

11 July 2023

Dear Families,

### **Last day of term arrangements and expectations for September 2023**

As we draw near to the summer holidays, we would like to wish you and your family a wonderful a summer holiday, and thank you for your continued support. We know that working together to support your child is essential to their success so that we create a remarkable school where no child is left behind.

The last day of term will be **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> of July 2023**, and like previous years, it will be a 12 noon finish.

School buses will depart from school at 12.10pm

We expect that most families will allow their child to leave at the midday finish. If the school has not received any communication, it will automatically be recorded as consent for your child to leave at the intended midday finish.

If you wish for your child to remain in school, or if your child is eligible for a free school meal and you would like them to be provided with a packed lunch prior to leaving, by Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July, 2023 please email [office@beckfootthornton.org](mailto:office@beckfootthornton.org) Students will be asked to collect them as they leave school that day.

### **Arrangements for the Autumn Term: Important information:**

The Autumn term will begin on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023, for students in **Year 7** and **Year 11** only. This will allow our new students to settle in and for our new Year 11 students to get off to an excellent start to their final year preparations.

All other year groups will begin the Autumn term on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September.

A reminder that students are expected to be on site on the days above at 8:15am.

As part of our continued efforts to achieve a remarkable learning environment for all students, we would like to remind you of some considerations to your preparation for your child's September return.

### **Uniform Reminders for September**

We believe that uniform is extremely important and we pride ourselves on how smart our students look everyday. School uniform helps to promote equality, prepare students for the world of work, reduce bullying and allow pupils to concentrate on their learning. With this in mind, we aim for our uniform to be cost effective so that it also supports families who experience financial hardship. Families are expected to ensure students wear full and correct uniform properly. Please ensure your child is fully prepared to attend school each day on time and in the correct uniform, with a suitable sized bag so that it can contain their planner, equipment pack, PE kit and any other items that they may need such as ingredients.

- Sometimes, problems with uniform can occur. If this is the case, please contact the Head of Year and let them know. The school will then assist the student to borrow an item from the uniform store.
- Please note that some retailers badge some of their clothing as 'school uniform'; but it does not meet our expectations. If you are in any doubt, please check with school before making unnecessary purchases.

The required uniform is as follows. Please ensure you have read the Beckfoot Thornton Behaviour Protocols and Procedures: [Beckfoot Thornton - Local Policies](#)

- Plain black leather, or leatherette shoes with no visible logos, pattern, or colours - no other footwear is permitted including suede shoes, boots, high heeled shoes, or trainers e.g. Nike Air Force Ones. Those with accessories attached to laces will be asked to remove them. Students are expected to wear smart shoes.
- Plain black trousers with a button and zip fastening. They should be either a loose or a tailored fit that cover their legs entirely (no flesh should be visible) – they should not be elasticated or have logos or patterns on them.
- A school tie which is fastened to a sensible length (6 stripes showing).
- A plain white, collared shirt that has a fastening top button.
- A school blazer with the logo on.
- Plain blue or black socks that fully cover the ankle
- A navy blue school jumper is optional. However, it should never be used to replace a blazer.
- A coloured year group badge. These will be given out to students on the first day for free. Any subsequent replacements will cost 20p, and will be available to be purchased by students from our stationery shop.
- Any extreme haircuts or styles, shaved patterns or lines, undercuts or unnatural hair colours are deemed inappropriate. Students are only allowed to have one natural hair colour.
- Only one single set of small studded earrings are permitted in the lobe of the ear. No other piercings are permitted.
- No other jewellery besides a wristwatch is permitted.
- Make-up (including fake tan) false eyelashes or acrylic, gel or nail varnish is not permitted.

Thank you in advance for supporting our expectations.

### **Equipment Reminders for September**

On their first day of the Autumn term, we will provide all students in year 7 with an equipment pack which includes highlighter, mini whiteboard, mini whiteboard pen, a mini whiteboard rubber, a glue stick, a knowledge organisers and a wallet to keep these in. All other equipment (see below) needs to be provided by families. This allows time to be used effectively in lessons and not be wasted organising equipment.

