

BHS Update 16.7.21



COURAGE

COMMITMENT

COMPASSION

Get Help Here...

Form Tutor/Pastoral Team/Miss Bradbury (KS3)/Miss Temple (KS4) for any wellbeing concerns:

bradburys@bedalehighschool.org.uk / templec@bedalehighschool.org.uk

Subject Teacher: for any subject specific questions around learning tasks

Yr 11 Exams: Mr Gill gillm@bedalehighschool.org.uk

General Queries: Email: admin@bedalehighschool.org.uk or call 01677 422419

Changes to Autumn Term Start Dates and Update on Covid Testing

Shortly after the publication of last week's newsletter, the Department for Education have confirmed that school will need to administer Covid tests to all consenting students at the start of the Autumn term in September. They have been quick to acknowledge the huge challenge that this presents for schools, and they have suggested that schools stagger the return of students to allow for the testing to take place.

The good news is that we have done this before (after the Christmas holiday), and Miss Riley-Fox (together with a fantastic team of parents, volunteers and staff) did a brilliant job with it, ensuring that the testing was as smooth and hassle-free as possible. She has agreed to take this on again for the Autumn term - so we know that your children are in good hands!

However, this does mean that we have had to change our plans for the start of term. We are asked to test the students twice, but this has to be 3 to 5 days apart. Our challenge is having to fit in 2 staff training days, 2 Covid testing days split 3 to 5 days apart, and some time for Year 7 transition (since they have had to miss their transition week in school this summer). Our final plan can be seen here:

Date	What's Happening in School?	Notes
Monday 6th September	Staff Training Day 1	No students in school
Tuesday 7th September	Covid Testing Day 1	Consenting students come for test and then return home
Wednesday 8th September	Staff Training Day 2	No students in school
Thursday 9th September	New Yr 7s and Yr 11s in school	7s and 11s have full day in school, no other year groups in.
Friday 10th September	Covid Testing Day 2 (Yr 7s in school)	Consenting students come for 2 nd test and then return home. Year 7 students in school all day and will be pulled from lessons for testing.
Monday 13th September	All year groups in school	All students return to school full time

Miss Riley-Fox is collating all the crucial information that parents will want to see in relation to the Covid testing. This will come out to you at the start of next week in a separate email.

Events This Half-Term *(Updated)*

I will keep this table of events in the newsletter, updating you each time on any changes...

Event	Original Date	New Date	Notes & Key Contact
Yr 11 Prom	8 th July	22 nd July	Parents have been emailed an important letter with key information on for this event next week. Contact Miss Temple with any queries: templec@bedalehighschool.org.uk
Yr 10 Geog Trip to Arkengarthdale	19 th July	TBC	The trip has been postponed until next academic year - date to be confirmed

Unfortunately, we have had to postpone two other events next week: the Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh Expedition (parents have been sent a separate email about this), and the Year 5 concert. Both events are being rearranged for the autumn term - not permanently cancelled. We are very conscious that the number of positive cases is rising rapidly in our area, and some schools around us have already closed as a result of this, or have several year groups remote learning. I just feel it would be very irresponsible and reckless for us to do anything that could make this situation even worse when we are so close to the holidays.

The Year 11 Prom is slightly different in that we can do this without these students coming into school, and it only requires a small number of staff (who will socially distance from each other and students at all times). Students will also need to provide evidence of a recent negative lateral flow test before they are allowed to attend.

New Year 7s – Virtual Transition Week

We would all have been much happier if we had been able to welcome our new Year 7s in person, but I have to say that this week's virtual transition has been a real success. Thank-you so much to Miss Bradbury for all the hard work and organisation she has put into this, and also to the staff and students who were delivering sessions. But the biggest thank-you of all goes to the Year 6 students and their teachers for engaging so well with the sessions!

My personal highlight of the week was when we did a live, unscripted Q/A session with 4 of our current Year 7s asking me questions in front of the Year 6 virtual audience. I was not allowed to see the questions in advance, and it's fair to say they threw in a few curve-balls! 30 mins into the session we had already spoken about a diverse range of topics: our core values, why I became a headteacher, why carrot cake is wrong, whether I'd prefer to be able to fly or transport myself anywhere, the best/worst things about BHS and why Leeds are the best football team to support!

The questions from the Year 6 students were brilliant - and our students did a fabulous job of answering many of them.

If you visit our homepage on the link below, you will see the new welcome video that Mrs Woodward has made with some of our students - it's really good (and you can fast-forward through my boring bits!).

