



BEDFORD
FREE SCHOOL

www.bedfordfreeschool.co.uk

4th January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year!

I'm writing to welcome the pupils back and to express my best wishes for the new year.

The last two years have been challenging for young people and their families alongside my colleagues in school, so we hope that you have had a good break. We're really looking forward to welcoming the pupils back tomorrow.

New interim leadership at Bedford Free School

You will be aware that with the departure of Mr Blake at the end of last term, I have taken up the role of Interim Principal. I am delighted and honoured to be leading the school; one that I value very highly and that has my full commitment. I have the very best staff team, and I know that parents and carers will continue to support us to offer the very best education to pupils.

In my new role, I have made some further interim appointments to ensure that the quality of education at Bedford Free School remains at the very highest level while we keep the school as safe as possible during the pandemic.

Mrs Foley and Mr Wood will become Deputy Principals and four highly valued and very experienced members of staff; Ms Bell, Mr Cox, Ms Damon and Ms McPherson-George will become Assistant Principals.

Further Covid-19 measures

As you will have seen in the newspapers, in order to limit the spread of the Omicron variant, secondary schools are to return to having pupils wear face coverings in classrooms. We are therefore, from immediate effect, mandating that pupils wear masks in classrooms and in corridors. Pupils have been excellent during the pandemic, supporting each other and the school to keep pupils and staff as safe as possible.

There is no need to wear face coverings when outside of the building.

This guidance will be reviewed when the government review 'plan B' on 26th January 2022.

Where you have given appropriate permissions, pupils will be tested face-to-face in school this week.

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RESPECT • HONESTY • HIGH EXPECTATIONS

It is clear that this term will see us face additional challenges due to the Coronavirus pandemic. I thank you in advance for bearing with us where there are difficulties, for example with staff attendance.

I'd like to remind you that if pupils are absent because of the need to self-isolate, they are expected to complete their remote learning on Google Classroom. Pupils all have their login details and are familiar with the process, but any experiencing difficulties accessing work should contact Mrs Logan via info@bedfordfreeschool.co.uk

Looking forward

Despite the challenges of the pandemic, I am looking forward to a really positive term. All of our pupils have significant and challenging expectations of learning our knowledge-based curriculum, and I am looking forward to seeing the outcomes of internal assessments, the preparation for end-of-year examinations, and the learning in classrooms.

As always if there is anything we can do to help and support please do not hesitate to contact us. The main methods of contact are:

Year 7	Mrs Runnegar-Clark	arunnegar-clark@bedfordfreeschool.co.uk
Year 8 & 9	Mrs Costin Webb	ccostin-webb@bedfordfreeschool.co.uk
Year 10 & 11	Lesley Robinson Ms Damon (y11 only)	lrobinson@bedfordfreeschool.co.uk adamon@bedfordfreeschool.co.uk
Teaching and Learning	Mr Wood	twood@bedfordfreeschool.co.uk
Special Educational Needs	Mrs Carpenter	ccarpenter@bedfordfreeschool.co.uk
Safeguarding	Mrs Foley	ffoley@bedfordfreeschool.co.uk

Once again, happy new year to our parents, carers and pupils.

Very best wishes,



Jane Herron
Interim Principal

A reminder of our latest dates for your diary are below.

Bedford Free School – Key Dates 2021-2022	
<i>20th December 2020 – 4th January 2021</i>	<i>CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS</i>
Spring Term	
<i>3rd January 2022</i>	<i>Bank Holiday (School is closed)</i>
4th January 2022	<i>School closed – staff training day (school closed for pupils)</i>
5 th January 2022	Pupils back to school
6 th January 2022	Year 10 Progress Evening (virtual via School Cloud)
27 th January 2022	Year 9 Progress Evening (virtual via School Cloud)
3 rd February 2022	Year 8 Progress Evening (virtual via School Cloud)
10 th February 2022	Year 7 Progress Evening (virtual via School Cloud)
<i>14th – 18th February 2022</i>	<i>HALF TERM</i>
21 st – 25 th February 2022	Year 11 Mock Exams
10 th March 2022	Year 11 Progress Evening
17 th March 2022	Year 9 GCSE & Options Evening
<i>4th April – 18th April 2022</i>	<i>EASTER HOLIDAYS</i>
Summer term	
19 th April 2022	Pupils back to school
21 st April 2022	Year 7 Progress Evening
<i>2nd May 2022</i>	<i>BANK HOLIDAY (School is closed)</i>
5 th May 2022	Year 10 Progress Evening
12 th May 2022	Year 8 Progress Evening
<i>30th May – 3rd June 2022</i>	<i>HALF TERM</i>
6 th June 2022	Pupils back to school
24 th June – 1 st July 2022	Year 10 Mock Exams
4 th July – 8 th July 2022	Activities Week/Year 10 Work Experience
18 th July 2022	Sports Day
21 st July 2022	Year 10 Progress Evening
22 nd July 2022	BFS End of Year Assembly
<i>25th July – xx September 2022</i>	<i>SUMMER HOLIDAYS</i>

Please note that all dates are subject to change/be added to/cancelled as we monitor and follow current guidelines. We will notify you as soon as any changes are made.