

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Summer 2020 Newsletter**

It is a real pleasure to write to you at the end of such an unprecedented academic year. In this letter I will give you an update on the academy and provide details of our full opening in September.

Due to our closure from Covid-19, the huge number of trips and extra-curricular events that normally happen throughout the summer term have unfortunately not taken place. However, during this period we have been busy improving our academy further and have been preparing to welcome back the students in September.

### **September 2020 Arrangements**

In accordance with the advice from the Department of Education (DfE), I am delighted to inform you that Beacon Academy will be open to all students in September 2020 as follows:

- Tuesday 1 & Wednesday 2 September 2020; Teacher training day (no students)
- Thursday 3 September 2020; open to year 7 and year 11 students only. *Year 7 students please enter via the main gate. Year 11 students please enter via the Philip Avenue entrance.*
- Friday 4 September 2020; open to year 7 and year 11 students only. *Entry as above.*
- Monday 7 September; open to all students. *Please see entry/exit arrangements on the attached information sheet.*

As the year 6 transition days were cancelled due to Covid-19, the first two days will enable the transition for the new starters in year 7 to take place.

Please see the attached information sheet for details of the necessary adjustments the academy will put in place in accordance with the criteria set by the Department for Education.

### **Attendance from September 2020**

All students will be expected to attend full-time. The DfE expects schools to monitor attendance as normal and follow the attendance policy for students who do not attend. Our pastoral team will of course, work with students with concerns about returning full-time to the academy.

## Term dates autumn term 2020/2021 (also available on our website)

Dates	Event
Tuesday 1 September 2020	Staff training day
Wednesday 2 September 2020	Staff training day
Thursday 3 September 2020	Academy opens to Year 7 and Year 11 students only
Friday 4 September 2020	Academy opens to Year 7 and Year 11 students only
Monday 7 September 2020	Academy opens to all students
Friday 23 October 2020	Academy closes for half-term
Monday 26 October to Friday 30 October 2020	Half term holiday
Monday 2 November 2020	Students return
Friday 18 December 2020	Academy closes for Christmas holiday
Monday 4 January 2021	Academy open to all students
Friday 12 February 2021	Trust Inset Day (closed to students)

## Site update

The academy supporting by our trust, is investing a further £95,000 into our site this summer on the following improvements:

- Replacing the cladding in the main 'A' Tower block.
- Major redecoration of the following areas: English corridors, 2 English classrooms, student entrance, Music Room 1, 1<sup>st</sup> floor A Tower landing & corridors, Computer Suite 2 and 2 MFL classrooms.
- Re-surfacing internal roadways.
- Restoration of the S Tower has continued, however due to delays caused by Covid-19 the S tower will not be ready until the end of September.

## Staffing update

I am delighted to report that no member of staff is leaving the academy this summer, I am delighted that Beacon maintains a stable, consistent staff team. We have recruited the following staff who will join us on 1 September:

- Mr A Smith to the post of Teacher of Mathematics, Mr Smith joins us from Cleethorpes Academy.
- Miss R.Wiggett to the post of Teacher of Mathematics, Miss Wiggett has completed her training at Lincoln University.
- Miss L.Chajid to the post of Teacher of English, Miss Chajid joins us from St Olave's and St.Saviour's, school in central London.
- Miss E.Gray to the post of Teacher of English, Miss Gray has completed her training at Bishop Grosseteste University.
- Miss E.Rafton to the post of Teacher of Geography, Miss Rafton has completed her training at Hull University.
- Mr J.Merritt to the post of Teacher of French and Spanish, Mr Merritt joins us from Louth Academy.
- Mrs H.Thompson to the post of Teacher of Year 7/Project based learning. Mrs Thompson joins us from Weelsby Academy.
- Miss K.Imrie to the post of Teacher of Physical Education (girls). Miss Imrie has completed her training at Leeds Beckett University.

- Mr S.Crag to the post of Teacher of Engineering. Mr Crag joins us from private sector industry.
- Mr J.Allen will be a trainee Teacher of Science
- Mr B.Shaw will be a trainee Teacher of Physical Education (boys)
- Miss C.Hunt to the post of Teaching Assistant (Level 3). Miss Hunt has completed a degree at the University Centre, Grimsby.
- Mr J.Pudsey to the post of Performing Arts Technician. Mr Pudsey is a former performing arts lecturer at Franklin College.

### **Internal appointments**

- English and History graduate; Mrs Aston-Otley will be the Leader of Humanities from 1 September and will be teaching History.
- Mrs Cook will be a Teaching Assistant (Level 3).
- Mrs Worrell will be the Attendance and Examinations Officer.
- Mrs Palmer will be the Reception Manager

This is without doubt, the strongest staffing team I have worked with in over 20 years of working in secondary education. I hope this provides parents further assurance of our commitment to continuously improving our academy to the benefit of all our students. Our site has been significantly upgraded with further significant investment planned. All our students benefit from the latest ICT facilities.

