



TO CARE
TO LEARN
TO ACHIEVE

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

May 2021

Dear Parent or Guardian

May 2021 Half Term Newsletter

School will close for the May half term holiday at the normal time of 2.40 pm on Friday 28th May 2021 and re-open on **Monday 7th June 2021** at the normal time of 8.30 am.

Change to school day from September 2021 (next academic year)

As most of you will know, our usual timetable cycle up until September 2020 included an early finish for students every other Wednesday i.e. once per fortnight. In my Summer 2020 newsletter prior to our return from the first lockdown, I explained that the arrangement would be paused from September to allow for a full reintegration back to school for our students but that it was our intention to reinstate it when appropriate and possible to do so.

From September 2021, we believe we will be at the stage where we can reinstate the original arrangement. This will reduce alternate Wednesday lessons by 10 minutes. In effect, the equivalent of 5 minutes per week.

When the students leave site, staff will be engaged in fortnightly blocks of professional development and sharing good practice. This allows us to reinforce training on a very regular basis and enhances our Teaching & Learning development programme. It will also ensure that your child benefits from teaching that considers the latest research on effective practice.

Consequently, from September, students will finish at **1.45pm every second Wednesday**. **School buses will be available** at the earlier finish time every second Wednesday. Of course, I am concerned that this proposal does not cause problems for our parents, particularly the parents of younger students in year 7 who have not yet experienced this arrangement. Consequently, we will make supervised provision available for any students that need to stay until 2.40pm and homework club will be available to those students. Please let your child's Pastoral Guidance Officer (PGO) know if you need this facility.

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Uniform

I would like to commend those students who support our uniform policy and arrive in full school uniform every day, including the school PE kit. We want all our students to be smart and business-like and excellent uniform is one aspect of getting the basics right. Our students know that in their uniform they are ambassadors for this school and understand the responsibilities that go with it.

We will continue to strive for exemplary uniform and appearance from all of our students but will only achieve this with full parental support for which we thank you.

On our return after the half term holiday, current year 10 students are able to start wearing the black v necked jumper with red piping, in place of their blazer, should they wish to do so and black or grey knee length socks may be worn in place of tights in all year groups.

I wish all of our students a safe and enjoyable holiday and look forward to welcoming them back on 7th June for the final half term of this academic year.

Yours faithfully



Mrs H J Phillips
Headteacher