



# Blackfen School for Girls

Raising aspirations - releasing potential

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Dear Parent/Carer

As year 12 have their Challenge Day on Wednesday this week (23<sup>rd</sup>), year 13 students are not required to attend school on this day unless they are studying Childcare in which case they attend 11.15 – 1.15pm. However, there are some important things they need to do at home on Wednesday:

- UCAS Students who have not finished their application should ensure that this is completed and sent on Wednesday.
- UCAS Students should use the websites listed at the end of this letter to plan for their student finance.
- Students applying for an apprenticeship should use Wednesday to get their CV up to date and start to research/apply for apprenticeships (please see links at the end of this letter).
- Make sure all lesson notes are up to date and if on an A Level course that all 'Re-visit' tasks are up to date.
- BTEC Students should be revising for their external examination units that take place in January.
- Sign up for a MOOC (on-line course) and start this (particularly in an area that applies to an apprenticeship if appropriate).
- EPQ Students should be working on their project
- Geography, History, English, Media, Art & Photography A Level students all have coursework to complete.

We are encouraging Year 13 students to use our Team in Microsoft Teams called 'Opportunities and apprenticeships' I regularly update this team with current available local apprenticeships and other amazing opportunities for work experience, insight days and careers webinars. Please encourage your child to check this term regular so that they don't miss out.

Recent posts have included: apprenticeships/insight with BA, PWC, Radiography, BT, IT industry, HSBC Business/Accounting. We add all actual apprenticeships weekly that are 'live' for application – although there are lots available, there is a great deal of competition so students need to act quickly.

The PPE results for BTEC students will be given out in the next few days (if they haven't already) so that students can be informed of the areas to work on in preparation for the actual exams in January.

A level students will receive their results formally w/b 5<sup>th</sup> December. You will all be invited to attend parents evening (SchoolCloud, virtual) on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December.

We will be monitoring students whose PPE grades are 'cause for concern' and there will be intervention in place next term where required. Parents/carers will receive a progress update report at the end of this term.

Can I take this opportunity to remind you that students must follow our Sixth Form dress code – there are a small minority of students who are not wearing appropriate clothing to school, we want our students to look smart and to be role models to lower school students. Can I remind you that all students need to wear a tailored jacket every day. Skirts must be of a suitable length, no DM style boots, no ripped or fishnet style tights, jumper dresses, hoodies or trainers are not acceptable. Jumpers may only be worn if they are worn with the jacket. Students MUST wear their ID lanyard at all times.



A further reminder that any 'Lates' times accumulated in the week must be completed on a MONDAY at the end of the students' day (parents/carers are informed via email if Lates total 10 or more minutes and you will get an overview of punctuality each half term if it is of concern).

Many of our students now have part time jobs which we do support, however, there is a lot of pressure placed on young employees to work extra hours in the build up to Christmas. This is highly detrimental to their education and really does have a knock-on effect on their studies and time in school. I must remind you that students should work a maximum of 12 hours a week in a part time job and should think carefully about working more than one-week day evening a week. Please also remind your child of the need to be in school, in the correct place by 8.30am.

We look forward to launching our 'Acts of kindness' campaign which will take place at the end of this term. We will be asking students for food bank donations, cards and mince pies to take to local elderly people, and contributions towards Crisis at Christmas. A big thank you to all students who contributed to our McMillian Coffee morning, helping us to raise over £100.

As always, if you have any concerns or questions please don't hesitate to contact me either via email or phone.

Yours sincerely



Miss K Brewer  
Assistant Head teacher, Head of Sixth Form.

Apprenticeships:

[https://amazingapprenticeships.com/higher-degree-listing/?utm\\_source=mailing&utm\\_medium=landing+page&utm\\_campaign=h%26d](https://amazingapprenticeships.com/higher-degree-listing/?utm_source=mailing&utm_medium=landing+page&utm_campaign=h%26d)

[https://apprenticenation.co.uk/skills-hub/live-events/?utm\\_campaign=Autumn%202022&utm\\_medium=email&hsmi=233046631&hsenc=p2ANqtz-jaltE4nTtmA4S6ySSoSkkKAoXacf4QwFvSlnGgbGSEVGfzrR-455mABU7yXZP6Kwq3WUb\\_rYuMr5e3PKC0ZxxUTjXhi\\_zSAGEA1SyPICY\\_3WGXQ&utm\\_content=233046631&utm\\_source=hs\\_email](https://apprenticenation.co.uk/skills-hub/live-events/?utm_campaign=Autumn%202022&utm_medium=email&hsmi=233046631&hsenc=p2ANqtz-jaltE4nTtmA4S6ySSoSkkKAoXacf4QwFvSlnGgbGSEVGfzrR-455mABU7yXZP6Kwq3WUb_rYuMr5e3PKC0ZxxUTjXhi_zSAGEA1SyPICY_3WGXQ&utm_content=233046631&utm_source=hs_email)

<https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeshipsearch>

Student finance:

<https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/students/student-loans-tuition-fees-changes/>

