



Sixth Form Message

As our Year 13's exams come to an end and we say a final goodbye, at least until results day, our Year 12 mock exams begin. It's been great to see students approaching their exams with focus and determination. These assessments are a valuable opportunity to practise for the real exams, so it's important to stay motivated, look after your wellbeing, and take responsibility for your progress. The Sixth Form journey moves quickly. Once mocks and work experience are complete, we'll shift our focus to future pathways - including preparing applications for university, degree apprenticeships, or employment. The predicted grades that go onto university and job applications will be based on the results from the mocks and it is vital that students give them their full commitment, so we have a true reflection of what they are capable of.

There are a range of exciting opportunities for students to explore throughout the summer. We have compiled a selection on page 3 of this bulletin, including STEM programs, UniPrep webinars, and UCAS Discovery events. These experiences can really bolster a personal statement when students reflect on what they have learnt from them, as universities like to see how students engage with the subject outside of their lessons.

If students are interested in applying to Oxford or Cambridge, there may be entrance tests they will need to sit. This information will be on their websites, but it is students' responsibility to research and [book this](#). If students are interested in medicine, the [UCAT](#) is now open for booking and if students are interesting in studying law, some universities require the [LNAT](#) to be sat. Students should research potential university courses now, to see if any of these entrance exams are required.

On Monday, we will be welcoming our next cohort into the Sixth Form for their Induction Day. Being such a tight-knit community, it's likely that your child already knows some of the hopeful applicants. Please do let them know that we intend to make the day both welcoming and informative, and we are really looking forward to meeting them all.

Many of our EPQ students are now nearing the end of their projects, and it has been a pleasure to take part in their well-thought-out and engaging presentations. The EPQ really does give students the opportunity to showcase a wide range of transferable skills, which can be referenced in any application or interview. Well done to all those who are close to completing their EPQ, and to those who are determined to stick with it and get over the line in the coming weeks. It shows grit and determination - an excellent strength of character!

KEY DATES

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](#)

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](#)

Year 12 Mock Exam and Work Experience Arrangements

Monday 16th-Wednesday 18th June: In school attending lessons as usual

Thursday 19th-Wednesday 25th June: On study leave - attending school for exams only

Thursday 26th-Friday 27th June: Students to work independently from home on researching their next steps using the Unifrog tool. Preparing their CV's, setting up their LinkedIn accounts and identifying what course/apprenticeship or Job they may choose to embark upon post Sixth Form. Students applying to university must use this time to start their UCAS statements.

Monday 30th-Friday 4th July: Students are on their WEX - those students who have not secured a placement must come into school for the whole week, where they will complete a week of virtual work experience.

Monday 7th July: All students to attend Sixth Form as usual.

CONTACT DETAILS

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

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

ETA Sixth Form Attendance Email:

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Form Tutors:

Mrs Clarke: cclarke@bestacademies.org.uk

Mrs Lewis: wlewis@bestacademies.org.uk

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

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

DEGREE APPRENTICESHIPS

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

STUDENT NOTICES

Bedfordshire Raising Aspirations - LinkedIn

Please do follow this page on LinkedIn where you will find a wide range of degree apprenticeship opportunities and more!

Explore Forage

Find the perfect job simulation or short course to build your skills and get noticed by recruiters.

EXAM INFORMATION

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

REMINDER

All students must sign in and out of Sixth Form. There are several ways to do this... you can use the chromebook on Miss Schumann's desk or scan the QR code on your lanyard and use your phone.

FOLLOW US

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Sixth form webinars and fully funded summer school opportunities.

The Turing Summer Experience (Manchester/London)

On this fully-funded STEM opportunity from The Alan Turing Institute, Year 12 students can find out more about how the UK intelligence agencies and defence organisations use data science and artificial intelligence to help keep the country safe.

Interested students should apply as soon as possible and before the final deadline of 22nd July.

- Manchester (11th-15th August): [Application form](#)
- London (18th-22nd August): [Application form](#)

If you have any questions, please email projects@thebrilliantclub.org.

UniPrep Webinars

We have not one but two UniPrep webinars coming up for students who are part of our free [Join the Dots scheme](#):

- Webinar 6: Preparing for Results Day

Monday 30th June, 4:30pm – 5:30pm

This event will help demystify A-Level results day, support you to plan ahead for what might happen, and explain clearing and adjustment. The webinar will include a Q&A with current students who will talk about their own experiences.

- Webinar 7: Life at University

Thursday 24th July, 4:30pm – 5:30pm

Get ready for uni life with this short, helpful webinar. We'll cover what your first weeks might look like, with tips on settling in, managing money, and looking after your wellbeing - so you can feel confident from day one.

UCAS Discovery Events (Various)

[UCAS Discovery Events](#) are happening across the UK and aim to help students decide on their next steps. At an event, students can chat to unis and colleges about their courses and uni life, speak to employers and apprenticeship providers, speak to qualified careers advisers, listen to talks from experts, and hang out with UCAS experts to get dedicated support about options.