Bradley Stoke Community School

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BSCS25-127d

8th July 2026

Dear Year 9 students, Parents and Carers,

I hope students are looking forward to Enrichment Week and to starting our full Key Stage 4 studies in September. As we approach the end of the year, we thought it would be useful to highlight some key dates, changes, and events for the next academic year.

YEAR 10 FIRST DAY OF TERM
For Year 10, Term 1 will start on Friday 4th September and students will need to arrive in school from 8:10am ready to line up for tutor time at 8:20am. During tutor, Periods 1 and 2 they will spend time looking at the 'year ahead', have a 'welcome back' assembly and complete admin tasks such as getting their new timetable; lessons will start Period 3 and will follow the new school day timings.

MEET THE TUTOR EVENING – TUESDAY 13TH OCTOBER
We will be holding another in-person 'Meet the Tutor' evening to enable you to discuss your child's overall progress with their tutor and also how well they have settled into the new school year. Timings and appointment booking process information will follow early next academic year.

START OF YEAR 10 PARENT INFORMATION EVENING – THURSDAY 8TH OCTOBER 2026
All parents and carers are invited to attend an in-person information evening to outline the year ahead and give tips on how to support the success of your child as they continue with their GCSE studies. This will take place on Thursday 8th October and an invitation and sign-up form will be sent out in the new academic year. Please note, there will also be a Year 11 Parent Information Evening held on this date, but at a slightly different time. Parents with children in both years will be invited to attend for both sessions (that will be held consecutively).

REVIEWS AND PARENT/ CARER EVENING
Below are the dates for the parent/carer evening and an approximate date of when reviews will be published via Arbor.

Review 1 – End of Term 2
Review 2 – End of Term 4
Parents' Evening – Tuesday 27th April (virtual)
Review 3 – End of Term 6 (informed by end of year mock exams)

MOCK EXAMS
Mock exams form an integral part of the preparation process for Year 11, and for the GCSE Religious Studies exams in Year 10. Students will sit mock exams for Religious Studies in November and February and will complete mock exams for all other subjects between Monday 21st June to Friday 2nd July 2027.

Students should thoroughly revise and prepare for their mock exams; practising techniques which they think will support them in the future. If a student has access arrangements, they must utilise these in their mock exams, one, so they have the experience of this, and two, so we can evidence this as their normal way of working. If you require clarification on any access arrangements, please contact the Learning Support team.

GCSE RELIGIOUS STUDIES EXAMS
The provisional window for these exams is from Monday 10th May to Friday 25th June 2027. All students must be available for exams during this period. If a student misses an exam they will not be able to re-sit this at a later date. The timings of the three Religious Studies papers will be confirmed closer to the time.

ENRICHMENT AND WORK EXPERIENCE
As part of the Bradley Stoke Promise, Year 10 will continue with Enrichment Days to provide wider learning opportunities for students' holistic development. After school enrichment options will be published in the first few weeks of Term 1 for students to sign up for and we will have two Enrichment Days prior to their work experience at the end of the year:

Enrichment Day 1 – Tuesday 20th October 2026 (London museums)
Enrichment Day 2 –Friday 12th March 2027 (Treasure trail)
Work experience week – Monday 12th to Friday 16th July 2027 (further information to follow).

UNIFORM
Our complete uniform guidance can be found here:
Bradley Stoke Community School - Secondary Uniform, Essential Equipment and General Information
As a reminder, however:

- Flared leggings are not permitted.
- All socks should be black, including any socks worn over tights. Fluffy socks should not be worn.
- Hair should be natural in colour, with no shaved patterns or dye.
- Jewellery should be kept to a minimum, i.e. watch, one simple plain earring stud per ear. Ear piercings must be in the normal piercing position on the lobe and are not acceptable in any other place on the ear, e.g. the upper ear.
- Rings and bracelets are not allowed (unless for religious reasons).
- No facial piercings are allowed to be worn in school - covered or uncovered.
- Religious headwear may be worn in black or teal only.
- A little modest makeup may be worn by learners in Years 9 to 11 (e.g. mascara and foundation).
- No nail varnish, false nails, false eyelashes or extensions are allowed. We respectfully request that any are removed before the start of the new academic year.

I am sure you will be pleased to know that Mr Paterson will be remaining as Head of Year and will move up with the year group.

There is so much to look forward to in the coming year. Please do get in touch if you have any further questions. To help us plan effectively for the new academic year and to keep our records up to date, we would be grateful if you could notify us at the earliest opportunity if your child will be leaving the school for any reason.

We wish you a restful and peaceful summer holiday and look forward to working with students and families alike in 2026/2027.

Kind regards,

Mrs Sophie Francis
Headteacher

Young people's mental health

- **Off The Record:** Free, self-referral counselling service for young people age 11-15, who are experiencing low mood, depression, anxiety, phobias, self-harm, eating problems and/or anger. Young people can call, email or text, and services operate in Patchway, Kingswood and Yate. Also offer parent support groups and sessions. Can also see Facebook, Twitter and Instagram for more information and up to date groups and activities.
  Tel: 0808 808 9120. Text: 07896 880011. Website: Home - OTR (otrbristol.org.uk) Email: hello@otrbristol.org.uk

- **Kooth:** Free, safe and anonymous online support for young people 11-18. Monday – Friday 12pm – 10pm, Saturday – Sunday 6pm – 10pm. On Kooth you can: Chat to our friendly counsellors; Read articles written by young people; Get support from the Kooth community; Write in a daily journal. Website: https://kooth.com/ Home - Kooth

- **Childline:** Free counselling via online webchat, and free support/advice available 24/7 via confidential helpline, and emails via the website. Tel: 0800 11 11. Website: www.childline.org.uk Childline | Childline

- **Young Minds** national charity offers confidential online and telephone information and support for anyone worried about the emotional, behaviour, or mental health of a child/young person up to 25 years of age, including ADHD, Autism and Aspergers. **Parents Helpline:** 0808 802 5544 Website: YoungMinds | Mental Health Charity For Children And Young People | YoungMinds

- **Young Minds Crisis Messenger Service** for free 24/7 support across the UK of you are experiencing a mental health crisis. Text YM to 85258.