



Bishop Wordsworth's School

Exeter Street, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP1 2ED

Telephone: 01722 333851

Fax: 01722 325899

E-mail: admin@bws.wilts.sch.uk

Website: www.bws-school.org.uk

Head Master: Dr S D Smallwood BSc (Hons) PhD NPQH

13 December 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians

As we head rapidly towards the Christmas holidays, I write to you with news of changes and events in BWS Sixth Form that are taking place in the near future.

We are making a few tweaks to the way the Sixth Form operates on a day-to-day basis from January. Some of this is refinement of what we have been doing to make life easier for both students and teachers, and other changes (such as the introduction of more study space) are new, in order to help support our students as we edge closer to the key exam period. I would be grateful if you could take the time to read through the attached details about the school routine and expectations, and discuss with your son.

You will also find below a brief calendar of events for the first half of the Spring Term. More details about these events are on the school calendar or, where relevant, will be sent out nearer the time. For the Year 13s, the A-Level mocks (14th-17th January) are particularly important. During this time, Year 13 students are on study leave and providing they don't have an exam, can leave the site or remain at home. If they do want to stay in school, the Golding Study Room will be open for their use at any point during the school day.

Finally, I am delighted to announce that we have appointed a new Head of Year 13 to work alongside Mrs Gough (Head of Year 12). Dr Maunder is an experienced Chemist and teacher, and will be joining the team from January. All contact details for the Sixth Form team are below, please feel free to contact any of us with any queries.

In the meantime, have a very merry Christmas and we look forward to welcoming the Sixth Formers back on 6th January.

Yours faithfully

Zoe Lambard
Head of Sixth Form

Attached: Contact details for Sixth Form team
Calendar for first half of Spring Term
Sixth Form Routines and Expectations

Contact details for the Sixth Form team:

Telephone: 01722 333851

Zoe Lambard	Head of Sixth Form	zhl@bws.wilts.sch.uk
Amanda Gough	Head of Year 12	aig@bws.wilts.sch.uk
Colette Maunder	Head of Year 13	cmm@bws.wilts.sch.uk
Susie Stoneham	Pastoral Care / Admissions	sls@bws.wilts.sch.uk
Sally Armstrong	Careers Leader and Adviser	saa@bws.wilts.sch.uk

Key dates for first half of Spring Term

January

6th – School reopens after the Christmas Break

8th - Deadline for UCAS applications (Year 13 only)

14th-17th – Year 13 Mock Examinations*. Year 13 students are on study leave for this period, but can also freely use the study rooms.

14th – Head Masters Lecture: Gavin Jackson, Financial Times* (Year 12 only)

15th – Cathedral Assembly* (Year 12 only)

21st – Higher Education talk* (Year 12 only, 9.05am in the Chapel)

21st – Senior prefects lunch* (Senior prefects only – cookery room)

29th – EPQ talk: Dr Richard Penny from the University of Southampton* (EPQ students only 1.30-2.30pm, Sixth Form Common Room)

29th – Aric Sigmund talk on Dependency: Drugs, alcohol and mental health* (Year 12s only, The Chapel)

29th – Year 12 UCAS information evening (Year 12 only)

February

w/c 3rd – Year 13 mock results published

6th – Year 13 Parent consultation evening

11th – Cathedral Assembly* (Year 12 and Year 13)

13th – Oxbridge information evening (Year 12)

14th – Higher Education and Careers Conference* (Year 12)

14th – Last day (first half of Spring term)

* Events marked with an asterix are mandatory attendance for the assigned group.

Sixth Form Routine and Expectations

Daily Routine

We will continue with the following daily routine:

- Registration by thumbprint at 8.40am on the following mornings, otherwise 9am for lessons.
 - o Mondays (Year 13s only) – briefing & notices
 - o Tuesday (Year 12 and 13) – Sixth Form Assembly
 - o Wednesday (only the relevant house) – House assembly
 - o Friday (Year 12 only) – briefing & notices
- Whole School assembly continues to take place at 12.50pm on a Wednesday.

All assemblies and gatherings listed are part of school life. Where students don't attend they miss important notices and a valuable part of their wider education. They are therefore mandatory attendance unless the student is ill or has informed the Sixth Form office (preferably using the Insight form). **Unexplained non-attendance will be treated as truanting.**

Timetables and Independent Study Periods (frees)

Students in Year 13 are given freedom to leave the school during their independent study periods, or come in late / go home early as appropriate. From January, we cannot have students absent for a whole morning or afternoon session without prior permission. This means some students will find their timetables slightly altered on their return to make sure they don't have 4 independent study periods in a row. We will be reissuing timetables in January, but if there are exceptional circumstances that may affect this, please let one of the Sixth Form team know.

Study areas and other Sixth Form spaces

The Common Room is being redesigned as a relaxed working space. This means that from January, the table tennis table and football table, much loved by the boys, will have a new home in a "Games Room". This will be open from lunchtime only as we hope that the boys will be studying hard in the morning!

We are hoping to get together a collection of relevant magazines and / or newspapers in the Common Room for students to browse during their free time. We would love to include titles such as The Week; New Scientist etc. The Common Room fund will pay for one or two, but if you have any magazines etc. on subscription that you wouldn't mind passing on to the school once read, we'd be really grateful if you could send them in with your son.

In addition to the Common Room space where boys will still be allowed to chat and eat lunch, we will be opening the downstairs study room (SSR) in the mornings before school, and the upstairs study room (GSR) at lunchtimes. These are quiet spaces where students may not talk loudly or eat, but I hope it will provide a respite for students who need a little peace and quiet during the busy school day.

To clarify, from January, Sixth Form students will have the following places to go to (providing they are kept in good order):

Before school: SSR; library; ICT2; common room; canteen

Morning break: Library; ICT2; common room; canteen

Lunchtime: GSR; library; ICT2; common room; canteen; games room (E9)

Afternoon break: Library; ICT2; common room; canteen; games room (E9)