St Bede's Catholic Voluntary Academy

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Headteacher: Mr R. Hibbard

'We commit ourselves to love, respect and serve one another as disciples of Jesus Christ'



Our Ref RH/HF July 2024

Dear Parents,

I hope that this letter finds you and your families well. As we approach the end of another academic year, I would like to inform you about the arrangements for the end of the term and our plans for the upcoming September.

1. End of Term

The school will close for the summer at 12:25 pm on Friday, 19th July. The school bus will pick up students at this time.

2. GCSE Results Day

Year 11 students have now completed their GCSE and BTEC examinations. Results day is on Thursday, 22nd August. The school will be open from 8:30 am to 12:00 pm for students to collect their results.

3. Keeping the Community Safe

The summer holidays are a time for creating lasting memories for young people, and we want to ensure they are enjoyable and safe. I will discuss safety with all students during the end-of-term assembly, emphasizing water and railway safety, which are ongoing local concerns.

4. September Start Dates

- Year 7 students will start on Wednesday, 4th September.
- All other students will start on Thursday, 5th September.

The first two days will be dedicated to Culture Week, where we will explain the school's expectations and routines to all students.

5. Timings of the School Day

Starting in September, we will make changes to the number of periods and the length of lessons following a staff consultation. Concerns about 50-minute lessons included insufficient time to cover content and limited opportunities for independent work. Therefore, the school day will be as follows:

- 8:45 am Tutor Time
- 8:55 am Period 1
- 9:55 am Period 2 (Y8 & Y10 break: 9:55 10:15 am; Y7, 9, and 11 break: 10:55 11:15 am)

- 11:15 am Period 3
- 12:15 pm Period 4 (Y8 & Y10 lunch: 12:15 12:50 pm; Y7, 9, and 11 lunch: 1:15 1:50 pm)
- 1:50 pm Acts of Worship
- 2:05 pm Period 5
- 3:05 pm End of the School Day

Additionally, the school will implement a two-week timetable starting in September. This means your child's timetable will differ between Week A and Week B. We will communicate the current week through the parents' newsletter and the school calendar.

The start and end times of the school day will remain unchanged. The school site will be open from 8:30 am, with students expected to be in school by 8:40 am.

6. Equipment

In September, it is essential that all students arrive at school adequately prepared for lessons. All students should have their equipment in a pencil case, which must include:

- Black and green pens
- Pencil
- Eraser
- Highlighters
- A ruler (ideally 30 cm in length)
- Pencil sharpener
- Scientific calculator
- Maths equipment (protractors and a pair of compasses)
- The correct PE kit for their lessons

During tutor time, students will have their equipment checked. Those without the correct equipment will have their conduct card signed. Please support your child and the school by ensuring they have the necessary supplies.

7. Open Evening

Our open evening for prospective parents of Y5 and Y6 students will be on Thursday, 3rd October. To prepare for this event, the school will close early at 1:50 pm. This will allow staff enough time to set up for what is always a very busy evening.

8. Parents' Evenings

Based on feedback from the parent newsletter questionnaire, we are making the following changes to parents' evenings:

• On Thursday, 27th March 2025, there will be a parents' evening for all students. Parents will meet their child's learning tutor, who will have information from all subject teachers

- and will discuss strengths and areas for development. Appointments will be 10 minutes long to promote in-depth discussions.
- There will be additional parents' evenings for Year 10 (Thursday, 21st November 2024) and Year 11 (Thursday, 16th January 2025) to meet with subject teachers and provide a comprehensive overview of the curriculum.

We will review the success of these evenings throughout the next year.

This term has been eventful, with numerous visits including the Lincolnshire Show, Space Centre in Leicester, Year 10 college trips, and performances of "A Midsummer Night's Dream," as well as the Year 11 prom. Next week, several of our students will participate in the Nottingham Diocese pilgrimage to Lourdes. We wish them and the accompanying staff a safe and successful trip.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents for their continued support and to wish you and your families a wonderful summer break. We look forward to welcoming you and your child back in September.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. R Hibbard

Headteacher





