

# BULLERS WOOD SCHOOL

## GCSE/BTEC INFORMATION

### BOOKLET 2022

## Welcome.....

Welcome to our Year 11 GCSE Information Evening. We hope that this booklet combined with what you hear during the evening will help you gain a greater insight and understanding of your child's curriculum.

The staff present tonight are happy to help with any queries you may have about your child's courses, progress and work.

Core subject specialists for English, Maths, and Science will provide you with information about the content and structure of the courses that your child is

following. They will also give some additional advice about how best to support your child throughout the next year.

The Year 11 Team will be available at the end of the evening to assist you with any concerns you may have.

Please use this booklet as a reference guide for the curriculum, important deadlines and key dates for your diary. Inside you will also find the contact details for the Year 11

team. We aim to give you the best advice possible and hope that you find this booklet and evening helpful and supportive.



# Future Steps

Bullers Wood is proud of our students' achievements and success in the subjects they have studied at GCSE. This success and the positive relationship our students have with the staff and their peers is reflected in number of students who make the decision to stay to study in Sixth Form.

This year Bullers Wood Sixth Form retained 113 internal students and welcomed them to our 6th form to study a wide range of subjects. These subjects include Economics, Medical Science, Classical Civilisation, Politics, Sociology and Psychology, as well as subjects students will recognise from their GCSEs. The subjects being studied reflect our broad and balanced curriculum that nurtures and develops the skills needed for higher education and work in the 21st century.

In September 2022 141 Year 13 Students obtained places at university, 26 of whom now attend Russell Group institutions including Cambridge. A wide range of subjects are being studied including Architecture, Biomedical Engineering, Counter Terrorism, Law, Midwifery, Music & Music Psychology, Pharmacy and Primary Education. We also have students who have achieved apprenticeships in Construction, Consultancy, Digital Marketing and Electromechanical Engineering.

The results and achievements of the students reflect two years' commitment and hard work, with expert guidance from dedicated staff and support from parents and carers. We congratulate the students on their achievements and wish them well for the future.



# Dates 2022-23

## Autumn Term

### Term 1

**Thursday 13th October**

Year 11 Information Evening

**Half Term** 17-28th October

(2 weeks)

### Term 2

**Monday 31st October**

Term begins

**Monday 31st October—  
Thursday 3rd November**

Mocks - English/Maths

**Thursday 17th November**

Sixth Form Open Evening

**Wednesday 23rd  
November**

Year 11 Parents/Carers  
Evening

**Thursday 1st December—  
Wednesday 14th  
December**

Mocks - other subjects

**Friday 16th December**

End of Term

## Spring Term

### Term 3

**Tuesday 3rd January**

Term begins

**Thursday 26th January**

Mock Exam ceremony

**Friday 10th February**

End of term

**Monday 13th February -  
Friday 17th February**

Half Term

### Term 4

**Monday 20th February**

Term begins

**February 27th - March 3rd**

Mocks - English/Maths/  
Science

**Friday 31st  
March**

End of Term

## Summer Term

### Term 5

**Monday 17th April**

Term begins

*Early May Bank Holiday  
Monday 1st May*

**Friday 26th May**

End of term

**Monday 29th May - Friday  
2nd June**

Half term

### Term 6

**Monday 5th June - Friday  
21st July**



Don't  
Forget!

SAM Learning is a great way to revise and keep on top of subject topics. It is a website that holds information from all the GCSE subjects including the core subjects, English, Maths and Science. Within the website students can look at specific topics, revise, practice exam style questions, receive instant feedback and learn new skills.

It really is simple to login to SAM Learning: all students need to do is....

- Go to **www.samlearning.com**
- Enter the Centre ID as BR7BW
- Enter their own birthdate followed by initials for the User ID and Password.  
e.g. 120404NM

Students in Year 11 should be working on the GCSE subject selections. However, revision of KS3 work may be beneficial for some students to recap on previously learnt topics.

