



TO CARE  
TO LEARN  
TO ACHIEVE

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

April 2021

HJP/SW

Dear Parent or Guardian

### Easter Newsletter 2021

#### Arrangements for the end of term

School will close for students for the Easter holidays at the normal time of **2.40 pm on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 and re-open on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April at 8.30am.**

As you will be aware Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March marked the one year anniversary of the first National lockdown and I'm sure none of us expected the year that we've had. All of us have been affected by the many challenges Covid-19 has brought and I know that some of our families have found things very difficult indeed. That is why I am so proud of the whole Bedford Community and the support that we have given one another. Our students have shown great resilience and most have taken the return to school in their stride; including the new testing regime.

#### Attendance

We are delighted to see all our students back in school. The importance of education in supporting student wellbeing and learning cannot be overstated and it therefore goes without saying how important it is for every child to attend school every day that they can. The government has announced that school attendance is once again mandatory.

I know that some students have had to self-isolate either because of testing positive themselves or through being a close contact of a positive case since our return and that's incredibly frustrating but whenever a child is able to attend school they must do so. Whenever this is not the case e.g. due to illness or Covid related absence, then please continue to communicate with the school. We will work with families to ensure that we can keep students in school as much as possible. This is, of course, necessary for social as well as academic development.

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### Home Testing

Following the success of the asymptomatic testing programme following our return to school, it is vital to keep testing at home throughout the Easter holidays and into the summer term. School will continue to ensure students are supplied with home testing kits.

The DfE have asked schools to remind parents and students to:

- test twice a week at home from now on (all those who are able to)
- report results online to the NHS as positive, negative or void. This information is critical in helping the Government to understand the prevalence of the virus across the country
- report test results to school by emailing [masstesting@bedford.wigan.sch.uk](mailto:masstesting@bedford.wigan.sch.uk) and including a photo of the LFD test
- continue to test twice weekly over the Easter holidays
- test before coming into school for the summer term, either at bedtime the night before, or morning of, the first day back, i.e. **bedtime Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> April or before school on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April**, to find and isolate any positive cases.

Families and households can also access [home test kits for adults](#).

### Uniform

This is the time of the year when I ask that you support us by ensuring your child continues to come to school dressed in their school uniform and maintaining a smart appearance. This includes when wearing their PE kit.

For clarity, facial piercings are not permitted.

Please note that it is not until after May half term that students may choose to wear plain black or grey knee length socks in place of their black opaque tights as their 'Summer' uniform. However, as in the past, if we experience a prolonged period of hot weather, we will let students know if the date for the Summer uniform is to be brought forward.

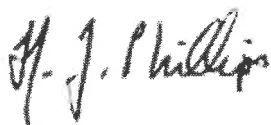
Reminder: Term Dates for the remainder of this Academic Year

SUMMER TERM	
Term starts	Monday 19th April 2021
<i>Bank Holiday</i>	<i>Monday 3rd May 2021</i>
Half-term finishes	Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> May 2021
<i>Half term break: Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021 to Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2021</i>	
School re-opens	Monday 7th June 2021
Term finishes for students	Wednesday 21st July 2021 at 1.00 pm

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all an enjoyable Easter break and look forward to welcoming all of our students back for the start of the Summer term on **Monday 19th April 2021** at our normal start time of 8.30 am.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully



Mrs H J Phillips  
Headteacher