<https://bedalehighschool.org.uk>

You can also see the virtual tour of the school here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NXSFA_QRW0U

Monday 12 th July	Tuesday 13 th July	Wednesday 14 th July	Thursday 15 th July	Friday 16 th July
	9:20am-10:00am Taster English lesson With Mr Chapman	9:20am-10:00am Taster Science lesson With Miss Bradbury	9:20am-10:00am Taster Maths lesson With Mrs Hall	9:20am-10:00am Q & A with current Year 7 students With Miss Bradbury <i>Repeat session for schools unable to join on Monday afternoon</i>
1:20pm-2:00pm Q & A with current Year 7 students With Miss Bradbury		1:20pm-2:00pm Q & A with the Headteacher With Mr Kelly	1:20pm-2:00pm Feeling positive about starting secondary school With Mrs Knight and Miss Bradbury	1:20pm-2:00pm Taster Art lesson With Miss Ackers
	2:30pm-3:00pm Extracurricular at Bedale High School With Mrs Lunsdon and Mrs Woodward		2:30pm-3:00pm PE at Bedale High School With Mr Belby and Miss Temple	
		6:00pm-7:30pm Virtual parents evening Via Zoom. More info to follow.		

Healthy Schools Bronze Award

Congratulations and thank-you to Mr Childe and the student Healthy Schools team. We found out this week that we have been successful in our application for the Healthy Schools Bronze Award. This is in recognition of the team's initial work on our whole school approach to emotional and mental wellbeing, but specifically relates to their focus on developing our Personal, Social and Health Education.

Mr Childe has now formulated an action plan to achieve the Silver Award next year...we look forward to it!

More information

about the award can be seen here:

<http://healthyschoolsnorthyorks.org>



Changes to Contact Tracing from Monday 19th July



Please can I ask that parents carefully read the attached letter from the Department for Education. It sets out significant changes that will come into effect from Monday, in relation to how the tracing of positive Covid contacts will work in schools. The main change is that schools will no longer be responsible for tracking the contacts of a positive case. NHS Test and Trace will work with you to do this. You may also find this electronic leaflet useful:

[Contact Tracing Changes](#)

The letter also outlines the changes that will come into effect on 16th August in relation to self-isolation.

Independent Listener Intervention

Please see the attached letter from Mrs Knight about this exciting intervention planned for later in the Autumn term. She is looking to work with people from within the community: trained counsellors, supervisors, coaches, mentors, nurses, GPs, family/social services, clinical psychologist or psychiatrists who may be interested in supporting students with personal, social or emotional problems.

We work with many fantastic external agencies, but the problem we often face is lengthy waiting lists. Therefore, we hope to build an in-house support forum to help bridge this gap. The letter contains more information.



Immunisations Catch-up

If a student has missed any of their routine immunisations (HPV and School Leaver Boosters) then they should contact The Childhood Immunisation Team on 01423 553115 as they may be running a drop-in clinic locally that the student can attend. If not then it is the parent carer's responsibility to book an appointment with their own doctor or nurse at their GP surgery.

RSE Consultation

The deadline for parents, staff and governors to participate in the statutory RSE consultation is the end of today - so there is still time to have your say! (please refer to Mr Childe's letter from the newsletter a couple of weeks ago).

It can be seen here:

[RSE-consultation-letter-to-staff-parents-and-governors-July-2021.pdf \(bedalehighschool.org.uk\)](#)

BEN ELLIS PASTRY CHEF & CHOCOLATIER PRESENTS:

KS3 SUMMER BAKING WORKSHOP!

28TH JULY 9AM-5PM

LEEMING VILLAGE HALL DL7 9SS

Only £50!

- Learn from a top pastry chef & chocolatier with Michelin Star experience.
- Make a variety of sweet & savoury treats from scratch throughout the day.

Q & A!

- Ben encourages questions as he has worked for, or had work experience with, many of the most current influential chefs in the world.

Picnic Style Lunch!

Children can either eat what they have made or bring a packed lunch.

- **Only 10 places** available so please book now to avoid disappointment.

Book Now!



Baking is an exceptionally engaging activity for any age; this tailor made workshop will help your child/ren learn essential life skills such as listening, sharing, cooperation, reading, confidence, patience, tidying up, cleanliness, & the importance of health & hygiene in no time at all! As well as understanding ingredients, we also throw in some maths & a little chemistry too!

We will provide aprons, all equipment & ingredients needed, laminated recipe cards, containers for their bakes, strong handled paper carrier bags to take away.

Message Vicky Ellis to book a place at BenEllisPC.C@gmail.com or find us on Facebook!