



BOSWORTH ACADEMY
TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE

Welcome

11th September 2020

in the loop

Weekly Newsletter for Parents & Students

Today marks the end of our first full week back in school. It has been a delight seeing students enjoying learning and embracing the new safety procedures we have in place to mitigate risk. Last week the national news was all about schools across the country beginning to fully open, this week the Leicester Mercury headlines have been about partial and full school closures due to Covid-19 cases. With cases rising around the country and locally, especially among younger people (<30yrs), it is vital that our children and parents follow our key messages about hygiene and keeping children at home if they, or a household member, has coronavirus symptoms.

As you are aware we act swiftly if positive cases arise at our school. It is upsetting for all of us, especially the families affected, when students test positive or are asked to self-isolate. I am glad to report that students at home remain well. We liaise closely with Public Health England to determine specific students or staff who need to isolate through PHE's enquiries and our own track and trace processes. With our tutor group and year group bubbles, alongside aligned electronic seating plans our MLT Team is able to quickly identify close contacts. Parents of close contacts will be informed by phone call and letter if their children are required to self-isolate and will be asked to come and collect them as soon as possible.

The pandemic has disturbed all sectors of society and revealed its fault lines - especially in national education systems. The reaction to the crisis has generated some impressive responses and our staff are continuing to advance their skills in their use of technology to educate all, an area where many schools have struggled. Through this disruption, there has been a recognition that schools play a vital role beyond learning.

At Bosworth Academy we are not reverting to the status quo, but enhancing our practice through 'Hybrid Learning'. This is a pedagogical approach where the teacher connects individual student learning outside the classroom by transforming new concepts and engaging creatively in the subject matter. This shift in what students are required to do at home provides more time for; feedback in lessons, problem solving and coaching of the learning process - something that is essential after missing 13 weeks of school. We will be implementing this across all key stages with the benefit of allowing students who may be working at home self-isolating to continue the same learning as students in school. Hybrid Learning will be in place soon on our Google Classrooms with a link from Show My Homework so that parents can track and support completion.

Do take time over the coming days to remind your children of our high expectations of behaviour. We cannot tolerate students who put the safety of others at risk or who slow learning for others. This is so important when in school, travelling to school or in our wider community.



As **C.S. Lewis** said, "**Integrity is doing the right thing, even when no-one is watching**", so much of the challenging decisions we as leaders in schools are making now are guided by our moral compass for the best interests of all of our children and wider community. Please support us and encourage your children to do the right thing even when no parent or teacher is guiding them.

Mr. Brown, Head of School

**The greater the storm,
the brighter the rainbow!**



TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE

TikTok Warning

It has come to our attention that an extremely disturbing TikTok video has become viral nationally and that a few of our students have seen this video. The video is also circulating on other social media platforms including Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. The video features a clip of an individual tragically killing himself. TikTok and other social media services are trying to remove this video.



You can read about this clip here: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-54069650>

We take e-safety very seriously and include this topic as part of our curriculum offer. Our school iPads filter inappropriate content by default, including access to social media, both in school and when they are connected to other networks. You can contact your service provider should you wish to add additional layers of protection to your child's devices.

The school has access to an educational psychologist and we will work with them to help support any child who has been affected by viewing this video.

Mr. Dolinski, Assistant Head of School

Science in these strange times...

I am pleased to report that - despite the risk mitigation measures we have put in place for Covid - teachers are still finding ways of giving students exciting experiences and bringing the learning to life. For example in Science there has been so much experimentation in the last week that the technicians have had to ask the teachers to slow down because they can't clean and quarantine the equipment quickly enough!

There have been experiments ranging from electrolysis to aspirin-making and nutrition to precision measurement. I am sure parents are relieved to hear that students are doing this work at school not attempting it at home!

