

22nd March 2024

Dear families,

During this first term, as BBS is transitioning from the local authority into the Learning Community Trust, we have run a series of consultation opportunities including a parental voice survey. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank families for the feedback received, we greatly appreciate your insights all of which will help us create a joint future vision for the school and community.

Following the Easter break, we will be sharing with you the main areas of improvements needed, as identified from your feedback, and our intentions for improvement. In the first instance, and as a priority, we wanted to let you know what we are doing about the main issue raised, which was focused on communication with the school.

Starting next term, we have a new communication pathways document available (a copy is attached to this letter and will also be available on the website). The aim of the document is to help families contact the relevant person if they have a concern about their child's education, it also provides an expected response time. We, as a school, need to ensure we are effectively responding to concerns following contact from families - we will never get everything right, but I encourage staff to recognise where communication could have been improved and learn from it.

I am aiming for open communication and feedback directly to the school, as a helpful and considered way to support the work we are doing to raise standards at BBS. I am aware of concerns being raised on social media platforms, I would appreciate communication coming directly into the school so we can address and support families with concerns they may have. I know ultimately what we all want is a successful school with happy students at the heart of the community. The partnership between school and home is vital to achieve this.

During next term, we will be holding a series of parent events with the school and the Trusts Executive Teams. This is an opportunity for parents to give feedback, raise any concerns and ask questions about the vision for the school as we continue our improvement journey. We will send details of these events out after the break.

I also wanted to provide more information about the recent improvements made to the school canteen. These improvements were much needed, creating a more modern and accessible lunch facility for our students. Building and refurbishment works in schools are costly, especially for older buildings. The funding for these works was secured from local

authority and government grants, ring fenced only for building works. No direct school funding was spent on these works, allocated pupil funding is, and will always remain, focused on the education of our young people. I'd like to thank families and our students for their patience whilst this much needed work was completed.

We have written to you recently regarding the appointment process of a permanent Principal for the school. I wanted to let you know we will be interviewing for this important role on the 22nd and 23rd April. We will communicate the outcome to you as soon as we have confirmation of the appointment.

Key changes for students after Easter.

To ensure students are safely supervised before school, we have changed the meeting areas.

Year 7, 8 & 9 will be asked to use the previous student entrance that is to the right-hand side of the school as you look at it, next to the music block. Gates will open from 8:30am and students will use the hard-core area at the rear of the school.

Year 10 & 11 will be using the current entrance next to the sports hall. Again, gates will be open from 8:30am. Year 10's will be situated on the Tennis court area.

All students will leave via the old student entrance next to the music block.

Staff will be available to support students using the correct entrances in the first few days of the new system being implemented.

Thank you for taking time to read this update, I would like to reiterate my thanks to you for your continued support and feedback.

Yours sincerely,



Mr R Gummery
BBS: Executive Principal
LCT: Assistant Director

