Bradley Stoke Community School

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8th July 2026

Dear Year 10 Students, Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of the academic year, I would like to congratulate Year 10 on all they have accomplished so far. I imagine they are relieved to have their GCSE Religious Studies and mock exams out of the way; I hope they are now looking forward to their work experience and the summer break.

As Year 10 go off on their work experience placements next week, lockers need to be completely emptied of all contents before they leave the building on Friday 10th July. Time will be given to ensure this is done during their Period 5 lesson. The contents of all lockers will be emptied by the Premises team during the summer break, with the contents destroyed, so if your child is unable to for any reason tomorrow, please let us know so we can arrange this.

There are many things for your child to look forward to next year, including the celebration events after the external exams such as Prom and Year 11 Final Assembly. I hope the following key dates and events overview is helpful in planning for the year ahead.

GCSE RELIGIOUS STUDIES RESULTS DAY
GCSE results day is on Thursday 20th August, and students will be able to come into school and collect their Religious Studies results between 9:30am and 10:30am. Results will be emailed out later that day, and hard copies can be collected at the start of term if students are unable to come in on the day.

FIRST DAYS OF YEAR 11
For Year 11, term will restart on Thursday 3rd September. Peer Mentors allocated to tutor groups should arrive at school at 8:10am to support Year 7s across the morning and will be emailed separately about this. All other Year 11 students need to arrive in school from 10:55am ready for tutor time from 11:20am. During their first day, they will spend time looking at the 'year ahead', have a 'welcome back' assembly and complete admin tasks such as getting their new timetable. They will follow their timetabled lessons in the afternoon.

On Friday 4th September, tutor, Periods 1 and 2 will be used to provide additional guidance for how students should approach Year 11. Lessons will start Period 3 and will follow their timetable.

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.

PARENT INFORMATION EVENINGS – THURSDAY 8TH OCTOBER 2026 AND WEDNESDAY 13TH JANUARY 2027
All parents and carers of Year 11 are invited to two information evenings. The first is on Thursday 8th October, and aims to outline the year ahead, and will give tips to support the success of your child as they tackle what will be a demanding year. We hope this will support both academic preparation as well as positive mental health. An invitation and sign-up form will be sent out in the new academic year. Please note, there will also be a Year 10 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).

The second is on Wednesday 13th January, and will give final and specific information on how to support your child with their revision and preparation for their summer exams. During this, there will be an initial presentation about 'general' revision strategies and techniques, information about how students can manage stress and anxiety, and there will be the opportunity to attend subject specific sessions.

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

Review 1 – End of Term 1 (attitudinal comments only)
Review 2 – End of Term 2 (informed by Year 11 mock series 1)
Parents' Evening – Wednesday 6th January 2027 (virtual)
Review 3 – End of Term 4 (informed by Year 11 mock series 2)

SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING
Each year, we welcome many returning and new students to our Sixth Form, and an important part of Year 11 is the Sixth Form Opening Evening which will take place on Wednesday 4th November 2026. During the evening, students will be able to hear from current students and teachers about the wide range of subjects on offer and the fantastic enrichment opportunities. Further details will be provided in Term 1.

TUTOR TIME
Tutor time continues to be an important part of the day for Year 11. During this time, tutors and Heads of Year will conduct well-being check-ins to ensure each student is ready to meet our expectations of Be Ready, Be KInd, and Be The Best You! Tutors will review important information, including key notices or events for the week ahead, attendance, and positive and negative behaviour points from the previous day. Additionally, during tutor time there will be a variety of interventions and revision sessions.

ENRICHMENT
Year 11 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 in terms one and four.

Enrichment Day 1 – Tuesday 20th October 2026 (Mock ready)
Enrichment Day 2 – Date Friday 12th March 2027 (GCSE Boost)

MOCK EXAMS
Mock exams form an integral part of the preparation process for the summer exams; allowing students to become familiar with the routines and expectations. During Year 11, students will have two periods of mock exams:

1 – Monday 9th November to Friday 20th November 2026
2 – Monday 1st February to Friday 26th February 2027 – N.B. this series is separated by half-term

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; sessions are planned for Term 1 to support students with this. If you require clarification on any access arrangements, please contact the learning support team.

Whilst we will go over the finer details closer to the date, and as students have experienced recently, during mock exams their school day will continue to start with tutor, and once they have registered they will head down to the Sports Hall for their morning exam. After a break, which on some days may be extended, students will attend Period 3 lessons, and then they will have first lunch, followed by their afternoon exam. We know that it can be hard to have two exams in one day, but this is an important part of their preparation process, and in the summer there can be two, or more, exams, in one day. Also, for the summer exams, students cannot leave the exam early and must remain seated in exam conditions until the published end time.

SUMMER 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, and please note, exams such as language speaking exams, practical Art exams etc. will be held outside of this window. If a student misses an exam, they will not be able to re-sit this at a later date.

During the final exams, students will attend all timetabled lessons up to the end of Term 5 and the school day will broadly remain the same. From the start of Term 6, if a subject has been fully completed in terms of both exams and coursework, lessons for that subject will no longer take place and students will be able to revise independently either in the LRC or at home during that lesson. Where subjects have not finished, we will continue to support students with their revision prior to the final exam, and for these subjects, students will be expected to attend their timetable lessons as normal until the final exam. To help give clarity, in Term 5 we will share a timetable to show what lessons are still taking place, and when the students will have independent study time if a subject is completed. Once these exams have been completed, a date to note is Thursday 19th August 2027 for GCSE results day.

CELEBRATION EVENTS
Attendance to reward events will be reviewed across the year, taking into account student behaviour, attitudes, and overall engagement. We will provide further guidance and more detailed information next academic year, but in the meantime we appreciate your continued support in helping students make positive choices and have the best chances of success.

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 Mrs Moss 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.