

Dear Parents and Carers of students in Year 11,

I hope that you have all had a great summer break and that your child is looking forward to returning to Beths for Year 11, the final year of GCSE study. This letter is intended to bring to your attention a number of key reminders as well as information on new matters. I have kept this as succinct as possible, however please do take the time to read this carefully with your child as it is intended to provide absolute clarity and transparency on our expectations and standards as a school.

**First day arrangements** – Following a negative lateral flow test completed on the Friday, all students are expected to be on school site for a prompt 8.45am start on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September in full school uniform. Students are permitted to enter the site from 8.20am onwards and should enter the school site via the West gate, however for year 11 this year they are permitted to exit the school site at the end of the day via the East drive. Form rooms are as follows;

Form group	Room
11A	M4
11B	M5
11C	M6
11E	M7
11H	S5
11W	S6

**Uniform and appearance** - In the last academic year due to restrictions at the time we were more lenient than normal with uniform standards. However, for this year we ask that all students arrive to school every day wearing the correct uniform. This consists of:

- A Beths school blazer.
- White school shirt (please ensure that the collar size enables the top button to be fastened comfortably at all times).
- The correct house tie (or honours tie).
- Dark grey proper school trousers. Not black jeans. Should your child wish to wear a belt it should be black leather with a sensible buckle.
- Black or dark grey school socks. White sports socks are for games lessons only.
- Proper black school shoes (polished regularly).

We ask that the school uniform is washed regularly and that every student takes pride in their appearance. Hooded tops are not permitted to be worn anywhere on school site. These will be confiscated and parents will be asked to collect them from reception.

Please do not contact the school to challenge a confiscated item as this letter gives warning in advance of our expectations regarding uniform.

**Trial Exams** - All students in year 11 will sit formal trial exams across all subjects on the following weeks:

- First round – Starting week beginning **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2021** to Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2021.
- Second round – Starting week beginning **Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2022** to Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2022.

I will write to you separately nearer the time with a full exam timetable for the arrangements of that week.

**Parents Evenings** – These will take place virtually on **Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2021 and Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2022**. Parents evening bookings will be sent to you nearer the time.

**Beths Grammar School Sixth Form** – This year the students will be working towards the completion of 10 GCSEs with the intention that they progress onto a post 16 course. Almost all of our students progress into our very popular and oversubscribed sixth form every year. As your child is currently enrolled as a Beths student he automatically has a “reserved place” in our sixth form for entry in September 2022 on the conditions that they meet the entry requirements. The remaining places will go to students from other schools across London who wish to study at the school. As we are a large sixth form we are therefore able to offer more A-Level courses which are often not available in some other schools. We offer a rich and broad curriculum of A-Levels as well as extensive enrichment opportunities which allow our students to further their skills outside of the classroom in preparation for university, apprenticeships and employment.

**A sixth form information evening for all internal year 11 students will be held on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2021 starting at 5.30pm**. We will be working with all students over this academic year to support them with choosing the right A-Level subjects. Further details of progression to sixth form will be sent to parents in the near future.

**Behaviour and attitude** – No time can be wasted in any lesson. Students are expected to show full commitment to every subject. They must arrive to every lesson on time fully equipped and in the right mind-set to learn. Please continue to check the school gateway app to track demerits and commendations. Please do not turn a blind eye to demerits as this is a vital communication link between you and your child’s teachers.

I am sure you will agree that rude, disrespectful and poor levels of behaviour is unacceptable and has no place in this school. No student has the right to disrupt the learning of others and I refuse to let this type of behaviour or culture for rudeness into Beths. Students who disrupt lessons will be removed to give other students the chance to continue their learning. All sanctions are recorded on the students file. Detentions and exclusions from school are serious and we will look at these when your child wishes to take up a place in the sixth form. When we provide a reference for them once they leave us we are obliged to comment on their attendance, punctuality and behaviour.

**Punctuality and Attendance** – Students should be on school site and present in morning registration for 8.45am every morning (we advise that they should be on site by 8.30 to prepare for an 8.45 start). Late detentions will be held every Friday after school.

We will continue to monitor closely punctuality and attendance of all students. We will be in contact with parents should punctuality and attendance begin to raise concerns. Should the outcome of this fail to improve the situation I reserve the right to refer individual cases to the Local Authority Attendance Advisory Service.

Thank you in advance for your support in what I am sure is going to be a very busy but exciting nine months. We look forward to helping your child be the very best he can be over this period. If you have any questions or queries then please do not hesitate to contact me ([mrmcbeth@beths.bexley.sch.uk](mailto:mrmcbeth@beths.bexley.sch.uk)).

Yours Sincerely,



**Mr R McBeth**  
**Head of Year 11**