

September 2022

Dear Year 12 Student and Parents/Carers

I would like to extend a warm welcome to you all, especially those of you who are new to Budmouth.

**Tutor/Parent Consultation Evening - Thursday 22nd September from 4.00 - 7.00pm.**

On Thursday 22nd September we have our Tutor/Parent Consultation evening **which we will be running remotely this year using “schoolcloud”**. From 13th September parents will have the opportunity to make an eight minute appointment to meet your son/daughter’s tutor. You will be able to use any device that has an internet connection e.g. laptop, desktop or even a smartphone. No App is required to be installed and all calls are encrypted. If you do not have access to a device to enable you to make a virtual appointment, please contact Jan Cockings on [jcockings@budmouth-aspirations.org](mailto:jcockings@budmouth-aspirations.org) who will be happy to assist. To book an appointment slot with your son/daughter’s tutor please follow this link: <https://budmouth.parentseveningsystem.co.uk>. If you have any queries prior to or after this evening, please contact either myself or Kate Sheppard, Head of Year 12 [ksheppard@budmouth-aspirations.org](mailto:ksheppard@budmouth-aspirations.org)

For more information on how to book and attend a video call appointment, please have a look at the following links: [Parents-Evening-How-to-make-an-appointment](#) [Parents-Evening-How-to-attend-appointments-over-video-call](#)

**Key expectations.**

The Sixth Form day starts in tutor groups at 8.30am sharp; students spend 20 minutes with their tutor, or in assembly, and then are either in lessons or “using their time productively” within Budmouth in their study periods. All Sixth Form students are in school from 8.30am – 2.50pm unless, after lunch (from 12.50pm onwards), they have no more timetabled periods for the rest of the day. Please note that being allowed to go home after lunch if timetabled periods allow is a privilege not a right. If a student’s attendance at registration in the morning falls below 95% the privilege will be withdrawn.

Getting into a working routine will be key to student success. Please talk at home about making the best use of independent study time outside of lessons. Level 3 courses require students to study in their own time for at least as many hours as they are timetabled in lessons for. As Director of Sixth Form, I am keen to develop a learning ethos that revolves around the productive use of time. With a significant number of areas for our students to study in, it is imperative that they are able to adopt a positive approach towards the demands of their studies.

**Student attire and Handbook information.**

Budmouth Sixth Form students are in the privileged position whereby they are not expected to wear a prescribed uniform. In order to maintain standards however it is vital that students conform to the expectations highlighted in our dress code. Please familiarise yourselves with these standards alongside a wealth of further information in our Sixth Form Handbook.

<https://budmouth.academies.aspirationsacademies.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2022/07/Student-Handbook-2022-23.pdf>

### **Opportunities and Aspirations Employability Diploma (AED)**

My vision is of a Sixth Form where extracurricular opportunities are just as important as academic success. I challenge the students to play a key role in driving change and leading on wider aspects of school life. We are always open to new ideas from the Sixth Form students and to approach us with new suggestions for setting up trips, visits, clubs and organisations. As such, we have appointed Pete Davidson in the role of 'Post 16 Student Experience' who will focus on wider student opportunities our students can access. He will work alongside Andy David (Director of Student Leadership) and support the Academy Council with any ideas that come forward from the Sixth Form Union.

Following on from its successful introduction all Year 12s will follow our Employability Programme, the Aspirations Employability Diploma (AED). In addition, every Wednesday afternoon students are timetabled for Enrichment. In this time the majority of students do a variety of sports but there are also alternative opportunities on offer, for example our Paired Reading Programme, Debating, Mindfulness and First Aid. Please ensure students bring their Sport kit or dress appropriately for their activity on Wednesday afternoons. Aspirations aim **“to provide each individual student with the keys to a successful life and also give them the opportunity to compete on the global stage”**. Please talk at home about the importance of taking up opportunities as they arise, especially as we emerge from Covid restrictions. Students and parents have access to “Unifrog” online, which allows students to document their experience and research “Next Step” opportunities. I have asked Mr Miles to post a video about Unifrog on the Year 12 Google Classroom to help you get started if you have not used the platform before.

### **Sixth Form Student Union.**

Finally, please make sure students have paid their £10 student union contribution via “Pay360” to help the Student Union provide the best possible opportunities! Whether it's political activity, fundraising for our sponsored projects in Kenya or events management; getting involved in the Student Union provides lots of opportunities to make a positive contribution and gain valuable experience while doing so.

### **Absence Reporting.**

In the event of a student's absence, please can we ask that you report the absence by either phoning Jan Cockings on 01305 830560 or send an email to [jcockings@budmouth-aspirations.org](mailto:jcockings@budmouth-aspirations.org).

### **Further information.**

Starting on new courses is always a challenge, but the Sixth Form Team is committed to making the transition to level three for students as smooth as possible. Please do not hesitate to contact the relevant member of staff with any issue at all, either by email or via Jan Cockings on 01305 830560.

Kate Sheppard (KES) – Head of Year 12 [ksheppard@budmouth-aspirations.org](mailto:ksheppard@budmouth-aspirations.org)

Kelly Andow (KAA) - Sixth Form Pastoral Lead [kandow@budmouth-aspirations.org](mailto:kandow@budmouth-aspirations.org)

Pete Davidson (PD) – Post 16 Student Experience [pdavidson@budmouth-aspirations.org](mailto:pdavidson@budmouth-aspirations.org)

Jane Golby (JG) – Deputy Director of Sixth Form  
and Head of Year 13 [jgolby@budmouth-aspirations.org](mailto:jgolby@budmouth-aspirations.org)

I look forward to sharing a productive year with you all!

Yours sincerely



Sam Morris  
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Director of Sixth Form  
Direct Line 01305 830560.