

Headteacher

I do hope that you enjoyed a good Summer and that your daughter/son has returned to school well rested and ready for the challenges ahead. In recent weeks you will have seen our students' success in GCSE, AS, A2 and BTEC exams.

At GCSE 95% of students achieved 9-4 in English; 85% 9-4 in Maths and 85% secured 9-4 in both English and Maths. 80% of students achieved 5 A*-C grades including English and Maths at 9-4. At A Level and L3 BTEC 76.5% of all grades were A*-C and 50.1% A*-B grades, with 29.3% of all grades A*-A. 62.1% of students achieved all A*-C grades.

We are equally proud of students' achievements and success in creative and practical subjects which reflect our broad and balanced curriculum that nurtures and develops the skills and aptitudes for study and work in the 21st century. Students across all courses and programmes should be proud of their achievements. Alongside these they have

achieved many other qualifications – for example the Music and Drama exams and the Extended Project Qualification; not to mention their involvement in many extra-curricular activities. These results — in new and more challenging qualifications — reflect students' and colleagues' hard work over two years and set them in good stead for their future courses, training or employment. We wish them well – and look forward to hearing of their future achievements.

Ben Greene, Headteacher



Communication

The targets we set each year are ambitious and parents and carers play a crucial role in supporting their children in achieving and exceeding these. A key element of this is to ensure that any concern is communicated at the earliest opportunity and I would encourage you to let us know as soon as possible should you have any anxiety about an issue which may affect your child's progress at school. In the first instance this should usually be via the relevant Form Tutor or Subject Teacher. Similarly staff are encouraged to share concerns with parents and carers at an early stage. Most problems can thus be understood and resolved both easily and speedily. In addition there continues to be a 'walk in surgery' every Monday morning from 8.30 – 9.00 am either myself or one of the Deputies will be available to listen to any concerns, opinions or ideas you may have in relation to any aspect of our work. If you wish to attend, please sign in at Reception. This provides us with valuable feedback, as well as another means of ensuring that any issues are swiftly identified and followed up.

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Foundations for success—Respect and Ready to Learn

The start of a new school year is a busy, exciting and sometimes daunting time for our students, particularly those new to the school. This is also a time when we remind all students of our very reasonable expectations regarding behaviour.

Visitors to the school often comment on how impressed they are with the purposeful manner in which the students move around the site and engage with their learning. This is based on a very simple series of expectations for behaviour to which all students must adhere. These are based on two overriding principles – Mutual Respect and Ready to Learn.

These expectations are displayed clearly around the school and, we feel certain you will agree they set out a strong framework for an orderly and well managed learning environment. They are also summarised in the students' planners. We are grateful for your support in reinforcing these with your daughters and sons.

We welcome and encourage parents and carers to participate fully in the life of our school and we will act to ensure it remains a safe place to learn and work. The vast majority of the parents and carers are keen to work with us and are supportive of the school's work. If a parent or carer has concerns we will always listen and seek to address them—as detailed on the first page of this bulletin.

We expect all members of our school community to behave in a professional and courteous manner but regrettably there are rare occasions when behaviour by

parents, carers and visitors to the school is considered unacceptable. All members of the school community have the right to work without fear of abuse or violence.

Types of behaviour that are considered serious and unacceptable and will not be tolerated are:

- shouting at members of the school staff, either in person or over the telephone;
- physically intimidating a member of staff, eg standing very close to her/him; threatening/aggressive hand gestures;
- swearing;
- any form of physical contact;
- breaching the school's procedures for visitors (all visitors to the site must report and sign into Main Reception upon arrival).

This is not an exhaustive list but seeks to provide illustrations of such behaviour. We are extremely fortunate at Bullers Wood to have a supportive and friendly parent community. Our parents and carers recognise that educating children is a process that involves partnership between parents and the school. There are and will be times when parents and carers have concerns and our expectations of how all members of our community conduct themselves form the foundations upon which we can ensure a supportive partnership that responds productively to whatever challenges we are faced with.

Bullers Wood Behaviour Expectations

I will...

- Show **respect** for myself, for other students, adults, school rules and the environment.
- Follow the **dress code**.
- Be a **good role model** in the community.

Mutual Respect

- Arrive at school and lessons **on time**.
- Bring the correct equipment, books and homework to **support my learning**.
- Make sure that my **mobile device is off and away** in school.

Ready to Learn



Site



Our site and ICT teams have been very busy over the break carrying out repairs, upgrades and in particular a refurbishment of a number of classrooms in William Morris.

Despite the ongoing financial challenges we have over the Summer completed the erection of a new 'Eco-Build' opposite Inglewood. This will provide much needed additional private study facilities for Sixth Form students. This additional space has also allowed us to create some additional social space in Inglewood. This also provides flexibility which we will be able to utilise for visiting speakers and meetings.

