

BSF Newsletter—Summer Half-Term 2



Key Dates

Year 13 Results Day: Thursday 13th August 2026

We look forward to welcoming our Year 13 students back on Results Day as they eagerly open their A Level results. Our dedicated Sixth Form team will be on hand throughout the day, offering specialist progression support to ensure every student is fully supported and that their next steps – whether university, apprenticeships, or employment – are confidently and securely in place.

First Day Arrangements: Monday 7 September 2026

We look forward to welcoming our **Year 13 students** back on **Monday 7 September 2026** as they begin their final academic year in the Sixth Form.

The day will commence with a keynote address in the **KS4 Assembly Hall at 12:45pm**, where students will be welcomed by the Sixth Form Leadership Team and introduced to the opportunities, expectations and key priorities for the year ahead.

Following the keynote, students will meet with their form tutors and form groups, where they will take part in a Year 13 induction programme. This will provide important information about the academic year, key dates, university and apprenticeship application timelines, student leadership opportunities, wellbeing support, and the high standards expected as they prepare for their next steps beyond sixth form.

We are excited to welcome students back and look forward to supporting them through what promises to be a rewarding and successful final year.

Until then, we wish all of our students a wonderful and restful summer break.

Best wishes,

Mr A Islam

Vice Principal, Head of BSF

Mr R Sokhal

Assistant Principal, KS5

Mr H Williamson

Assistant Principal, KS5

Ms N Matharu

Assistant Principal, KS5

Mr W Luck

Assistant Principal, KS5

Mr T Mooney, Ms S Butt, Ms E Elliot

Head of Year 12, Deputy Head of Year 12, SEND Deputy Head of Year 12

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Mr Herga, Ms Patel

Head of Year 13, SEND Deputy Head of Year 12

Spotlight: Personal Development @ BSF

The final half term of the academic year has concluded as strongly as it began at Beal Sixth Form. Following enrolment on GCSE Results Day in August and a successful induction at the start of term, our Year 12 students are now looking ahead to Year 13 and the exciting opportunities and challenges that lie ahead — including UCAS, university applications, apprenticeships, and preparing for life beyond sixth form (and examinations!)

Our Personal Development Programme has grown from strength to strength, reflecting our maintained commitment not only to delivering a world-class education but also to helping students develop beyond the classroom. Students at BSF are encouraged to take an active role in their own personal development and engage with a wide range of opportunities throughout the year, and their participation in this year's First Give presentations exemplifies just that.

First Give @BSF

On Friday 10th July 2026, the whole of Year 12 came together for our First Give Final — the culmination of a term of social action work in which every form worked with a local or national charity to research, raise awareness of, and campaign around a social issue that matters to them. Each form presented their project to a live panel of judges, competing for the title of this year's First Give winner.

We were delighted to welcome an outstanding panel of judges to assess this year's presentations:

- Isaac Jones — Director of First Give
- Gavin Stollar OBE
- Ricky Sokhal — Assistant Principal
- Zacheriya Hussain — Head Boy, Year 9

Throughout the programme, students explored real-world social issues, chose a charity to support, and then planned and carried out their own social action projects. The 10 forms represented a range of social issues including gang violence, domestic violence, food insecurity, mental health and homelessness. The variety and thoughtfulness of their ideas were brilliant — from games luncheons and penalty shootouts, to handing out awareness posters. The energy, effort, and care that went into each project were clear for all to see.

Before the final judging event, students took part in a public speaking workshop led by First Give. The enthusiasm they showed was fantastic — they were eager to learn how to speak with impact, and really took on board how to refine their delivery and represent their causes with pride.

The final event was a real celebration of their hard work. Every team spoke with passion and purpose.

The winning form, 12WA, represented the Bin Knives, Save Lives trust. They earned their charity a well-deserved £1,000

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Duke of Edinburgh Silver Expedition @BSF

What's more, as part of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) programme, a group of Year 12 and Year 11 students from Beal High School, alongside Year 10 students from The Forest Academy (TFA), took part in an exciting expedition this half term.

On the morning of 1 July, students set off from The Forest Academy before making their way to Thriftwood Scout Campsite and Activity Centre in Brentwood, Essex, where they completed their expedition. Students spent two nights camping in tents and were challenged to prepare and cook their own breakfast and evening meals using only methylated spirits as a fuel source.

Despite the warm conditions, students demonstrated impressive resilience, teamwork, and independence throughout the trip. Their map-reading abilities, walking skills, and camp-cooking techniques were particularly commendable. One TFA student showed exceptional maturity in managing blisters caused by the day's walking, maintaining a positive attitude and continuing to support the group.

The Beal and TFA students quickly formed strong friendships and enjoyed the full campsite experience together, including a lively game of *Mafia* — inspired by the popular television programme *The Traitors*. The expedition was a great success and a fantastic opportunity for students to develop confidence, leadership, and practical life skills. It was also wonderful to see the campsite ducks return to greet the Beal students, just as they did during last year's expedition!

