



Sixth Form Message

Last week, we were delighted to welcome our new cohort of Year 12 students into Sixth Form and it has been a joy to see how quickly they have settled in. They are already developing their independent learning skills – a fantastic sign of a productive and high-achieving year group! We also welcomed back our Year 13 students on Monday, who are setting an excellent example in terms of respect, positive attitude, and influence. We are very proud of them all!

We are still celebrating the amazing results from our first ever cohort of Sixth Formers this summer. Despite this being our first year, several students achieved A*s, As and Bs across the board and many departments saw over 50% of their students gain A*-B grades. 100% of applicants were accepted to study their choice of subject at university and 96% were accepted at their top choice universities. Other students have secured fantastic apprenticeships in various sectors including engineering and business. Several students will be spreading their wings and will be spending the next year travelling around the world. We wish all our leavers the very best for their future adventures and we look forward to hearing what they have been getting up to.

It was lovely to see so many parents at the Year 13 parents' evening last night. We really appreciate you giving up your time to meet with us to discuss the students' progress as they start this very important year. As always, please do keep in contact with us throughout the year if your child needs more support either academically or pastorally. By working together we can achieve the same fantastic results the last cohort achieved this summer.

At the start of each academic year, we focus on two important priorities:

- Funding support – Some students may be eligible for financial support to help with education-related costs such as travel, meals, books, equipment and other essentials. Further information and eligibility criteria can be found [here](#). If you think you may qualify, or if you are unsure and would like guidance, please feel free to contact us.
- Independent learning – Year 12 students will be introduced to platforms such as UCAS, Unifrog and LinkedIn to support their academic and career development. Page two of this bulletin provides further information and links to a wide range of resources available to students.

Over the next two weeks Year 12 students will take part in assemblies on enrichment opportunities and receive a session from iCASH, offering valuable advice on staying safe in relationships.

For Year 13, the focus is firmly on preparing for the future – whether that's UCAS applications, apprenticeship pathways, or developing CVs for employment opportunities. First drafts of personal statements should be with form tutors, who will be booking 1:1 appointments to go through these with the students. For student applying to Oxford, Cambridge or medical degrees, the deadline is October 15th. Students should also be checking to see if they will need to complete any entrance exams for their chosen courses, as these need to be booked by the students themselves.

KEY INFO

- [Sixth Form Dress Code](#)
- [Martin Lewis: Five things EVERYONE needs to know about student finance 2025/26](#)
- [UCAS - Search / Open Days and Events](#)
- [Explore Forage](#)
- [This is what makes us special ...](#)
- [Student finance](#)
- [Preparing for Your Future: UCAS, CVs, and Degree Apprenticeships.](#)

KEY DATES

Yr13 Parents' Evening- Thursday 11th September
Yr 12 Information Evening - Thursday 25th September
Yr 12 Full cohort photo opportunity: Friday 26th September
Yr USA trip - 22nd to 29th October
Yr 11 Sixth Form Open Evening - Thursday 6th November
Yr 12 English and Math resist - 4th to 11th November
Yr 12 Art & Photography mock - 18th and 19th December
Yr 12 UCAS discovery trip / ExCel London: Tuesday 24th March

SUPPORT

Emotional and Physical Support:

Bedfordshire Counselling Service: [Open Door](#)

Hitchin Counselling Service: [HCS](#)

Mental Health Charity: [Young Minds](#)

Mental Health Support: [Kooth](#)

HelpLines: [Samaritans](#)

Sexual Health: [iCaSH](#)

Vaping: [Childline](#)

Delete social media: [BBC](#)

Remove nude images: [NSPCC](#)

ETA Safeguarding: [Etonbury Safeguarding](#)

NHS Mental Health Crisis Line: i111 and selects option 2

Academic Support:

Funding: [Harper Trust](#)

Funding: [Sutton Trust](#)

Funding: [Connolly Foundation](#)

Bursary: [16 - 19 Bursary](#)

CONTACT DETAILS

Head of Sixth Form: cdowden@bestacademies.org.uk

Sixth Form Pastoral and Administration: Ischumann@bestacademies.org.uk

ETA Sixth Form Attendance Email:

eta-sixthformattendance@bestacademies.org.uk

Form Tutors:

Mrs Clarke: cclarke@bestacademies.org.uk

Mrs Wright: swright@bestacademies.org.uk

Ms Young: wyoung@bestacademies.org.uk

Mr Scott: cscott@bestacademies.org.uk

Mrs Harbour - Cooper: hharbour-cooper@bestacademies.org.uk

Driving Lesson / Test - Permission Form: [Driving Permission Form](#)

Gym Permission Form: [Gym Permission Form](#)

STUDENT NOTICES

Speak Up, Speak Out - Oracy Competition at ETA

Message from Mrs K. Brookes:

Students interested in entering the Speak Up, Speak Out Oracy Competition should watch the [loom video here](#) for further details. The deadline for applications is Friday 26th September. To take part, please speak with Mrs Brookes in D8 during break or lunchtime.

DEGREE APPRENTICESHIPS

- [Degree Apprenticeships Presentation 2024/25](#)
- [Occupation Maps](#)
- [STAR](#)
- [Unifrog](#)
- [Bedfordshire Raising Aspirations - LinkedIn](#)

REGISTRATION REMINDER

If leaving the school site for any reason, including but not limited to driving lessons, medical appointments, use of the Pembleton gym, or Year 13 students taking one of their ten off-site periods, students must have parental permission through the completion of the appropriate forms (found under the Contact Details section of this bulletin) or through direct contact with the school. They must also sign out using the Chromebook on Mrs. Schumann's desk.

EXAM INFORMATION

[Please use this link to find information on when your exams are taking place](#)

[YEAR 12 & 13 BTEC EXAM DATES 2026](#)

FOLLOW US

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This bulletin was designed by our Sixth Form students, we hope you find it informative and fun!