

Sixth Form Bulletin

Welcome back to Backwell Sixth Form, please see below for a list of information ...

... next week (Week 2):

Tuesday 15 September	Year 12 School Photograph Day
	Volunteers needed! School Photograph Day Year 12 and 13 students are needed to help with collecting classes around the school. We need 2-3 per period from 9.10. Please let Mrs Belcher (ybelcher@backwellschool.net) know if you are interested.
	AI Tutoring Launch KS5 18.30 in Main Theatre.
Wednesday 16 September	Year 13 Parent and Carers Information Evening 6.00pm in the Backwell School Main Theatre (Please note venue change).
Thursday 17 September	Early Finish at 1.30 pm for Open evening
Friday 18 September	INSET Day – No students in School

Term 1 2026/27:

Monday 21 September	Sixth Form deadline for UCAS applications to Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science, Oxford and Cambridge
Friday 02 October	EPQ: Record of initial ideas complete
W/C 19 October	Year 12 & 13 Reports due home
Thursday 29 October - Sunday 1 November	Year 13 Trip to Iceland

Term 2 2026/27:

Wed 04, Friday 06 & Mon 09 November	GCSE Maths Exam Resits
Monday 06 November	Sixth Form deadline for all UCAS applications (to guarantee submission by Christmas)
30 November – 03 December	Y13 Trial Exams
Thursday 10 December	First Year 12 Parents Evening

NOTICES AND REMINDERS:

Sixth Form Canteen hours are now 09.15 - 14.15 . Breakfast is still available in the main dining centre which has been refurbished over the summer. Students are also welcome to go to the main dining centre at lunch-time to get a main meal.

Signing in and out We now have a new iPad in the foyer of the Sixth Form for signing in and out for **Home Study only**. All other signing in and out should be via the Reception.

Accessing Frog from Home / Own Devices In school on a school computer/school wifi – you only need your login id (eg 21abcDef) and password. From home, go to www.frog.backwellschool.net and enter your full Backwell School email address (eg 21abcDef@backwellschool.net) but **not** your password. Click to sign in and then you will be asked again for your username and password on an authorisation

page. Select “do not show this message again” and “keep me signed in” - you should only have to do this process once. You can also download the app!

Access Control Cards and Lanyards: Please keep your card safe. Cards are registered to each student as an individual and are your responsibility. You should not give your card to another student or anyone else. Lost or stolen cards should be reported to Mrs Belcher in the Sixth Form office immediately, so that she can order a replacement – you will be charged £5 to cover the cost via ParentPay.

Year 12 Students will be issued with their permanent passes after the photographs are taken next week.

Get Involved

- Sixth Form production = Fame (**auditions TBC**)
- Student Council – Two Year 12 reps required
- Senior students
- Sixth Form committee **Days/Time TBC** – Y13 only until end Sept
- Charity committee (Miss Haywood TBC)
- Diversity committee (Mr Feven TBC)
- DofE , Music groups, KS5 Sports clubs, Debate club, Christian Union, **any new clubs?**
- Use the suggestion box on FROG or in the SF Theatre foyer – can be anonymous

Houses

Rock	Paper	Scissors
Miss Haywood	Mrs Hobbs	Mr Feven
12-1, 12-4, 12-7 13-1, 13-4,	12-2, 12-5 13-2, 13-5	12-3, 12-6 13-3, 13-6

House Points can be won by:

- House Matches
- University Challenge
- Completion of D of E stages
- Co-curricular achievements and significant contributions to the Sixth Form or school
- Tutor groups: Fewest lates/best attendance/most green buttons
- We are open to ideas about other ways to earn House Points

16-19 Bursary Fund: The 16-19 Bursary Fund is available to post-16 students who are in receipt of Free School Meals or whose parents/carers receive Universal Credit. Application forms are available from the Sixth Form office. For further information, please contact finance@backwellschool.net

Why should you keep up with the news?

- Might help with studies (History, Bus & Econ, Sociology, MFL etc)
- Uni applications/interviews/tests – wider contextual knowledge

- Employability – knowing about the world is cultural capital. Helpful in incidental conversations in the workplace but also at interviews etc
- Discursive/debate skills
- Be prepared to vote once 18 – making an informed choice
- Knowing what issues you care about and which political parties you support, which ideologies you oppose
- You can take action and make a difference (write to your MP, protest, join a university society etc)

On this you could get involved with **NEB Student Programme** – a civil empowerment programme for 16-18s based on the People’s Emergency Briefing. For more information please [click here](#)

Microsoft Office 365: Backwell students have complete free access to the Microsoft Office 365 package. Once downloaded, it can be fully installed on a PC, Mac, tablet and phone. It gives full access to Word, Excel, PowerPoint, OneNote, Outlook and Access. View the download instructions on Frog for further details.

WiFi access issues: Please see instructions in Frog and on the Sixth Form screens. If you experience any problems, please go to IT.

School Emails: Please check your school emails every day.

Parking Permits:

- Students can apply for a Parking Permit on passing their driving test. Please collect a form from the Sixth Form office. All applications are reviewed on an individual basis, with priority given to those living furthest away.
- Students may only bring a car or motorcycle onto the school site with a valid permit.
- If you drive to school and don’t have a permit, you must park off site. Please do so sensibly and give consideration to Backwell residents. Do not park in narrow roads, such as Russett Close and Mulberry Close, as this blocks access for emergency vehicles

FUTURE PLANS

Careers Bulletin: Please see the ‘Future Plans and Application Support’ page on Frog for the latest Careers Bulletin, resources, events, support and the school’s careers platform, Unifrog. If you have any queries regarding future plans, please contact Ms Farr at jfarr@backwellschool.net.

Future Learn: FREE online short courses. Ideal for students wishing to broaden study around a subject or research an area of interest. They only take up to a couple of hours a week; you can sign up at any time. Useful when applying to university to enhance your personal statement. Visit <https://www.futurelearn.com>

University Open Days:

- Where possible, please attend open days on Saturdays/at weekends, rather than on a school day.
- You are allowed a maximum of five days’ absence to attend open days throughout Years 12 and 13.

- You must submit a planned absence form in advance of any open day you wish to attend (not the day before or after the event!) to allow time for approval/permission by teachers and the Sixth Form Team.

For more information on open days please see <https://www.opendays.com/calendar/>

HEALTH AND WELLBEING:

Please see the Wellbeing Link on the Sixth Form Page for more information and self-referral for support.

- At home – talk to friends or family, use wellbeing online resources (Kooth, YoungMinds, etc).
- At school – see/email Mrs Hobbs who can arrange a time to talk or signpost students to various support networks. You can also talk to/email your Tutor, Head of Year or Teachers.
- Anonymous and confidential support – there are many support agencies who make time to talk:
<https://youngminds.org.uk/find-help/get-urgent-help/youngminds-crisis-messenger/#youngminds-crisis-messenger>
<https://www.themix.org.uk/get-support>
<https://giveusashout.org/get-help/>
www.kooth.com
<https://www.bdp.org.uk>
<https://www.childline.org.uk>
<https://www.otrbristol.org.uk>

For more tips on talking to others and looking after your own mental health, go to the Wellbeing page on Frog, which is regularly updated by Mrs Hobbs.

- ***“Practise self-care”*** [What Is Self-Care? | Self-Care And Mental Health | YoungMinds](#)
- [Student Health Guide](#) for lots of helpful advice
- **Sexual Health Advice:** Talk to a trusted adult, the School Nurse or your GP or visit:
<https://www.brook.org.uk>
<https://yunosexualhealth.co.uk>