

7th May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are well. I am writing to update you on arrangements for **Year 13 student attendance** from **Monday 11th May**, and to reaffirm the vital role that continued attendance in lessons plays in securing the best possible outcomes for our students during this important examination period.

Attendance Expectations from 11th May

From **11th May**, students will continue to be expected to attend lessons **for all subjects that they have not yet completed all exams and all coursework for**. Once exams and all coursework for a subject have been completed, students will no longer be required to attend school at those subjects' lesson times.

In addition:

- There will be no expectation for students to attend registration, study periods, Best in Everyone lessons or assemblies from this point onwards.
- Students are welcome and encourage to come in to school at any point to work
- Students who have completed all of their examinations, or who study coursework-only subjects, may stop attending lessons once coursework is fully completed
- However, these students should remain available to attend if requested by their subject teachers, for example for additional guidance, improvements or moderation support

In short, students should continue attending all lessons where teaching and support are still ongoing.

Why Continued Lesson Attendance Matters

Even at this late stage of the course, attendance in lessons remains extremely important. Subject teachers continue to:

- Refine exam technique and address common pitfalls
- Provide expert insight that goes beyond content revision
- Offer targeted guidance tailored to individual students
- Help students make the small, final improvements that frequently make the difference between grades

Our experience and results of students from previous years consistently shows that students who continue to attend lessons regularly, even when they feel confident with the material, achieve stronger final outcomes than those who reduce attendance independently. Success at A level is often determined by marginal gains, and regular engagement with teachers is one of the most effective ways students can secure those gains.

Lesson Punctuality

To avoid undue disruption to learning:

- Students who arrive late to lessons may be admitted **at the teacher's discretion**
- In some cases, students **may be refused entry** if their lateness would disrupt learning for others

We would appreciate your support in ensuring students arrive promptly to all lessons they are expected to attend.

Examination Start Times

On days when students have examinations, it is essential that they arrive on time and are fully prepared:

- **Morning examinations:** students should be present and ready by **8:20am**
- **Afternoon examinations:** students should be present and ready by **1:15pm**

This ensures examinations can start calmly, punctually and without unnecessary stress for students.

Wellbeing and Mindset

Exams can feel overwhelming, and some nerves are completely normal. Gentle reassurance, positive conversations, and reminders that effort and resilience matter more than perfection can be extremely helpful. Try to avoid last-minute pressure or comparisons with others, as this can increase anxiety.

Encourage your child to eat regular meals, stay hydrated, and take short breaks away from screens and revision. Light physical activity, such as a short walk, can also help manage stress and improve focus.

Support and Communication

If you or your child have any concerns during the examination period, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

If any concerns are exam related, please email Ms Tasmin, Exams & Careers Manager, on habiba.tasmin@baconcollege.co.uk.

We remain fully committed to supporting every student to achieve their very best outcomes. The most effective place for that support to happen is in lessons, with their subject teachers, as consistently and regularly as possible. Your support in reinforcing the importance of attendance at this stage is greatly appreciated and makes a significant difference.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss these arrangements further, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards,

J. Foley

Mr Foley
Head of Sixth Form