a PCR test and stay at home until the result is received.

Most of our students have really been embracing our values. They are being kind and courteous in their behaviour towards staff and students, resilient with their learning and ambitious with attendance and punctuality. Over 1200 students have attended on time and been here every day since school term started – well done to all those students and thank you to all those parents and carers. We all know how hard it can be to get young people up and out with bags, planners, lunches, homework and PE kits in the morning!

Attendance and Punctuality

A small number of students have already missed days however; this is very worrying. Students can only achieve if they attend regularly and on time. The government considers anything above 95% attendance to be good and therefore anything below to be poor. Any students who take more than nine days off (or 18 mornings or afternoons) in a school year are considered to be poor attenders and are far less likely to be successful at school. Any students who take more than 18 days off (or 36 mornings or afternoons) are considered to be persistent absentees and considered to be at risk. Parents can be fined, taken to court and ultimately imprisoned for not sending their children to school. We do not want to fine any parents so please continue to support your children, we want them to 'be resilient in the present, be ambitious for your future'.

We all know the importance of being punctual and we are reinforcing that in school. The vast majority of students arrive on time ready to learn before 8.30am but we have introduced a detention system to help a small minority to remember the importance of good punctuality. Students may need to catch an earlier bus or set the alarm a little earlier if they cannot arrive on time. Punctuality to lessons is also critically important and will be tracked and sanctioned if students repeatedly choose to arrive late to lessons during the day.

Uniform Costs

Any parents who are struggling with uniform costs should contact the Head of Year or Pastoral Manager; lack of uniform is not a reason to be off school. We have uniform in school to lend to students and can help with costs in exceptional circumstances. All parents and carers can see their child's attendance including registration and late marks for each day, timetable, achievement points and academic reports via the SIMS App. We would strongly encourage you to register for the SIMS app as this is our primary method of communication. If you would like to register, please contact the school office.



AMBITION



RESILIENCE



COURTESY



KINDNESS

Covid Vaccinations

The government now plans to widen the scope of the vaccination programme and all young people aged 12 to 15 years will be offered a first dose of the vaccine through a school-based COVID-19 vaccination programme. Two resources have been published: [COVID-19 vaccination programme for young people: guidance for parents](#)) and [COVID-19 vaccination: resources for children and young people](#).

Laptops

All laptops and other devices that were loaned to students during lockdown must be returned to school in the next week as all need to be upgraded to our new cloud based system. Students should return them to our IT technicians. Students should go to student reception if they are unsure about where to take them. Student reception is the place to go for all students who lose items, need to return permission slips or have any other general enquiries.

Reminders

Thank you to all of the parents who have supported us with ensuring that mobile phones, jewellery, nail length and uniform issues are not disrupting lessons. The vast majority of students look fantastic day in, day out. There are a very small number of students who continue to challenge our expectations for these basics and Pastoral Managers and Heads of Year will be in contact to discuss these students individually.

A reminder of the minimum expectation for equipment to be brought to school each day: two pens, two pencils, a ruler, planner and an A4 sized bag.

Finally, this week we also we looked at the theme of democracy in assembly as it was International Day of Democracy and time for BBEC to launch our very own prefect elections. We are creating global citizens who really care about the world and want to make a difference.

Yours faithfully

Kate Sweeney and Mark Colman
Senior Deputy Headteachers



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