



Beacon Academy Newsletter

January 2025

Welcome back to all of our pupils as we start another exciting term at Beacon Academy, and my first term as interim Principal. While I am not new to Beacon, it has been wonderful getting to know pupils, families and staff over the last term. I look forward to the exciting challenges ahead that will strengthen the education for our pupils and the role Beacon Academy plays within our community.

I was delighted to see our young people return with enthusiasm, ready for the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. To support their academic journey, we will be sharing curriculum overviews with parents and carers, which will help support learning at home.

At Beacon Academy, we pride ourselves on creating a nurturing environment where pupils feel happy and safe. Our dedicated team of form tutors remain your first point of contact for any concerns or issues. They work closely with our Heads of Year, who oversee rewards, behaviour, and progress, and our pastoral managers, who ensure comprehensive pastoral care. This support is expertly guided by our senior staff, including Ms Hilditch- Assistant Principal for Behaviour & Attitudes, Mrs Davies- Assistant Principal for Safeguarding & Attendance, and Mr Burnett (Assistant Principal and SENDCo).

We are also thrilled to introduce our brand new Key Stage 3 Enrichment programme this term. Mr Milne has collaborated closely with pupils and staff to craft an exciting array of activities designed to build character development and interests beyond the academic curriculum. Our aim is to help our young people discover passions and skills that will contribute to their personal growth and future success.

Reflecting on last term, we made a significant shift from daily detentions to weekly reflection sessions. I am delighted to report that this initiative has shown promising results. By working with our pupils to understand their behaviour and the choices they make, we're fostering a more engaged learning environment and ensuring all pupils are clear about our expectations for learning. Form tutors and teachers continue to implement logical consequences for behaviours such as lateness or disruption, always with the goal of supporting our pupils to make choices that align with our principles of being READY to learn, showing RESPECT for others, and making SAFE choices.

I very much look forward to the term ahead, and seeing all of the wonderful learning that will take place across the academy.

Ms M Sneyd
Interim Principal



Key Updates

Celebrations

It was a joy to celebrate the success of many of our pupils with a rewards trip to Parkway cinema at the end of last term. These moments of recognition are vital in motivating and encouraging our young learners.

We're also grateful for the generous Christmas gift card from Tesco, which we used to provide food parcels to families across our school community. This act of kindness exemplifies the spirit of support that we strive to cultivate at Beacon Academy.

Notices

Year 11 Mock Exams

Well done to all Year 11 that sat their iGCSE Media exam earlier on this week. There was 100% attendance and their conduct in the exam was impeccable. Year 11 mocks start next week for two weeks. We wish all pupils the best of luck with these exams.

Uniform

Please ensure your child/ren attend school in the correct uniform, referring to our website for the full policy. If you encounter any issues, please do not hesitate to contact your child's form tutor.

Healthy Eating

We like you to remind you of our commitment to healthy eating by not permitting sweets, fizzy drinks, or energy drinks in school. As a cashless school, please remember not to send money with your child that may be used to buy items on the way to school. We are excited about strengthening our breakfast offer in the coming months to ensure all pupils are ready for learning.

Year 8 Parents' Evening

Year 8 parents will have received a link to book an appointment with your child's form tutor for our upcoming Parents' Evening. Please log in to your parent portal to book your appointment. This will be an excellent opportunity to discuss progress and attitude to learning. Subject teachers will be available in the hall along with subject stands to provide any additional information to help your child make further progress in their learning; it is not expected that you will talk to your child's individual subject teacher.

Important Dates

Thursday 23 January, 3:30-6:30pm - Year 8 Parents' Evening

Thursday 6 February, 3:30-6:30pm - Year 9 Parents' Evening

Friday 7 February - Beacon Academy Careers Fair

Thursday 13 February - Students break up for half term

Friday 14 February - Wellspring Festival of Learning (School is closed to students)