



Backwell School

An Ofsted Outstanding School
A National Teaching School

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Dear Parent/Carer

Year 12 Key Dates and Important Events : Term 6

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you of key dates and important events for Year 12 students during term 6 this year and, in particular, to invite you to the Post-18 Evening on Monday 10 June (please see below).

Future Plans Week : Monday 10 June to Friday 14 June

There are sessions running throughout the week to help your son/daughter with their plans for when they leave school next year. **Compulsory** attendance in school for all students is required on Monday 10 June, Tuesday 11 June and *either* Wednesday 12 June or Thursday 13 June. We feel it is important for students to keep an open mind about all possible options at this stage, as in our experience, many students change their plans during their time in the Sixth Form. The programme for the week is as follows:

- **Monday 10 June – Visit to the University of Bristol (compulsory)** : Students will meet for an assembly at 8.50 am in the Sixth Form Theatre before boarding the coaches for Bristol University. The visit will include a tour of the campus and a talk on Higher Education. We will return to Backwell School at approximately 2.00 pm. Due to time constraints, all students will need to bring a packed lunch for the visit.

We need to ask for a contribution of £4.50 to cover the cost of coach transport. Please visit www.parentpay.com, the school's online cashless payment system, **by Monday 13 May** to give your consent, provide an emergency contact number and make payment. If you have any problems accessing the service, please contact the Finance Team on 01275 465941. In cases of financial assistance, please contact the Business Support Manager, Mrs Gumm, who will be able to provide information regarding the 16-19 Bursary Fund. This is available to post-16 students who are in receipt of Free School Meals or whose parents/carers receive Child Tax Credit or Universal Credit.

- **Monday 10 June (Evening) – ‘Setting the Scene’** : Post-18 Information Meeting for Year 12 parents/carers (not students, as they will receive this information during the week) in the Sixth Form Theatre at 7.00 pm.

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- **Tuesday 11 June – Non-university and Post-University Options (compulsory)** : Students are required to be in school from 8.45 am to 2.45 pm. They will participate in career-related workshops and hear from a variety of employers, apprenticeship and gap year providers, as well as former students who have gone on to undertake apprenticeships.
- **Wednesday 12 or Thursday 13 June – ‘Starting the Decision-making Process’** : Students are required to be in school from 8.45 am to 2.45 pm. They will begin individual planning and research as well as attend talks on CV writing and money workshops. Students will be told which of these two days they will be required to attend; this decision will be dependent on the nature of their future plans and other external factors, such as public examinations.
- **Friday 14 June:** On this day we will be expecting every student to undertake a ‘future plans’ related activity, such as a university/college open day, volunteering, work experience or working through a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC). This activity is up to students to arrange for themselves and they will be required to let their tutor know their plans for the day in advance, as well as log the activity on their Unifrog account. One option could be to attend an organised school trip to University Centre Weston (UCW) for a Foundation Degree taster day in one of the following subjects:
 - Business
 - Health and Social Care
 - Art and Graphics
 - Film and Photography

Staff will be accompanying this trip and free transport to Weston-super-Mare from school will be available. If your son/daughter is interested in these courses and attending the taster day, please can he/she let a member of the Sixth Form Team know **by Monday 13 May**.

Oxford University Open Day : Thursday 4 July

On Thursday 4 July, Oxford University is running an open day. Entry to Oxford (and Cambridge) is competitive and applications have additional requirements, so students considering an application are strongly encouraged to attend. As this opportunity will appeal to a number of students, we have decided to organise a formal school visit. The day will comprise visits to colleges and specific talks by subject specialists. Students will have the opportunity to explore colleges independently and attend the talks and workshops that are most relevant to their future plans. Details of this visit will be provided in a separate letter.

Continuation of A Level Courses

Normal teaching resumes on **Monday 17 June**.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind parents/carers that Home Study does not commence until Year 13 and that all Year 12 students should be in school from 8.50 am to 3.30 pm every day.

Finally, we would like to wish all the best to our Year 12 students who are taking exams this summer.

Yours sincerely



R Haywood
Assistant Headteacher and Head of Sixth Form