



BIDDICK PARENT WEEKLY BULLETIN

Week Starting 14th September 2020

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WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW THIS WEEK?

Dear Parent/Carer,

It has been a pleasure to welcome back our students this week. I would like to thank all students, staff and parents for their fantastic support and cooperation in embracing and respecting significant changes to normal ways of working. I have spent the first full week of term assessing the measures that we have put in place to ensure that students and staff alike can study and work in a safe, clean, calm and ordered environment. I am satisfied that these measures are working and I am exceptionally impressed at the maturity of our students who are following new expectations, such as regular hand washing and adhering to one-way systems seriously.

Arriving/Leaving School

This term poses unique challenges due to COVID-19, remember that it is preferable for students to walk or cycle to school rather than arriving by car or bus. This is the safest option for their health and also helps us to reduce congestion in the car park. If your son/daughter must travel to school by public transport, they should wear a face covering and comply with social distancing wherever they can. Furthermore, we are encouraging students to wear a face mask when moving to and from year group zones in school.

Attendance

Attendance has been excellent so far this term and we hope that this continues. However, if your child does experience any of the following symptoms: a new, continuous cough, a high temperature or a loss of taste/smell, they should isolate at home and seek a Coronavirus test. Thank you for keeping us informed if this is the case.

Parent Meetings

At the present time, 'drop-in' visits to the Academy are not permitted due to health and safety. If you need to speak to a member of staff, please telephone and if necessary, an appointment can be arranged. These arrangements are in place to protect the health and safety of everyone in the Biddick Academy community. I'm sure you will have read about the increase in local cases and support us in taking every precaution to prevent the transmission of Coronavirus in school.

Parents' Evenings

We are currently putting in place alternative provision to replace our usual parents' evenings. Further details will follow in due course.

After School Learning

I have been very impressed by the eagerness that the students are showing when it comes to their learning. We are acutely aware that your child's education must now be enhanced in order to make up for any gaps that may have occurred over 'lockdown'. Our teachers have planned to cover a lot of content this term so please do expect exercise books to be filling up rapidly, for there to be plenty of homework and for lessons to be driven at pace. For Year 11 students, afterschool learning begins next week in Maths, English and Science.

Finally, a special welcome to our new parents of Year 7 students; what a delight the children have been this week – so smart and so very polite – a complete joy. I know that they will be hugely successful. Thank you once again for all that you do to support us at school.

Regards

Miss K. Morris
Headteacher



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School Meals

- Due to COVID-19 restrictions, schools meals must be pre-ordered. Students can bring a packed lunch and snacks.
 1. Click on the following link to order a school lunch online. The link can be found on our website under Parents/Parents Essentials/Meals.
[School Lunch Order Form for week starting 21st September 2020](#)
DEADLINE Wednesday 16th September 2020 at 9.00am
 2. Access the following link to log onto your ParentPay account to ensure there are sufficient funds for us to take payment once your child has had the school lunch.
<https://www.parentpay.com/parents>
 3. We automatically add daily **Free School Meal** allowances (£2.30 a day) to ParentPay using the information we receive from the Local Authority. If your child receives Free School Meals you will still need to place an order for a meal.

Year 7 Information

- **Message from Mrs Huntington – Head of Year 7**

First of all I would just like to say how well everyone is settling in under the current circumstances. I am very keen to start sharing our success, so if you have any pictures showing something that your child has achieved or is proud of, such as a club that they are involved in or a competition that they have won.

Please email them to huntington.s@biddickacademy.com and I will share these celebrations in our Year 7 Wall of Fame.

Year 10 Information

- **Revision Guides**

Miss Moore has collated some recommended Revision Guides for Year 10 students. Please click on the following link to access the Revision Guide order form. Payment by cash or cheque and completed forms should be return to the Student Office.
<http://www.biddickacademy.com/assets/Amended-revision-guides-for-parents-2020.pdf>

Year 11 Information

- **After School Learning**

After School Learning for Year 11 starts next week for English, maths and science on the following days:

 - Tuesday- Maths
 - Wednesday – English
 - Thursday - Science

Attendance to After School Learning will be rewarded with a reduction in the price of the Year 11 Prom which will take place in 2021.
- **Assessments**

Next week Year 11 students will be completing a Diagnostic Assessment in all of their subjects. These assessments will be taken in classrooms and the purpose is to understand where each individual student is in their learning. The results of these assessments will inform teachers' planning to ensure that students are receiving targeted support to move them forward in their learning and will not be used as a judgement against students' progress.