



8 September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you have had a relaxing summer break and are looking forward to the new term. I do hope you managed to catch up with friends and family as the restrictions have eased. It was lovely to welcome our new Year 7 yesterday and to see other students as they have come in to school to be tested.

Starting back

We are really looking forward to a more normal school year and to be able to do all the fabulous extra-curricular clubs, productions and trips that BBEC is famous for as well as great teaching and learning. Here are just a few reminders about students starting back so that we get the year off to a good start:

- Planned starting times (as already published)

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Wednesday 8th September	Induction Day	COVID Test 2 and Remote Learning	Remote Learning	Remote Learning	Remote Learning
Thursday 9th September	In school	Year 8 Induction Day	COVID Test 2 and Remote Learning	Remote Learning	Remote Learning
Friday 10th September	In school	Remote Learning	Year 9 Induction Day	COVID Test 2 and Remote Learning	COVID Test 2 and Remote Learning
Monday 13th September	In school	In school	In school	Year 10 Induction Day (arrival for 9.30am)	Year 11 Induction Day (arrival for 8.30am)
Tuesday 14th September	Normal Timetable resumes for all year groups				

- Uniform** (full details on our website)
Students should attend in full winter uniform. As normal, trousers should be tailored not tight or stretchy and should have the school logo. Plain black shoes (not trainers) should be worn. Full PE kit will be needed for PE lessons. **Please ensure that all uniform is labelled with your child's name.**
- Equipment**
Students should be ready for learning and should have a **large school bag** (big enough to hold an A4 file) containing a **pencil case with 2 x pens, 2 x pencils, ruler, rubber, sharpener, Casio scientific calculator.**
- Nails**
Some students will have had long acrylic nails applied over the holiday. Long nails are not suitable for school. They must be **cut short or removed** before the return to school.



AMBITION



RESILIENCE



COURTESY



KINDNESS

- **False eyelashes**
Some students will have had false eyelashes (strip or extensions) applied over the holiday. False eyelashes are not suitable for school. They must be **removed** before the return to school and should not be worn at any point throughout the year.
- **Jewellery**
Only a watch and a single stud earring in each ear is allowed. All other jewellery will be confiscated and returned at the end of the day.

Key changes from last year:

- The government has changed the guidance around managing COVID in schools and we have developed a Risk Assessment which will reduce/mitigate the risk, whilst allowing the students to attend face to face lessons. The documents are on our website.
- **School Day:** The normal school day starts at **8.15am**, gates will be **closed at 8.30 am**. Lateness is discourteous and disrupts learning. All students must be on time.
- **Entrances:** All students should enter the school by the **Student Entrance** on Reevy Road West. They should enter the school site by the main student gates or the side entrance by the bus stop. Please note that there is **no vehicle access for parents on the main drive** (this makes the site unsafe for pedestrians) unless they have a child with a disability. Please drop off or pick up away from the school site to avoid congestion on the road.
- **Year group bubbles:** Class bubbles will no longer be in use and students will move around the school to their lessons. Students will be taught in sets or form groups as normal.
- **Face Coverings/Masks:** Students and staff can still wear face coverings if they wish; they are no longer compulsory.
- **Social Distancing:** We would encourage all students to stay socially distant where possible.
- **Testing:** We will continue to provide tests for students to take home.
- **Self-Isolation:** Any student who has COVID symptoms must self-isolate and it is advised that they get a PCR test. The school will no longer be responsible for asking students who have been in close contact with a positive case to self-isolate, NHS Track and Trace will be overseeing this. Full NHS guidance can be found here:
<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/when-to-self-isolate-and-what-to-do/>
- **Remote Learning:** The school is continuing to use Microsoft Teams for remote learning. This is in place this week and will be put in place in the event of any disruption to face to face learning.
- **Assemblies:** Students can once again have assemblies as normal.
- **Ventilation:** BBEC has a sophisticated ventilation system in place and we will also continue to keep windows open to increase ventilation.
- **Hand-sanitising:** we will continue to provide hand-sanitiser and encourage all our students to wash their hands regularly.

We are all looking forward to having everyone back learning with **Ambition** and **Resilience** and showing **Courtesy** and **Kindness** to each other. BBEC continues to go from strength to strength and once again we hope that BBEC can provide a fantastic all-round education for your children.

I look forward to seeing you throughout the year. Keep safe and well.

Yours sincerely

Ruth J. Hartley
Head of School