Mr. Claricoates, Assistant Head of School

Year 7 News

Students joining Year 7 take part in a series of projects as part of our curriculum. One of the most important is the safe use of a Bunsen Burner. Usually the class teacher can circulate and support, and all the students can carry to the activity together. Instead, students must now work in the table pairs, and this means only half can carry out the activity at any one time. The teacher must also remain at the front (except in emergencies of course)! I needn't have worried - whilst half the class completed the safety lesson using the Bunsens, the other did a labelling and risk assessment activity before they swapped. The Year 7 class were wonderful - calm, efficient and very mature, with all equipment returned immaculately. I may do this the same way every time in the future!



Mrs. Manning,
Associate Senior Leader

Transport to and from School

On the whole behaviour on both dedicated school transport and public transport has been fantastic.

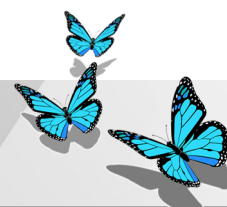


However, it is important that all students continue to follow the procedures for the **whole** journey. This is also important for students who walk, cycle or travel in by car; you must all look carefully at the guidance and keep yourself as safe as possible. The video link below is another reminder of why this is important;

[Watch Video](#)

Mr. White, Deputy Head

TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE



Covid-19 and Staying Safe

Parents and carers must carefully follow procedures around COVID-19.

If your child develops coronavirus symptoms in school we will contact parents so you can immediately pick them up. **You must get your child tested as soon as possible and inform us of a positive result.** This allows us to begin our own track and trace system in school to identify close contacts.

The most important symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of any of the following:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

For most people, COVID-19 will be a mild illness.

If you have [symptoms](#) of COVID-19 however mild, you must self-isolate for at least 10 days from when your symptoms started. Go to [testing](#) website link to arrange a test. **You must not send children in your household to school** - please call the school to inform us. Members of the household are required to self-isolate for 14 days unless a negative test result is received and then you can end isolation. Contact attendance@bosworthacademy.org.uk with any queries.

Please follow this advice - it is vital to ensure that we keep our communities safe and avoid school having to send home many students to self-isolate for 14 days if they have been in close contact with someone who has a positive test result.

Mr. Brown, Headteacher

Keep up to date with everything that is happening at Bosworth Academy as it happens...



Follow us on social media!

If your son/daughter has Covid symptoms these rules must be followed:

- They must **NOT** come into school
- You must contact the school and inform us of their illness.
- You must organise a test immediately
- You must inform the school of the result of the test

If a member of your household has Covid symptoms these rules must be followed:

- Everyone who lives in the house must self isolate immediately so your **son/daughter must not come into school**
- The person should book a test immediately
- If the test is **negative** your son/daughter may come back to school
- If the test is **positive** all members of the household must spend 14 days in self isolation.

If we do have a positive case we will then look at all our lesson seating plans, bus lists and lunch arrangements and any direct contacts will be asked to self-isolate.

TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE

Food in the Canteen

With our new lunch and break system only allowing one year group at a time into the canteen area, the whole experience for students is much improved. Queuing times are down, seats are always available and the atmosphere is fantastic. This presents a fantastic opportunity to take advantage of the amazing food offered by our canteen. The hot food counter in particular is not to be missed. From jacket potatoes to curry and tacos to stroganoff, there are dishes for all, including vegan options. 'Meal Deals' are priced at £2.35 and include a main dish and a dessert/bottle of water. It's incredible value!

Mr. White, Deputy Head

Car Pick-up Notice

Thank you to those parents who pick their child up from school by car who have followed our requests and supported a safe end to the school day. We asked that parents pick students up after the buses have left to avoid the congestion on Leicester Lane caused by an increased number of parents using cars to avoid children travelling by public transport during the pandemic.

Now that we have completed a full week I am able to review our pick-up times.

The bus park is now clear of all buses at 3.20pm. If you arrive by car from 3.20pm onwards all bus lanes can be used for a safe and very quick pick-up. Students should wait safely in the Laureate's playground or in the school library and get some home learning started until their pick-up arrives. If you do need to collect children from 3.00pm then please be patient and expect longer delays.

Parents **must not** park on grass verges outside the school or on pavements along Leicester Lane as this is extremely dangerous for passers-by and our students. The police have been in contact with us and are patrolling the area for safety. I also ask that parents respect local residents and do not park up on Forest Rise - please use the bus park from 3.20pm.