Spotlight: Progression Week @ BSF

From the 22nd June to the 26th June Year 12 pupils were engaged in a variety of activities to enable students to be as fully prepared for life after Beal High School as they possibly could be.

On the Monday, BSF hosted a Careers Fair in the KS3 Hall, providing students with a valuable opportunity to explore a wide range of future pathways and engage directly with employers, universities, training providers, and other professionals. The event was extremely well attended, with students taking the opportunity to ask questions, gather information, and learn more about the

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BEAL SIXTH FORM

different routes available to them beyond sixth form. Below is a quote from one of our Sixth Formers:

'The careers fair was a really valuable experience — representatives from a range of universities and colleges were all gathered in one hall, making it easy to explore different options in one visit. I had the chance to walk around and speak directly with staff about courses, entry requirements, and what student life is actually like. Overall, it was a great opportunity to get genuine, face-to-face information that helped me feel more confident about my next steps.'



Tuesday and Wednesday saw students take part in university visits to either Queen Mary University of London or City St George's, University of London, giving them the opportunity to experience life as a university student and gain a valuable insight into higher education.

During the visits, students attended a university-style taster lecture, allowing them to experience the academic expectations and learning environment of undergraduate study. They also took part in guided tours of the campuses, exploring the facilities, study spaces, and wider university environment.



The trips provided students with an opportunity to ask questions, broaden their understanding of university life, and begin to consider what they might look for in a future institution. For many students, it was an inspiring experience that helped bring the possibility of higher education to life and encouraged them to think more confidently about their next steps beyond BSF.

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Students also benefited from a range of guidance sessions designed to support them with their future applications and decision-making. Members of the Sixth Form team, alongside subject specialists, delivered workshops on writing effective personal statements, helping students understand how to showcase their skills, experiences, and aspirations in preparation for university applications.

In addition, students were supported in navigating the UCAS application process, including guidance on accessing and using the UCAS platform. In addition, they attended

sessions focused on university finance, providing important information about student finance, budgeting, and the costs associated with higher education.

To further support students in exploring their options, they were introduced to both Unifrog and the UCAS search tools, enabling them to research suitable university courses, apprenticeships, and alternative pathways. Specialist sessions were also organised for students considering highly competitive career routes, including Medicine, Dentistry, and Veterinary Science (MDV), as well as members of the Highfliers group. These sessions provided tailored advice and guidance, including valuable insights from current students at University of Cambridge, who shared their experiences and advice on preparing successful applications.

A huge thank you to the BSF team in ensuring that the week provided students with such a comprehensive and enriching experience. The success of the week was a true reflection of the commitment and collaboration of everyone involved.

Spotlight: Introducing the Private Study Space Programme @BSF

We are delighted to announce that from September, Beal Sixth Form will be launching the Private Study Space Programme, a new initiative designed to support students in developing greater independence, responsibility and the professional habits needed for success beyond sixth form. The programme recognises and rewards students who demonstrate strong attitudes to learning, commitment, attendance and self-regulation.

The programme features four levels – **Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum** – with students progressing through each stage as they demonstrate increasing independence and academic commitment. The programme will provide a range of study environments, from structured supported spaces for students developing independent study skills to premium study areas for those demonstrating exceptional commitment and maturity, reflected in consistently outstanding attendance and punctuality. This initiative reflects BSF's commitment to preparing students for competitive universities, apprenticeships and future careers while ensuring every student receives the support and recognition they need to

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succeed.



Attendance

It is therefore timely to remind you of the crucial importance of sixth form attendance. At BSF, we expect every sixth former to maintain a minimum attendance rate of **95%** and to arrive punctually for every lesson, every day.

Research consistently demonstrates a strong correlation between attendance and academic achievement. Students whose attendance falls below **90%** are at significant risk of achieving up to two grades lower than their target grades. Regular attendance ensures that students benefit from high-quality teaching, participate fully in learning, and remain on track to achieve their potential.

Students and parents/carers share the responsibility for ensuring excellent attendance. Where absence is unavoidable, it is essential that the correct reporting procedures are followed promptly.

Please also note that progression from Year 12 to Year 13 is dependent upon students maintaining a minimum attendance rate of 90%, alongside meeting the academic expectations of their courses.

Revised statutory guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) about Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) Policy:

In July 2025, the Department for Education published updated statutory guidance on Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education. The new guidance comes into effect on **1 September 2026** and is [here](#).

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To ensure our curriculum long term plans match these national updates, we have conducted our statutory review of the BMAT RSE Policy. As a Trust, our schools proactively keep up to date with modern safeguarding trends, and we know our active curriculum and the support we provide our students already fully meet all the new requirements. Our approach is unchanged as we continue to deliver RSE through the Personal Development and the Science curriculum, taught by staff who know your children. The updated BMAT RSE Policy is available to view on our websites and a link is [here](#).