



Sixth Form Message

Bereavement

This week our community has sadly been affected by the tragic death of two of our former students who were both peers of our current year 13's. Our thoughts are with the family, friends, and all those who have been impacted by this sad news. We are currently in the process of managing the immediate impact of this on our students, their well-being is our absolute priority, and we are working closely with those most affected.

If students would like to access outside support at this difficult time, there are several organisation that can help:

- Child Bereavement UK – call 0800 028 8840 Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm, or email helpline@childbereavementuk.org
- Cruse Bereavement Care – call 0808 808 1677 Monday and Friday, 9.30am to 5pm; Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 9.30am to 8pm; Saturday and Sunday 10am to 2pm
- Grief Encounter – call 0808 802 0111 Monday to Friday, 9am to 9pm, or email contact@griefencounter.org.uk
- Hope Again – call 0808 808 1677 Monday to Friday, 9.30am to 5pm, or email hopeagain@cruse.org.uk
- Winston's Wish – call 0808 802 0021 Monday to Friday, 8am to 8pm, or email ask@winstonswish.org

Year 13 reports

Year 13 reports have been issued this week. The timing is intentional, as it provides students with an opportunity to review their current performance and understand how their grades align with post-Sixth Form pathways and next-step planning. At this stage, some students will have a clearer sense of their future plans, while others may still be exploring their options. Regardless, the reports offer a valuable indication of what is required between now and the final examinations and coursework submissions, enabling students to refine their effort, focus, and subject knowledge where necessary. If parents have any concerns or would like further feedback they are encouraged to link up students form tutors whose contact details are available on page 2 of this weekly bulletin.

UCAS Discovery - ExCel London

On 24th March we will be heading to the ExCel in London giving students the opportunity to seek out university and apprenticeship opportunities. Please find the letter we sent out earlier this week below as a reminder:

[Letter to Parents/Carers](#)

Chloe Dowden

KEY INFO

- [Degree Apprenticeship presentation](#)
- [Sixth Form Dress Code](#)
- [School photo code: C40-3DB-26B1](#)
- [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](#)
- [Year 13 UCAS applications parents' guide](#)

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](#)

Drugs and alcohol: [FRANK](#)

Drug and alcohol: [BLMK NHS](#)

Addiction: [Aquarius](#)

NHS Mental Health Crisis Line: 111 and selects option 2

Academic Support:

Funding: [Harper Trust](#)

Funding: [Sutton Trust](#)

Funding: [Connolly Foundation](#)

Bursary: [16 - 19 Bursary](#)

EXAM INFORMATION

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

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

KEY DATES

- **Yr13 reports issued** Friday 30th January
- **Yr12 parents evening** Thursday 5th March
- **Yr 12 UCAS discovery trip / ExCel London** 24th March
- **Yr13 business, sociology & psychology trip** Thursday 26th March
- **Yr13 final reports issued** Friday 27th March
- **Yr12 geography trip** Tuesday 14th to Friday 17th April
- **Yr13 art and photography exams** Tuesday 5th to Thursday 7th May
- **Yr13 exams begin** Monday 11th May
- **Yr 12 & 13** early finish at 1:30pm on Monday 15th June

CONTACT DETAILS

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

Sixth Form Pastoral and Administration:

lschumann@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: wyong@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](#)

DEGREE APPRENTICESHIPS

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

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Phone: 01462 730391