Teachers may also set homework on SAM Learning that links with classwork and improves student understanding of the topics covered in the curriculum.

SAM Learning say that, based on statistics issued by the Fisher Family Trust, students can improve by 2 GCSE grades by spending 10 hours working on SAM Learning in a year of school. We recommend that at this stage students should visit SAM Learning for 10 minutes each night to refresh classwork and to do revision.

Sign In

Centre ID  
BR7BW

User ID

Password

Can't log in? Sign In

READY. SET. GO!

Complete activities to progress.

Look out for surprise animations!

Select your buddies

0 pts

Home Activities My Set Tasks My Progress My Profile

Click on Everything to explore or use these quick links to jump straight to a subject area

GCSE	Key Stage 3	Other
Science	Science	Everything
Maths	Maths	Key Stage 2
English	English	Teacher created activities

Leaderboard

Reg Group	Student	
Yr. Year 9		
Subject	All	
Pos	Name	Points
1	SSG	12,603
2	9PK	9,460
3	9BL	8,790
4	9WT	2,427
5	9LV	1,100

This is the SAM Learning homepage

# Education Apps

Apps are an amazing way to revise. They are downloadable to many devices and this in turn makes them portable; making revision easy, practical and accessible. Students are encouraged to find apps that will suit them and their revision targets.



 Seneca - KS3, GCSE & A Level R  
Seneca Learning



 Quizlet  
Quizlet Inc.  
4.5 ★



 GCSEPod  
Soundbitelearning UK Ltd



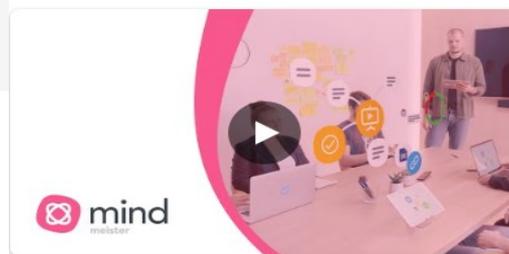
 StudySmarter: Study & revision  
StudySmarter  
4.6 ★



 Khan Academy  
Khan Academy  
4.3 ★



 Memrise Easy Language Learning  
Memrise  
4.6 ★



 MindMeister  
MeisterLabs  
4.2 ★



 Tassomai  
Tassomai

# Online Safety

The purpose of this page is to raise awareness and understanding of Online Safety issues amongst students and ensure parents/carers have the relevant information available so they can support their child. It is important that students understand how to keep themselves safe online and that parents discuss this issue regularly with their children. Good practices include, keeping your username and password safe and not sharing with others. Never give out personal information like your name, age, address and school. Stay in control of your online reputation. You must tell a trusted adult if someone or something has made you uncomfortable or worried whilst on the Internet.



The NCA's CEOP Command is here to help children and young people. They are here to help, if you are a young person and you or your friend have been forced or tricked into doing something online, or in the real world. They also have advice and links to support for other online problems young people might face, such as cyberbullying and hacking. Visit their Safety Centre for advice and to report directly to CEOP, by clicking on the Click CEOP button. [CEOP Safety Centre](#)

## Useful Guides for Parents

[Google Safety Centre – Stay safer online](#)



[Desktop: Safety Settings Yahoo – Our Safety Centre](#)

[CEOP Education \(thinkuknow.co.uk\)](#)



[Homepage - UK Safer Internet Centre](#) Get



[Get Safe Online | The UK's leading Internet Safety Website](#)



[| Parent Zone](#)



[Childnet — Online safety for young people](#)



# What Can I Do?

Further on in this booklet there are pages that give you advice about a particular subject area. These pages hold the best advice to help you to understand and support your child through Year 11.

We understand that education from a parent's point of view can be confusing and frustrating so we have thought about some useful hints and tips for parents that might make Year 11 easier for you.

## **Keep a list of Key Dates handy**

Write on a calendar at home any dates that effect your child. In this booklet we have supplied you with basic key dates for Year 11; write these down at home and display them in an area you can both see. Check this regularly to see what is coming up next.

