



Summer Newsletter

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you are all keeping well in these unprecedented times.

Covid – 19

The Secretary of State for education has announced the end to bubble closures and there is now a requirement for x2 Lateral Flow Tests at the start of next term. I will provide full details in due course.

I am very aware that our Y9 'A' band bubble has been disproportionately affected compared with the rest of the academy. I have spoken to many parents when collecting their students following a burst bubble and I share the frustrations caused by the pandemic. With one exception, all other bubbles have either never closed or only closed on one occasion. I am sure parents have seen in the local media the significant impact of the pandemic on schools in our region and the number of children within North East Lincolnshire isolating from schools.

Covid Catch-Up

All Year 9 students have been allocated to their 1st choice option subjects. Option subjects are running with classes as low as 3 students. Overall option class sizes are smaller than average and will enable catch-up during Key stage 4.

An additional class has been created in English, maths and science. This means the students will be spread over 5 classes instead of 4. This will enable smaller class sizes (average size 20) in both Year 10 and Year 11 to support catch-up.

In Year 11 an extended academy day until 3:50pm to facilitate a period 6 in English, maths and science will be available for the students.

Term Dates

Please note the summer term will end on Friday 16 July at the normal time of 2:50pm. Students are permitted to wear non-academy uniform.

Friday 16 July	Academy closes to students for the summer break. Non-uniform day
Friday 3 September	New term begins Year 7 and Year 11 students only.
Monday 6 September	New term begins Year(s) 8, 9 and 10 return.

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Tuesday 21 September	Year(s) 7 + 11 Photographs Year 11 Parents' Evening
Monday 27 September	Year 10 Parents' Evening
Tuesday 5 October	Year 9 Parents' Evening
Monday 11 October	Year 8 Parents' Evening
Tuesday 19 October	Year 7 Parents' Evening
Friday 22 October	Academy closes for half-term
Monday 1 November	Students return from half-term
Monday 15 November	Mock Examinations (Year 11)
Monday 15 November	Year 11 Parents' Evening
Friday 17 December	Academy closes for Christmas

Extra-Curricular update

- Congratulations to our Year 7 boys and girls' rounders' squads who placed 2nd and 3rd in North East Lincolnshire. A fantastic achievement by the students.
- Year 10 students have benefitted from 'Virtual Work Experience', using virtual reality headsets.
- The Year 10 History students were also supported by a virtual 'live' theatre performance and Q & A session from the Thackray Museum in Leeds to support the learning.
- ENGIE UK has provided virtual, live careers sessions, linking our curriculum to the world of work.
- Year 9 'Sports Personality Awards'. Beacon students participated in the Humber Schools games Week 2021.
- Extra-curricular football, netball and 'Couch to 5K' have also taken place after school.

I hope this provides parents with assurance that despite the significant impact of the pandemic, the academy has still been providing extra-curricular experiences for the students.

Summer 2021 - Site updates

- The brand new £300,000 'Beacon Block' will be completed by mid-August.
- New replacement roofing to the L Block and A Tower will be completed by the end of July.
- Full academy window replacement of all our older windows will be complete by the end of August.
- New suspended ceilings with LED lighting in all of our 'A' Tower classrooms will be ready for 1 September.

These upgrades to our site are part of a significant investment, well in excess of £1 million ready for the students return in September as our site continues to transform. For this reason we have not been able to provide a year 6 summer school, as our site has to be closed during the summer holiday to enable this significant investment.

Staffing Update

We welcome an additional 10 new members of staff who will join the academy team on 1 September, including 8 new teachers.

Farewell

At the end of this term we say farewell our MFL teacher; Mr.Merritt who is re-locating to a different area of the country. I would like to thank him for his service to our academy during this year.

Thank you

I would like to take this opportunity thank all of our parents/carers for your support during this academic year. I wish all our parents/carers a safe and happy summer holiday and thank you for all your support of Beacon Academy. I look forward to the students returning on Monday 6 September. I also look forward to seeing you again at parents evening on Monday 27 September.

Take care.



J Thurley
Headteacher