Beacon is over-subscribed with a large waiting list for year 7 entering in September 2020. Despite our popularity parents have my assurance that Beacon will remain the smaller than average sized academy where all students are known. We are in the strongest position of any school on our site for many years. I am very excited about our future.

I believe that Beacon Academy has the strongest OFSTED report of any secondary school in Lincolnshire in the rigorous new inspection framework.

### **Covid-19 Provision to date**

Between March 23 and July 6 the academy has made over 4,300 welfare telephone calls with our students and carers, produced multiple home learning packs, provided On-Line lessons to nearly 100 students per session, taught Year 10 across all subjects, ran a 'mock GCSE English exam and conducted speaking and listening exams for year 10 GCSE English Language students. The staff have walked the equivalent of 75km delivering home learning packs for those unable to collect. The staff at the academy have been in school throughout the lock-down ensuring we served our school community as best we could during this exceptional period.

I ask that all parents read the attached information sheet detailing the arrangements for September. If you have any queries please contact us on [office@beaconacademy.co.uk](mailto:office@beaconacademy.co.uk) or 01472 328888.

I would like to thank our parents for their support of Beacon Academy during this extraordinary time and we look forward to seeing the students back with us in September. May I wish all our students, parents and carers an enjoyable and safe summer.

Yours sincerely



J Thurley  
Headteacher

### **Covid 19 Information Sheet**

The academy will operate 4 'bubbles' meaning there will be no mixed teaching across each bubble. Each bubble will have separate start times and/or entry/exit points and either separate break/lunch with each bubble in their own clearly defined areas, set out below:

#### **'Bubbles'**

- Year 7
- Year 8
- Year 9
- Year 10 +11

The academy will operate bubbles according to each year group, this means that each year group will be taught separately as normal.

Please note that secondary schools cannot bubble in the same way as a primary school. All students will follow a full curriculum in their normal classrooms including specialist rooms for art, engineering etc.

#### **Start of day; point of entry and times**

<b>Year group</b>	<b>Point of Entry</b>	<b>Time</b>
7	Main gate	08:30
8	Philip Avenue	08:40
9	Main gate	08:40
10	Philip Avenue	08:30
11	Philip Avenue	08:30

#### **End of day point of entry and times**

<b>Year Group</b>	<b>Point of exit</b>	<b>Time</b>
7	Main Gate	2:45pm
8	Philip Avenue	2:45pm
9	Main Gate	2:50pm
10	Philip Avenue	2:50pm
11	Philip Avenue	Monday: 2:50pm Tuesday: *3:50pm Wednesday: *3.50pm Thursday: *3:50pm Friday: 2:50pm *year 11 students will have GCSE intervention in English, maths and science.

**It is vital that students arrive at the times above and not earlier (there will be no breakfast club until further notice) to avoid 'bubbles' mixing.**

#### **Movement between lessons**

All students will access the full curriculum in specialist teaching areas and as such will follow a normal timetable. Students will move between their lessons during the day as normal;

merely passing by students from other year groups does not present a risk according to the DfE guidance. The students will follow a strict one way movement between lessons.

### Break time

Morning break time will now be split into two 15 minute sessions to minimise contact between the year group bubbles. These are detailed below:

Time	Year group	Spaces
10:30 to 10:45	Year 7	Dining Room 1 Gym Tennis courts or field (weather permitting)
10:30 to 10:45	Year(s) 10+11	Dining Room 2 Sports Hall Netball court or field (weather permitting)
10:45 – 11:00	Year 8	Dining Room 2 Gym Tennis Court or field (weather permitting)
10:45 – 11:00	Year 9	Dining Room 1 Sports Hall Netball court or field (weather permitting)

### Lunchtime

The academy will follow the normal split lunchtime. However each year group has designated areas. These are detailed below:

Time	Year group	Spaces
12:50 to 13:20pm	7	Dining Room 1 Gym Netball Court or field (weather permitting)
12:50 to 13:20pm	8	Dining Room 2 Sport Hall Tennis Court or field
13:20 to 13:50pm	9	Dining Room 1 Sport Hall Tennis Court
13:20 to 13:50pm	10	Dining Room 2 Gym Netball Court
13:20 to 13:50pm	11	Dining Room 2 Gym Netball Court

### Cleaning

There will be enhanced day-time cleaning on the academy site, students will be expected to use hand sanitiser on entry to the site each morning.

If you have any concerns or queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

J Thurley

