

Sixth Form Part-time Work Policy

This policy has been introduced to ensure students at Budmouth attain the highest grades on their courses and achieve their long-term Higher Education and Career Aims.

Part-time work can be a beneficial experience for students, helping them to develop important personal and social skills, and adding to their CVs for future job and course applications. However, it is clear both from national research and the experience of staff at Budmouth that some students are beginning to see their post-16 education as part-time and are prioritising their employment at the expense of their academic studies.

Main Points

- Education at Budmouth College is full-time. Budmouth will not support applications for work over eight hours a week.
- No paid work should be undertaken during the hours 8.30 – 3.15pm without prior agreement of the Sixth Form team.
- Staff will counsel all students when a reference is requested to discuss the reasons for their application and will explain the Policy.
- Staff will not write references for students planning to work over eight hours a week (apart from exceptional circumstances).
- Staff will state in their references that the application is supported on condition that the maximum of hours is eight.

Reasons for the Policy

- In recent years the number of students Post-16 and Pre-16 taking part-time employment has increased. Some students are working over 15 hours a week.
- Post-16 Education in the UK is a mixture of taught lessons and private study. At Budmouth there are usually 19 hours timetable commitment per week in Year 12 and 14 hours in Year 13. Students are then expected to spend the same number of hours on private study (i.e. equivalent to a working week of between 30 – 40 hours).
- Recent research by the University of London Institute of Education shows that the grades of Post-16 students working over eight hours a week deteriorate and the results of students working over 15 hours a week plummet compared to students with similar academic abilities. The research also shows that the money earned is used to pay for social activities, clothes, mobile phones, cars etc. and only in rare circumstances to support a needy family.

I confirm that I have read and will adhere to the above Part-time Work Policy during my time in the Sixth Form.

Signed..... Please Print.....

Date: