



TO CARE  
TO LEARN  
TO ACHIEVE

**BEDFORD HIGH SCHOOL**  
A Specialist Business and Enterprise College  
with Applied Learning  
Headteacher: Mr P McCaffery

January 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian

We are delighted to announce that The National Theatre will be coming to Bedford on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February to perform their brand-new production of Evan Placey's play Jekyll and Hyde. This will take place during the school day in the main hall. The National Theatre will be building their theatre within the hall (bringing scenery, lighting, costumes and actors with them) and students will have the opportunity to watch this acclaimed company perform right here at Bedford.

We are one of 3 schools that have been selected to work with the National Theatre within Wigan, this is a pilot project where (as a flagship school) we will work closely with the National Theatre and the Lowry in Salford to access their performances, attend productions and take part in workshops delivered by both the National and the Lowry.

Because the National Theatre are coming to Bedford it gives us a rare opportunity to open up the theatre experience for a greater number of students, we anticipate that 250 students will have access to professional theatre during this event.

We will be asking for a contribution of £2 per student to cover the cost of the event (whilst it is heavily subsidised it is not completely free). We consider the £2 incredible value for money considering the cost to see this show in the West End or nationally would be upwards of £30. Please pay via wise pay, this will act as permission (as it is on site during the school day) so no slip needs to be returned.

Please be advised that the guidance from the theatre company that this play is suited to years 9 and above. All students in year 9 will be watching the play during periods 4 and 5. If you do not wish for your son/daughter to see the production can I ask that you email me directly to indicate as the whole of the year group will be watching and alternative arrangements will need to be made.

Given the current corona virus safeguarding protocols I would kindly request that all students conduct a lateral flow test either the night before or on the morning before coming to school on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> (they are encouraged to test on a Sunday currently so for the vast majority this will already be happening). We are going to ventilate the room but it would be sensible and reassuring for the students if they were confident that those around them had tested before watching the play.

Thank you for your support with this.

Yours faithfully

*L Mitchell*

Miss Mitchell (Curriculum Area Leader Drama)

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