



Beths Grammar School

an 11 – 18 selective school with academy status

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September 10th 2021

Year 12 Welcome to Beths Evening – Thursday 16th September

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope that your young person is settling well into the Sixth Form at Beths. Myself and the Head of Year, Mr Parkes are very much looking forward to talking to you on the Welcome to Beths evening next **Thursday (16th September)**. This meeting will take place via MS Teams and will run from 6pm to 7pm. A link for the evening will be sent out via School Comms on the afternoon of the event, however your young person will automatically be able to login via their own Teams account.

We are aware some of our new students are struggling to login to Teams. To activate their user area they must get their login from their tutor and then login **on a school PC**. Logging in via another device will not allow them to access Teams or Outlook.

Prior to the evening I would like to invite you to submit any questions you have via the following link.

<https://forms.office.com/r/rqsk5WrX0a>

We will attempt to answer as many questions as we can, however if any remain unanswered then we will respond via the contact email provided.

Finally, I would also like to draw your attention to the School Comms app – our method of communication with parents, as well as ParentPay and MS Teams.

School messaging system: School Comms

To communicate with parents, we use a service called **School Comms** to send emails and texts. School Comms also has a free smartphone app (Android and iPhone), which allows us to send notifications free of charge that you can also reply to for free. On the app, you will also be able to see your young person's timetable, attendance information, and progress reports when they are issued.

Please support us by downloading the app to your phone if you have not already done so - this will help us improve communication with you and also save the school money. Details on how to do so are below. The set-up process is simple and will take no more than a couple of minutes:

Apple iPhone users, download the app here: schoolgateway.co.uk/iosdownload

Android phone users, download the app here: schoolgateway.co.uk/androiddownload

Your login details will be automatically generated using the contact information you have given us. If you have any questions or would like some more information, please see the School Gateway site here: <https://schoolgateway.co.uk/> or email admin@beths.bexley.sch.uk if you have any issues.

We hope that you find this application useful and appreciate your support in ensuring that your young person realises the impact of good attendance and punctuality.

Miscellaneous payments to the school

To collect payments for school fund, trips and sundry items the school uses ParentPay www.parentpay.com. Using this system means that payments cannot go missing and saves the school a great deal of administrative time. Students new to Beths will be given a letter on Monday morning to bring home with your log on details for this system, so please do take the time to register. Also included will be a letter to let students know their school email address. Please share that information with them.

Microsoft Teams

During the last academic year, we trialed using Microsoft Teams to run lessons remotely during the lockdown periods. We are continuing to use this and Show My Homework for students to access lessons information, resources and homework set by their teachers.

Your young person will be able to access their class on Microsoft Teams if they sign in their account in Microsoft Office 365 using their school email address. If they do not receive a letter with that information on Monday morning they should alert their Form Tutor.

Yours faithfully,



Mr Tom Beaney
Assistant Headteacher
Head of Sixth Form