Mr. Brown, Headteacher

If you can be anything - be kind!

It has been the first full week of school for our students and they all seem to have adapted easily to the new routines that we have had to establish in school.

It has been a real pleasure to visit lessons this week and see the great learning that is going on. It seems despite the restrictions that are in place staff are finding really creative ways to engage our students and make learning exciting. Year Seven certainly seem to be enjoying the challenge of learning a new language and it was nice to hear some of them trying out their Spanish during one of their breaks. Enrichment has also proved very popular with the Year Seven students who have been very enthusiastic about developing new skills. Our new lunch and breaks have proved popular with Year Eight students who like that they get an area to themselves and the queues to get food are much shorter.

Over the next few weeks Key Stage Three will be focusing on developing their 6C skills, in particular character and citizenship. They will be thinking about how they can help other people both in school and in the wider community. Year Heads will be out and about and will be rewarding students who show kindness to each other or to staff.

Mr R. Moore, Head of Laureates

Welcome back to year 9 and 10!

It has been fantastic to see our year 9 and year 10 students back in our school after almost 6 months away. They all did a wonderful job accessing the remote learning that we set them during lockdown and many of them also joined in with the extra curricular tasks that were set during the summer months such as the Quiz of the Day, Bosworth Bake Off, Sports Day and Joke of the Day.

However it doesn't compare to having our year 9 and year 10 students back in school where they belong. We have been so impressed with how prepared for learning they are, coming fully equipped with school uniforms, equipment and ipads. Attendance at 96% (above national average) and punctuality has also been outstanding. In lessons their teachers have commented on how engaged they are in lessons. The way they have conducted themselves around school has also been fantastic, adapting to the new break times, one way systems and wearing of face masks in social areas. Thank you so much to every one of you. I am so proud of your role in helping us have such a successful start. Keep it up!

Mrs. Harbour, Head of Key Stage 4

TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE

Remote Learning

Bosworth Academy teachers spent lockdown honing their online teaching skills. Teachers experimented with BitMoji virtual classrooms, the delivery of live online lessons, video lessons for students to access remotely, in addition to a number of other strategies that our students were able to engage with successfully from their homes.

Now that we are back at school, we are keen to make sure that all of those interactive and innovative strategies that worked so well over lockdown, continue to be implemented in our home learning opportunities. We hope that our approach to hybrid learning - the mixture of online learning used to support in class lessons - will enable our students to work independently both in and out of school.

Teachers will continue to use Show My Homework as the primary vehicle for delivering both homework and classwork for those in key stages 3 and 4, who are isolating at home. Parents can access the work set for their child via the Show My Homework app (Satchel One).

If you have any questions, please contact
Mrs. O'Malley, Associate Senior Leader

Welcoming new students

We are delighted to welcome our year 12 students to The Oaks Sixth Form at Bosworth Academy. We are now at capacity and were oversubscribed this year due to the growing popularity of our provision. Students attended an induction afternoon on Wednesday where they met their tutor and found out about life as a sixth former and the changes we have had to make as a result of Covid-19.

On Thursday students had their first proper experience of life as a sixth former as they started to follow their new timetables, many experiencing new subjects. The sixth form team worked hard to get students onto their chosen courses, we hope they enjoy the subjects they have chosen but if they feel they have made the wrong choices they should discuss their concerns with their tutor initially.

All Year 12 students should be in school from 8.45am to 3.10pm.

Due to Covid-19, students cannot leave the site at lunch or break time, this is to ensure we support the local community and minimise pressure in the village.

During study periods and 10th lessons all sixth form students must sign in on the virtual signing in sheet and specify where they will be (e.g. Science, Oaks, Compass) This is vital for safeguarding and affects student attendance which will be used in references.



For parents supporting students in year 12 there is a wealth of useful information on the Bosworth Academy website in the curriculum section, we have asked all students joining us to carefully read the [Sixth Form Handbook](#) to clarify expectations and procedures.

Mrs. Holdback, Head of Sixth Form



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