

an 11 – 18 selective school with academy status
Headteacher: Mr R J Blyghton

# Friday 29th August 2025

## **RE: Return to school arrangements for Year 10 Students**

Dear Parents and Carers of students in Year 10,

I hope that you all had a great summer break and that your child is looking forward to returning to Beths for year 10 to begin their formal Key Stage 4 GCSE studies.

Whilst every year in school is important, the next two years will be the most important and without doubt the most demanding as your child prepares to sit nationally recognised qualifications, the most significant assessments since the 11+.

This letter is intended to bring to your attention to a number of key reminders as well as information on new matters. I have kept this as succinct as possible, however please do take the time to read this carefully with your child as it is intended to provide absolute clarity and transparency on our expectations and standards as a school.

### Beths celebrates continued GCSE success.

Beths Grammar School continues to achieve outstanding success in GCSE public examinations. Please click the link <a href="here">here</a> to read about our fantastic results issued in August. A huge well done to this year group who have demonstrated that exceptional behaviour and commitment to academic study really does pay off. Whilst our results are well above the national average for all secondary schools, we have also performed above the national average for selective Grammar Schools across the UK.

### Year 10 "Welcome to GCSEs" Parents information evening - Monday 15th September at 6pm

You are invited to attend this important event for all year 10 parents and carers. This event will be held **on school site in the Main Hall**. It is essential that your child is also present with you and listening to the presentation. It is the expectation that all parents and carers attend this meeting. Parking will be available on site. The aim of the evening is to provide important information on the following:

- A reset of school expectations
- An overview of the GCSE years (year 10 and year 11)
- Arrangements for trial exams and advice for parents on how to support effective revision
- Expectations on attendance
- Advice on additional revision strategies and online learning platforms
- Thinking ahead to sixth form and post 16 study
- Information on careers advice and work experience.

The evening is intended to last no longer than one hour. In preparation for the meeting, I would ask that if you have any questions you would like answered regarding GCSEs, then please submit these through the MS forms link <a href="here">here</a>. This form will close on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September.

#### First day arrangements

All students are expected to be on school site for a **prompt 8.45am start** on **Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September** in full school uniform. Students are permitted to enter the site from 8.00am onwards. Form rooms will open from 8.30am every morning. On Wednesday, students should go straight to their allocated form room for an 8.45am start. No student should be late. Form rooms and form tutors are as follows:

Form group	Room	Form Tutor
10A	В3	Dr R. Easton
10B	S3	Miss L. West
10C	B11	Mr H. Iqbal
10E	A5	Mr M. Martin
10H	S6	Mrs A. Gregg
10W	В7	Mrs L. Wakeling and Mr G. Russell
Head of Year		Miss S. Stevens
Head of Key Stage 4		Mr R. McBeth

### School lanyard, pass and signing in/out

As part of our health and safety rules, all students must bring their school lanyard and pass to school **every day**. They must sign in and out on the school InVentry system when entering and leaving school site.

Spot checks will take place to make sure students are following this important rule. Sanctions will be imposed for non-compliance with health and safety policy.

### **Reading books**

All students are expected to bring an age-appropriate reading book with them to school every day. They must have this for form time. The LRC is open to allow students to borrow a book from school should they wish.

## **Uniform and appearance**

It is the expectation that all students arrive to school every day wearing the correct uniform. This consists of:

- A Beths school blazer.
- White school shirt (please ensure that the collar size enables the top button to be fastened comfortably at all times).
- The correct house tie (or honours tie).
- Dark grey proper school trousers. Not black jeans. Should your child wish to wear a belt it should be black leather with a sensible buckle.
- Black or dark grey school socks. White sports socks are for games lessons only.
- Proper black school shoes (polished regularly).
- A plain black/grey or navy coat with no markings (should he wish to bring a coat to school).

We ask that the school uniform is washed regularly and that every student takes pride in their appearance. Hooded tops, earrings or durags/wave caps are not permitted to be worn anywhere on school site. These will be confiscated, and parents will be asked to collect them from reception.

Please do not contact the school to challenge a confiscated item as this letter gives warning in advance of our expectations regarding uniform.

#### **Trial Exams**

All students in year 10 will sit formal trial exams across all subjects starting on **Monday 27**<sup>th</sup> **April 2026**. These will take place in the Sports Hall under strict exam conditions.

I will write to you separately nearer the time with a full exam timetable for the arrangements of these exams.

#### **Parents Evening**

This will take place in person on **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2026.** Parents evening bookings will be sent to you nearer the time.

#### Behaviour and attitude

No time can be wasted in any lesson. Students are expected to show full commitment to every subject. They must arrive to every lesson on time fully equipped and in the right mind-set to learn. Please continue to check the school gateway app to track demerits and commendations. Please do not turn a blind eye to demerits as this is a vital communication link between you and your child's teachers.

I am sure you will agree that rude, disrespectful and poor levels of behaviour is unacceptable and has no place in this school. No student has the right to disrupt the learning of others and I refuse to let this type of behaviour or culture for rudeness into Beths. Students who disrupt lessons will be removed to give other students the chance to continue their learning. All sanctions are recorded on the students file. Detentions and exclusions from school are serious and we will look at these when your child wishes to take up a place in the sixth form. When we provide a reference for them once they leave us we are obliged to comment on their attendance, punctuality and behaviour as well as their academic ability.

# **Mobile Phone Policy**

There is a complete ban of phones used on school site for all year groups (including both break and lunch). If a phone is seen by a member of staff in the corridors or anywhere on school site it will be confiscated with no warning. These rules have been explained to students, and they are fully aware of this policy.

### **Punctuality and Attendance**

Students should be on school site and present in morning registration for 8.45am every morning (we advise that they should be on site by 8.30am to prepare for an 8.45am start). Late detentions will be held every Friday after school.

We will continue to monitor closely punctuality and attendance of all students. We will be in contact with parents should punctuality and attendance begin to raise concerns. Should the outcome of this fail to improve the situation I reserve the right to refer individual cases to the Local Authority Attendance Advisory Service.

I am a firm believer that top quality outcomes stem from hard work invested in every lesson and at home with study and revision. The students are here to work hard, learn and study but also enjoy themselves sensibly along the way. The demands of GCSE study are significant and part of an educational experience that requires commitment, hard work and an excellent attitude to learning. It

is vital that your child begins the year with the right attitude and maintains this consistent approach throughout the year in preparation for their exams. I urge all students to now set themselves a worthy goal and work towards it with single-minded determination and full commitment.

Thank you for your support with this information as we welcome the return to school for everyone. We look forward to working with you to achieve the best outcomes for our students and I wish them all a very successful year at Beths Grammar School.

If you have any questions or queries, then please do not hesitate to contact me (mrmcbeth@beths.bexley.sch.uk).

I look forward to seeing you all on the information evening on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September in the Main Hall.

Yours sincerely,

Mr R McBeth

**Senior Teacher** 

**Head of Key Stage 4 and 5** 

mrmcbeth@beths.bexley.sch.uk