



4 December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Informing the school of a positive COVID-19 result

Should your child receive a positive result following a COVID-19 test please can you inform the school straight away. You can email absence@backwellschool.net putting 'COVID-19 results' as the email subject. If possible a message/phone call to the absence line (01275 464188) as well would be appreciated. Following notification of a positive result a senior member of staff will get in touch with you as soon as possible to ask a few questions to assist with Track and Trace.

We would ask that if your child is confirmed to be positive for COVID-19 this is not shared, by yourself or your child, with others via social media/text messaging. This causes anxiety for other families and can lead to confusion and rumours spreading regarding self-isolation which are difficult to manage.

A reminder that if somebody in your household is waiting for the results of a COVID-19 test your child(ren) should not attend school until the results have been received.

Examinations 2021

The Government have released further support measures this week for students sitting GCSE and Post-16 examinations in the summer.

These include:

- Generous grading in line with national outcomes from 2020, so students are not disadvantaged.
- Advance notice of some topics covered in in GCSE, AS and A-levels to focus revision.
- Exam aids, such as formula sheets, in "some exams".
- Additional exams as a second chance for students to sit a paper if they miss the main exam because of illness or self-isolation. (Please note the contingency period for these exams has been confirmed as 28 June – 16 July 2021. We would advise families to exercise extreme caution when planning a family holiday if your children are sitting exams in summer 2021. We would strongly recommend that you avoid booking anything during that period).

[Click here](#) to read the full statement from Gavin Williamson, Education Minister.

Further information on many elements in the announcement are still required. I will of course update you all when we receive more details over the coming months.

Student Voice: Survey set as home learning

Next week all students will be set a home learning assignment, via Frog, to complete an online feedback survey.

We wish to gather students' views on their lessons to help us improve their school and classroom experience.

This will be launched with students in Tutor Time, and uploaded to Frog, on Tuesday - please ensure your child completes this survey by the end of term.

We will circulate the results in Term 3 and we will conduct a parental voice survey later this academic year.

Mr J Nunes
Headteacher

Careers Bulletin

Please find below a link to the Careers Bulletin on our school website. This bulletin includes a section on online and virtual careers resources, including the school's online careers platform, Unifrog.

[Current careers events and opportunities \(4 December 2020\)](#)

If you have any queries regarding future plans Mrs Ball can be contacted on her school email cball@backwellschool.net.

Upcoming Events

Thursday 10 December	Deadline for applications to join the Sixth Form in September. Prospective students must <u>apply online</u> via the website.
Friday 18 December	Last day of term. Non-school uniform day in aid of the local food bank.
Monday 4 January	Back to school!
Thursday 14 January	Year 12 Parents' Evening
18 – 22 January	Year 11 Trial Exams

Thursday 21 January	Year 10 Parents' Evening
25 – 29 January	Year 13 Trial Exams
Thursday 28 January	Year 9 Options Presentation Evening
Thursday 4 February	Year 9 Parents' Evening

LETTERS HOME ...

[Sixth Form Bulletin for week commencing 7 December 2020](#) – Parents/Carers of Sixth Form students

[GCSE History – Revision Support](#) - Parents/Carers of Year 11 History students

[GCSE 2021 Geography Examination – Revision Support Materials](#) - Parents/Carers of Year 11 Geography students

[Covid-19 case: update for the school community](#) – All Parents/Carers