



TO CARE
TO LEARN
TO ACHIEVE

BEDFORD HIGH SCHOOL
A Specialist Business and Enterprise College
with Applied Learning
Headteacher: Mrs H J Phillips

February 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians

February 2021 Half Term Newsletter

School will close for the February half term holiday on **Friday 12th February 2021** and remote learning will recommence on **Monday 22nd February 2021**.

In accordance with the National Lockdown, school will remain closed to most students after half term and our arrangements for key worker and vulnerable children will continue. Whilst we currently have far higher numbers of students in school than in the first lockdown, we know those who are in school need their places so that parents can carry out their key worker jobs. Your sensible actions in only asking for a place if it is really needed have allowed us to extend support to some of our more vulnerable families.

The Government has talked about wider reopening from March 8th and when further announcements are made and I have more information, I will write to you again. Everyone in school wants all the children back and we are looking forward to when that can happen.

Thank you!

This has been a difficult time for many people and the support of parents and guardians during this period has been invaluable. You and your children are doing brilliantly, thank you. We are so impressed by the quality of work that is being produced both at home and at school and the numbers of students joining lessons daily, making great contributions and submitting work. I also want to let our year 9 students, who have been completing assessments at home, know how proud we are of them. I know many of you have helped your children to prepare properly, thereby adding to the work they have been doing via on-line lessons with their teachers. Our most successful students are those who work hard and are encouraged to do so by their parents.

Year 9 Options

The year 9 options process will go ahead as scheduled during the week commencing March 8th. In advance of this, students and parents will be sent all the information required to help to make these important decisions.

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Usually, each student has an individual meeting with a Senior Leader to support them in making options choices. Parents/Guardians are invited to these meetings. Depending on Government announcements after 15th February, we will know whether it will be possible to have face to face options meetings with year 9 students. Unfortunately, it seems highly unlikely that we will be able to invite parents and guardians into school by March 8th. However, we will ensure that parents and guardians are able to join options meetings remotely via video calls. More details will follow in the coming weeks.

Year 11

For the parents and guardians of Year 11, as I write, we still haven't had any further information about how grades will be calculated in the Summer. As soon as we have that information, we will share it with you, so keep checking your emails and the school website. In the meantime, please ensure your child has applied at least one college or training provider. If you need support with the application process, please contact Mrs Ramsden or Mrs Birchall at school. Their email addresses are:

r.ramsden@bedford.wigan.sch.uk and p.birchall@bedford.wigan.sch.uk

Remote Education

Parents and guardians from all year groups, look out for your invitation coming soon to a 'virtual drop-in session' where staff from school will talk to you about our remote education provision, provide support and answer any questions you might have.

Finally, I would like to wish all of our students a safe and enjoyable half term holiday and if you are managing to take a break yourselves next week, enjoy the time with your family.

Yours faithfully



Mrs H J Phillips
Headteacher