Bullers School for Boys

As you are aware, a further planning application was submitted to Bromley Planning Department in May 2017. The new application seeks to address the grounds of refusal in the original application and we are currently awaiting a Planning Committee date.

However, in order to support us with being in a position to open in September 2018, an appeal against the refusal of the original application was also submitted at the end of July. The appeal will be dealt with by the Planning Inspectorate in Bristol a Government Body entirely independent of the Local Planning Authority.

We are hopeful that the outcome to our second application and/or appeal will be a positive one given the need and demand for secondary school places in the area.

Applications are now open for September 2018 and parents can complete our **online application form** on the Boys' school website at www.bwsboys.org. The deadline for applications will be **Tuesday 31st October 2017** and offers will be made on **Thursday 22nd February 2018**. We will be running our own admissions which means that parents apply directly to the School. Further information can be obtained at our **Open Morning for Parents and Year 6 Boys on Saturday 16th September from 9am – 12.30pm**. The Headteacher will deliver three talks at **9.30am, 10.15am and 11.am**.

How you can help?

Comment on the additional information submitted. You have up until the **26th September** to comment. You can do this via the Bromley website at www.bromley.gov.uk/planningaccess using reference: **17/02648/FULL1**

Once we know the date of the **Planning Committee Meeting**, we will communicate it should you wish to attend.

Once we know the date of the **Planning Committee Meeting**, we will communicate that to you as members of the public are able to attend. If you do have a son who will need a secondary school place in the future, we would really appreciate letters and messages of support explaining why there is the need for Bullers Wood School for Boys. These can be posted to the Headteacher Designate, Anne Gouldthorpe at the School or emailed to Mrs K. McCarthy kmccarthy@bullerswood.bromley.sch.uk. We can then use these to demonstrate support for the Boys School.





Up and running...

At the time of writing students are back in school and attending their first lessons, and our daily routines are being re-established. It is pleasing to see how quickly the students have settled and focused on their studies. I very much look forward to seeing more of this in the lessons and activities I visit over the coming weeks and hope also to see you at one or other of our forthcoming events.

In particular—students and staff—are in the process of adapting to some changes we have made in our structures and timings this year. The split lunch has been introduced to ease the congestion and queuing at lunchtime and to ensure it is an appropriately calmer and more relaxing break for all—with concomitant benefits in afternoon lessons. The additional period on Mondays will allow us to improve our delivery of our Personal Development programme—with less disruption to

academic lessons. This of course also facilitates the two week half term break later this term which, along with a number of other local schools we are introducing in the expectation that this will better punctuate the long winter term, securing better progress and attendance. As with any changes we know there will be initial and unforeseen glitches with their introduction—which we will monitor closely with students and staff. A reminder of the timings of the school day, and our term dates are below.

In the meantime I look forward to our next issue of the Bulletin where we will share with you some of the exciting things our students have been doing over the Summer months—both in and out of school!

Ben Greene, Headteacher

The School Day 2017-2018

Students are expected to be in school by 8.25am, and in form rooms by 8.30am. Breakfast is available on site from the canteen and food cube each day from 7.45am.

	Monday	Tuesday - Friday
08:25	Warning Bell	Warning Bell
08:30 – 08:50	Registration or Assembly	Registration or Assembly
08:50 – 09:40	Lesson 1	Lesson 1
09:40 – 10:30	Lesson 2	Lesson 2
10:30 – 10:50	Break	Break
10:50 – 11:40	Lesson 3	Lesson 3
11:40 – 12:30	Lesson 4	Lesson 4
12:30 – 13:20	Lunch (Years 7, 9, 11 & 12) or PD Lesson 5a (Years 8, 10 & 13)	Lunch (Years 7, 9, 11 & 12) or Lesson 5a (Years 8, 10 & 13)
13:20 – 14:10	Lunch (Years 8, 10 & 13) or PD Lesson 5b (Years 7, 9, 11 & 12)	Lunch (Years 8, 10 & 13) or Lesson 5b (Years 7, 9, 11 & 12)
14:10 – 15:00	Lesson 6	Lesson 6 (including pm Registration)
15:00 – 15:50	Lesson 7 (including pm Registration)	



Term Dates for School Year 2017-2018

Autumn Term 2017

Wednesday, 6th September to Friday, 20th October

Half Term - Monday 23rd October to Friday 3rd November

Monday 6th November to Wednesday 20th December

Spring Term 2018

Thursday 4th January to Friday 9th February

Half Term - Monday 12th February to Friday 16th February

Monday 19th February to Wednesday 28th March

Easter Holidays – Thursday 29th March to 13th April

Summer Term 2018

Monday, 16th April to Friday, 25th May

Half Term - Monday 28th May to Friday 1st June

Monday 4th June to Friday 20th July

Training Days

Monday 4th September 2017

Tuesday 5th September 2017

Tuesday 2nd January 2018

Wednesday 3rd January 2018

Friday 29th June 2018