



Bishop's Hatfield Girls' School

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Friday 7th July 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we approach the end of the academic year, it is a time both for reflection and also for looking forward to the new year ahead with all the opportunities it will bring. May we take this opportunity to acknowledge and commend the excellent attitudes that year 10 have shown throughout their recent assessment period - many staff have commented on the mature and dedicated approach they have taken over the past few weeks. We're also sure that pupils are looking forward to their Work Experience placements, and the opportunities and experiences that this will bring to them. We wish them all the best of luck with this next week.

Year 11 is a year of academic preparation for final examinations, but it is also an important time where pupils think about and plan for their next steps in education and life post-16. We are proud of our Sixth Form offer, both in terms of our high quality teaching and the wider experiences our pupils are able to participate in. Our Sixth Form is the biggest it has ever been but we are always looking to offer more and improve how we support and guide our pupils carefully through this important period of transition. We are therefore holding an 'Aspire Sixth Form Day' on Thursday 20th July. This day is as it suggests - pupils will be able to be one of our Sixth Formers for the day! During this day, they will find out all about life and study post-16, and will also be able to wear Sixth Form clothes, and take over our Sixth Form areas of the school (the common room, study area, the Sixth Form canteen area).

The timing of the day will follow the usual school day, and run as follows:

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| Registration time, Lessons 1 and 2 | Pupils will attend a presentation in the Hall introducing the day, followed by a series of short carousels focusing 'Being a successful Sixth Former' |
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"Pupils flourish and support each other to succeed"

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| Lessons 3 -5 | Pupils will attend their normal lessons but the lessons will run with a Sixth Form twist. Pupils will have the opportunity to take part in lessons with learning activities that reflect more of a post-16 classroom environment, or will be given the opportunity to learn more about the post-16 curriculum. |
| Lesson 6 | Pupils will return to the Hall for a final session with staff, which will include present and past Sixth Formers |

Being a Sixth Former means different, although similarly high, expectations for conduct. Our Sixth Formers are role models for our younger pupils who look up to them. There is no school uniform but we still have very clear expectations about what constitutes professional dress suitable for a school and work environment. The dress code can be found on the Sixth Form area of our website - the link is also here <https://bishophatfield.herts.sch.uk/dress-code/>. Year 10s will also be given a link to this on their year group Google Classroom. We expect pupils to dress smartly and appropriately - and if they have any doubts about what they should wear, we ask them to please speak to Mrs James before the day.

Another key difference will be that pupils can use their mobile phones in any of the designated Sixth Form spaces when they are not in sessions, or lessons, or with a member of staff. Mobile phones are strictly limited to these areas only. Phones should not be seen in corridors, in any lessons or form rooms, or in and around school at any other time. Staff will be able to confiscate phones if they see them being used inappropriately.

We very much hope the pupils will enjoy the experience of being a Sixth Former for the day. In the Autumn term, when pupils return, we will talk to them about their subject choices and they will have a choice of taster lessons to attend to find out more about the academic curriculum. I would also like to take the opportunity to make you aware of the upcoming date of Thursday 9th November, which is our post-16 evening for pupils, parents and carers, where you are invited to find out more information about our Sixth Form and the application process to join us.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Deborah Hughes
Deputy Headteacher

Mrs Elaine James
Head of Sixth Form