All other year groups are expected to bring their packs from this year back with them, and if required, replacement whiteboard pens and glue sticks will be provided on their return to school. Additional replacements, such as the wallet or whiteboard, can be purchased from our equipment shop at a low cost. If the students whiteboard is no longer fit for purpose, they will be asked to purchase a new one by their tutor. **Students are reminded of the need to keep previous years knowledge organisers so they have them for future revision as all assessments build up each year.**

Parents, carers, and students have previously highlighted that it is sometimes difficult to get to stationery shops, or supermarkets to purchase replacements at short notice. Also, that purchasing items on ParentPay can be problematic for small items. As a school, we have already created an onsite equipment shop that is open each day at 8:00-8:15am in reception and at break time. We sell all necessary items at cost price and offer free replacements throughout the year for some of the more expensive items. All basic items are available to buy with cash, at the cheapest rate possible.

Over the holidays, we are asking you to support your child by ensuring they have the necessary equipment. The basic essentials that need to be provided by families are as follows:

- Blue or Black Pen
- Ruler
- Rubber
- Pencil
- Pencil Sharpener
- Red and Green Pen
- Year group coloured badge
- Calculator

Students can also collect free glue sticks, highlighters and whiteboard pens from reception before school or at breaktime (up to 3 times a year). If you need a whole replacement equipment pack, these can be purchased on ParentPay for £3 and can be collected from reception.



## Stationery Shop Price List

Student Equipment			Equipment Pack Items			Year Group Badges		
Biro Pen	5p		Whiteboard Pen	£1		Year 7 Badge	20p	
Pencil	5p		Glue Stick	25p		Year 8 Badge	20p	
Small Ruler	5p		Highlighter Pen	20p		Year 9 Badge	20p	
Big Ruler	15p		Mini Whiteboard	£1		Year 10 Badge	20p	
Sharpener	10p		Calculator	£6		Year 11 Badge	20p	
Plastic Wallet	£1							

Open in reception - 8:05-8:15 before school and at break times.

## Attendance Reminders

Research going back many years has consistently told us, not surprisingly that families are the most important people in their children's lives. Working together we are very proud of the progress we have made to ensure that every student attends school and reaches their full potential. High attendance drives success whilst low attendance will result in unsatisfactory progress. Regular attendance at school is vital to help your child achieve and get the best possible start in life.

We expect all students to attend every day and arrive on time; to be punctual to all lessons; and to give messages from parents with regards to absence to Form Tutors. We also expect Parents/carers to ensure that your child understands the importance of good attendance and as such I would like to remind you of the following:

- It is a legal requirement to ensure your child attends regularly and punctually every day the school is open, unless they are too ill to do so.
- You need to:
  - immediately inform the School if your child is unable to attend, the reason for absence and expected date of return (before 8.00 am)
  - confirm the reason in writing on your child's return. A space for absence notes is provided in the Student Planner.
- Parents/carers should contact the School on each day of absence.
- Do not keep your child away from school for any reason other than illness. **Routine dental/medical appointments need to be made outside of school hours.**
- Parents do not have the right to take their child out of school during term time so please do not arrange holidays during term time as they will miss out on vital learning. We cannot grant any requests for holiday during term time.

We make no apologies for high standards around attendance and punctuality and we ask that families support us with this by ensuring that their child is in school every day, on time and able to access the education that they are entitled to. Students must be in school by 8.15am, at the very latest, every day. Once our clock says 8:20am a child is late to school and will be issued with a detention after school that day. If a child arrives after registration closes this is classed as an unauthorised access

## Homework

We know from research that practicing and recalling knowledge taught allows students to achieve great things. All students are set regular homework in all year groups and for all subjects. All homework tasks are based around remembering the information taught in school and it is essential that students complete it. Families can check the homework that has been set on Show My Homework and it shows a child that home and school has high aspirations for their success. This year we have been implementing break and afterschool detentions for students who do not complete homework. This will be rolled out to all students in Y8, Y9, Y10 and Y11 as soon as we return in September, and will be introduced once Y7 students are able to log on and know our expectations.

## Rewards

We are very excited about the new rewards system that we will be launching in September. This has been designed with the help of a number of students and focuses on their achievements beyond the learning habits that we expect of them every day. Further information about these will be sent home in the new academic year.

We wish you all a restful safe and enjoyable summer holiday and look forward to welcoming your child back on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023, for students in **Year 7** and **Year 11** only at 8:15am. All other year groups will begin the Autumn term on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September at 8:15am.

For help during school holidays, please follow the link below:

[Beckfoot Trust - Support for families](#)

Yours sincerely



Mrs S Trusselle

Headteacher