



Beamont Collegiate
Academy

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Ref AMO/CHE/WS/005

Principal: Mr A Moorcroft BA (Hons), NPQH

July 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

As we come towards the end of a very busy and productive academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to update you on some important issues and provide information regarding the end/start of term arrangements.

Following a *good* judgement from Ofsted in June 2017 we achieved an impressive Progress 8 score for the 2017 GCSEs which placed us well above national average and in the top 3 or 4 performing high schools in Warrington. As a consequence of this performance we were identified as a case study of good practice by Ofsted within HMCI's annual report and I was invited by Stephen Twigg MP to speak at the Department for Education about the work we have done here. This is quite an accolade for the academy and, in part, a consequence of strong partnership working that exists between school staff, students and parents/carers. We are significantly over-subscribed for September 2018 for the fourth year running which is a sign of our strong reputation in the community and we are enjoying life in our fantastic, new school building. So overall, a very positive year.

We have now been part of The Challenge Academy Trust for 12 months and I believe we have achieved a huge amount in this time. The trust is a truly collaborative organisation with local academies working together for the benefit of staff and students across the town. In relation to the students' experience, we have achieved more than we anticipated in the first year, some highlights are below:

- A joint concert held at STB to prepare for a Parr Hall concert in the autumn term
- The establishment of a student parliament who visited the House of Commons and have launched a campaign to improve recycling across the town
- The United Utilities STEM project which involved students from all TCAT secondary schools working on an engineering design project supported by industry professionals
- A range of joint events with Oxford and Cambridge universities to promote pathways to Oxbridge for TCAT students

The importance of good road safety and awareness has become acute this year and, unfortunately, we have had a number of students involved in quite serious incidents whilst travelling to and from school. We are working closely with the council to address this issue but the reality is that students have to navigate some busy roads on bicycles or on foot to get to school. **Please can I ask that you reinforce road safety and awareness with your child and talk to them about safe routes to school.**

We talk to our students a lot about being *BCA ready*; this means being well prepared and equipped for school and maintaining a positive attitude to learning at all times. The GCSE examinations your child will sit at the end of Year 11 are becoming more and more demanding and we are working hard to ensure your children are also 'examination ready' when the time comes. To support this objective, you will see a new approach to home learning in September and students will receive 'Learning Essentials' booklets which will contain all the essential knowledge which must be mastered across the academic year. **It is vitally important that parents become familiar with the content and expectations of these booklets if you are to effectively support your sons and daughters with their academic studies.**



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You may be aware that new regulations have come in to effect in relation to data protection. As a consequence, we want to be clear about the data we collect, how we use it and your rights to control that information. Please view our updated Privacy notices on the BCA website http://bca.warrington.ac.uk/?page_id=8742

Please note the following arrangements for the end of this term and the beginning of the next term in September 2018.

Last day of term

This term ends on Wednesday 25 July. Lessons on this day will finish at 12:10 but students eligible for a free school meal who wish to do so are welcome to stay for lunch until 12:35.

Start of next term – September 2018

There will a staggered start over the first day. Details are below:

Tuesday 4 September 2018 – all years

Year 7 Meet on the yard (behind the school) at 8:30am
Year 8/9/10/11 Start at **11:10am** – Go to tutor room

Wednesday enrichment will not commence until week 2.

Uniform

We know some of you will shortly be buying uniform for September therefore we would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the following:

- All students will be expected to wear **black leather/leather look school shoes**. Sports shoes e.g. Converse, Nike, Vans, Adidas and canvas shoes etc are not acceptable
- PE kit; BCA t-shirt, plain black shorts/tracksuit bottoms, long black socks and trainers
- Extreme hairstyles and colours are also unacceptable. Long hair must be tied back.
- Girls must wear knee length, pleated skirts, pinafores or trousers. **No tube skirts allowed.**
- All students are expected to bring an appropriate school bag, large enough to hold books, equipment, PE kit & all students should have a well-stocked pencil case
- Phones are allowed in the academy but **MUST** be kept in bags and used only at breaks/lunchtimes
- Make-up & nail varnish should be very light and natural looking & piercings are restricted to single studs in ear lobes. No false/acrylic nails allowed.
- Water and soft drinks can be brought into school and carried in bags, no sugary or high caffeine drinks are allowed

Uniform can be ordered from Warrington School Wear, 50-54 Buttermarket Street, Warrington, WA1 2NN; Tel: 01925 576868

I hope you all have a safe and relaxing summer holiday.

Yours sincerely



**Mr A Moorcroft BA Hons, NPQH
Principal**



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