## **Supply a quiet study area for your child**

Having somewhere quiet to study makes a huge difference to concentration levels and improves standards of homework and grades.

## **Communicate regularly about school**

It can be difficult to fit in a

discussion about school at the end of the day, but try to talk about what's going on during your child's school day.

## **Embrace Modern Technology**

Technology is fast paced these days and it can be hard to keep up. Try to make sure that, when homework is done on a laptop, that it is homework being completed and not two hours on Instagram or You Tube. Parental controls can be put in place by your internet service provider at your request. This can ensure that social networking can be stopped during crucial homework or study time at home. However, tablets and smartphones can be used to access useful Apps that may help with revision or study.

## **Communicate with us**

Please communicate with us at school if you have any questions or issues that you would like to raise with us: use the contact list on the back of this booklet. This will put you in touch with any of the KS4 team who are directly in communication with students and other staff so we can help you as best we can.

## **Keep calm**

Even at times of great stress, if you remain calm, your child will too. Try not to get angry as this can raise stress levels and make the situation more volatile. Staying calm can keep you in control of the situation and help you come to a reasonable solution more quickly and easily.

## **Be supportive**

Help your child with small tasks so they can cope with bigger tasks or large pieces of work. For example, if they are preparing for a Controlled Assessment, make sure they have the right equipment for when they get to school, supply regular snack breaks and help with small chunks of revision.



# Helpful Hints

## Eating Well

A balanced diet is vital for good health and will help you to feel well during school and exam time.

- Students - try to stay away from junk food in the lead up to your exams, this gives any toxins from junk food a chance to disappear, leaving you with a clear head.
- Parents - ensure healthy snacks and meals are prepared where possible. Use less healthy snacks as an occasional reward.

## Sleep helps exam performance

Good sleep improves thinking and concentration, two vital components for exam time and school time in general.

- Students - you need between 8 and 10 hours sleep each night. This will help you to be refreshed and ready to learn in the morning.
- Parents - ensure a good nighttime routine is in place. Discourage last minute cramming or completing homework late into the night. Encourage calm: maybe a warm bath or hot drink before bedtime.

## Exercise

Exercise will boost energy

levels, help to clear the mind and reduce stress. Even a short walk each day helps to calm nerves, bring down anxiety and boost energy.

- Students - do a small amount of exercise each day, it could be that you walk to school rather than get a lift or the bus.
- Parents - encourage a small amount of exercise, maybe suggest they walk the dog tonight, instead of you?

## Useful Websites

### - Exam stress

mind.org.uk/mentalhealth  
childline.org.uk  
headspace.com  
thestudentroom.co.uk  
thecalmzone.net

### - Healthy eating during exams

parentsforhealth.org  
bbc.co.uk/food/articles/food\_exam\_performance

### - Useful links

[Help your child beat exam stress - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#)

[Exam stress and pressure | Childline](#)

[Exams & revision - BBC Bitesize](#)

[3 Ways to Stay Calm During a Test](#)

- [wikiHow](#)



# Thank you...

We would like to thank you for attending this evening. Please contact us if you have any further questions. Staff will be available at the end of this evening to answer any questions you have.

## Useful Contacts

School phone number: 0208 467 2280

Email: [year11@bwsgirls.org](mailto:year11@bwsgirls.org)

Mrs German, Deputy Headteacher  
[mgerman@bwsgirls.org](mailto:mgerman@bwsgirls.org)

Mrs Stevenson, Head of Year 11  
[jstevenson@bwsgirls.org](mailto:jstevenson@bwsgirls.org)

Ms Santa Barbara, Raising Standards Leader  
[csantabarbara@bwsgirls.org](mailto:csantabarbara@bwsgirls.org)

Mrs Uluadam, Raising Achievement Support Coordinator  
[auluadam@bwsgirls.org](mailto:auluadam@bwsgirls.org)

**For your notes...**

