



Blackburn Central HIGH SCHOOL



At BCHS we appreciate how challenging it is juggling these difficult times whether that be working as a key worker, working from home, worrying about family members or trying to keep one another positive. Home schooling our children is not something we thought we would be doing.

Home learning:

Whilst I completely understand how difficult this new way of learning is, it is so important that we are able to support your child's learning at home so that they are in line with their classmates when we do return to school. We are working hard to respond to the work students are completing during this time away from school to try ensure that pupils feel supported and their progress is not negatively impacted upon during these unprecedented circumstances.

It is vital that school work continues for all year groups. Even though Y10 will have some time in school the majority of their learning will still be done at home. This period of lockdown has not been a holiday from school work. Teachers continue to upload work to the school website on a regular basis for their classes.

Thank you for your hard work and dedication in supporting your child in their home learning.

Our teachers have tried really hard to provide high quality lessons and encouragement to our students. Online lessons allow pupils to work at their own pace. Assignments give pupils the flexibility to juggle their work around specific family circumstances.

Expectations:

Many students are completing their online lessons. If your child has not been completing their work they still have time to make sure they are up to date in September. We will not be setting online work during the summer holidays so your child can attempt to complete some of the work during that time. This will help to ensure that the gap between people completing work and not completing work is as small as possible when we return to school.

Top tips:

Some top tips from other parents who are trying to home-school include; structure the day, use the student planner to keep organised, be kind to yourself, review work completed at the end of the day, trust your child with managing their time and keep a sense of humour - there has also been a suggestion about the need for chocolate and other treats to keep you going!

Support:

As a school we will do everything we can to ensure our students do not suffer, however we will not be able to make this time up so every bit of learning that your child can do at home will be vital in making sure they are not behind their classmates.

Your support in ensuring that your child is accessing home learning is very much appreciated. The work on Google Classroom is supported by clear instructions and teachers are always available to answer any queries or questions that your child may have.

If your child doesn't have access to a computer, they can either download the Google Classroom App on their phone, or we can supply paper copies of work should you require them. Please let us know what your child needs and how we can support them.

Mrs Hussain
Headteacher

Year 11 Transition

We have been working in close collaboration with New Directions and a team of staff from colleges, sixth forms, apprenticeship organisers and the Local authority.

Together the team has produced a document 'Life after Year 11' that provides contact details, support and information for students making the transition from Year 11 to Year 12. The document has been posted out to all Year 11 students.

A plan is in place for results day 2020, with students attending school on an appointment based system to collect their results on 20th August. Social distancing is at the heart of the plan, along with providing support for students as they see their results for the first time.

Pastoral support and careers advice will be available on the day. A contingency plan to post out results is in place, if lockdown tightens again.

A group of high achieving students will be invited in before the main cohort for an opportunity to celebrate their great successes.



Staff Announcements

I am really proud to announce that Shanaz Hussain has been appointed Headteacher from September and that Yvonne Young has been appointed Deputy. As you know I am taking up the position of Trust Leader and will work across the three schools as well as develop and grow the Trust.

This term we also said goodbye to Mr Braithwaite who has taken up his headship at Bury Church School. Staff and governors wish him well in his new promoted post.

At the end of this term we also say goodbye and send good wishes to Mariam Khan in Science, Farhana Husain in Science/Maths, and Tabassum Bashir in ICT.



Year 6 Transition

With Transition looking very different this academic year, we have endeavoured to make the process as smooth as possible.

Early engagement with all of our future Year 7 students and their families has been key. With the support from our primary partners in supplying progress data, our SLT team have had an excellent starting point for making meaningful zoom/conference calls with all of our 28 feeder primary year 6 teachers.

In reaching out to all of our feeders, our transition team are in an excellent position in having a comprehensive understanding of the global needs of all of the students joining us in September.

Furthermore, Mrs Bateman (SENDco) is hosting face-to-face sessions with all of our EHCP/IPRA students joining us, along with one of their parents/carers. This opportunity is vital for our most vulnerable learners to help familiarise them with the school setting and teacher.

New students will also benefit from a virtual tour that will be available during transition. The iRoam team have built a fantastic 'BCHS Experience' featuring all the major faculties of the school, sport spaces, dining facilities and accessible toilets, allowing our students to experience the building in preparation for the move to 'big school'.

Accompanying the Virtual Tour, the transition team have provided a wealth of materials and resources for our students and their families via the school website, including 'Pleased to Meet You' videos and a virtual pastoral office.

We were identified by the Open Data Project for being an example of best practice for Transition during COVID-19.

Students moving from Year 6 to Year 7 have also been invited to take part in the 'Go Big Be Awesome' PixL project, with materials and resources sent to their homes.

Aspire and achieve