



Blackfen School for Girls

Raising aspirations - releasing potential

Headteacher Carrie Senior MA (Oxon) NPQH

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9th July 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

As we near the end of term I write with some important information for the next two weeks and the start of next term.

Work experience and Super-curricular

On Monday we welcomed back our Year 12 students from their work experience placements, which for the majority has been really valuable in helping them to prepare for their next steps. Work experience is incredibly important and we fully encourage our students to take up opportunities – there are many virtual placements now in a whole variety of careers and settings which are advertised to students through the ‘Year 12 Work experience and Opportunities’ Team. We will be celebrating the successes and achievements of our students this week in their academic studies and participation in the super-curricular programme and I am delighted with the large number of students who have completed a number of on-line courses and taster/insight days.

Exams

All Year 12 students have completed exams this year whether that was A Level PPEs or BTEC external exam units. The BTEC exam results will be issued to students in person on Thursday 14th August 9-10am in the Learning Zone. If these are not collected in person they will be given out on the first day of term. The next set of PPEs will take place w/b 3rd November, this will be for A Level and BTEC. The final BTEC exams will take place in January. It is really important that all students review their notes/complete revision over the summer in preparation for the return to school in September.

UCAS/apprenticeship preparation

Students applying for university should be using Unifrog to complete their course search and book in for Open Days. They need to write the first draft of their personal statement in Unifrog and print this off for checking (deadline: Friday 11th July). We will be running workshops on Wednesday 17th July for all applicants to start the actual application in UCAS (this session will be compulsory for all students applying). All students will be having a mock job interview on Friday 11th July, they have already selected the ‘job’ they will be interviewed for, this is excellent preparation for those students who will be seeking an apprenticeship, for university interviews or future jobs. In addition, we have held sessions on: interview skills, assessment centres and work skills.





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Students will be in normal timetabled lessons up to and including Tuesday 15th July, with the exception of Friday 11th July where they will be taking part in their mock interviews and preparation for work activities (students will finish at lunchtime on this day). Please see dates below for end of term arrangements. Attendance is compulsory until the end of term, I will be communicating with parents/carers where attendance is of concern for this academic year.

There will be a change to the timings of the school day as from September. Period 1 will start at 8.40am however there will be a mentoring session 8.30-8.40am for Sixth Form students – this will be on a rota basis. Students will be told by their form tutor their date and MUST attend this session. For most students this will mean they will have one mentoring session during this time per half term. Form time will be 10.40am-11.00am EVERYDAY then first break will be 11.00-11.30am with a second break (lunch) at 1.30-2.10pm. The last lesson will now finish at 3.10pm.

Dates:

Wednesday 16th July UCAS application workshops (times to be confirmed)

Thursday 17th July Danson Park 10.00am (Last Day of Term for Year 12 students)

Thursday 4th Sept Start of Term for Year 13 students 8.30am

Thurs 18th Sept Year 13 Parent Information eve (timings TBC)

w/b 3rd Nov PPEs

Thurs 4th Dec Year 13 Parent Evening 4-6.30pm

I would like to thank you for all your support this year. We look forward to working with you next term. If you have any concerns or questions, please don't hesitate to contact me before the end of term.

Yours sincerely

Miss K Brewer
Assistant Headteacher, Head of Sixth Form

