



December 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we approach the end of the Autumn term it is important to outline the arrangements that are in place and the expectations for students and families in relation to attendance. This letter will therefore outline those expectations and for ease of reference will be split into sections below.

Student Attendance and Punctuality at Brentside High School

Attendance is the key first step in students fulfilling their potential and achieving. This term we have been celebrating continued excellence for many students this term. Areas of continued strength include key areas for overall attendance; the number of 100% attenders; those students with 95%+ attendance. This strength has been noted with so many students and celebrated with afternoon teas for Years 7-10. We will continue to reward students on a half termly basis. Attendance is the foundation on which we can build academic success.

For most families, the following information is advisory and will not be directly applicable to them. We closely monitor and track all individual student attendance, and we have notified several families about the need to improve their child's attendance, in line with the borough of Ealing and national educational statutory expectations. As such we will closely review absences from school in both the final week of school and the return to school in January. It is within the school's responsibility and power to issue fines for families where there are patterns of absence over more than one end of half term, term or the return to school, whether through absence or unauthorised holidays.

Attendance in school every day next week is expected, and we look forward to some enjoyable events.

End of Term Arrangements

Fish and Chips on Tuesday and Christmas Lunch on Wednesday

We are aware of how popular the food on offer is at lunchtimes and certainly on Fridays Fish & Chips are very popular. With a 12:00 closure on Friday, 19 December we have decided to have Fish and Chips on Tuesday, 16 December. While the ever-popular Christmas dinner is served on Wednesday 17 December.

Applied Learning Day

Thursday, 18 December is Applied Learning Day and there are a wide variety of activities and trips specific to each year group. Some are a compulsory part of the curriculum which offers the in depth building of knowledge or an enriching experience.

It is important that all students in Year 7-10 and 12 have given consent for their child to attend the trip by completing the relevant section on ParentPay. If a student does not have consent this can jeopardise their place on the trip, and they are at risk of not being taken on the trip. If you have not registered and consented on ParentPay please do so now or contact the school.

Year Group	Trip Destination
Year 7 and Year 8	Natural History Museum
Year 9	Kew Gardens
Year 10	Design Museum, Tate Britain, Adelphi Theatre
Year 11	Mock Examinations
Year 12	London Safari trip
Year 13	In school – EPQ/UCAS

Non-Uniform Day

Expectations around normal routines will remain. We expect students to arrive to school on time with the correct equipment especially their lanyards for ease of identification and their Yondr pouches. The only difference with the day will be the students will not be expected to wear their uniform.

On Friday, 19 December students are allowed to attend school in non-school uniform. This means students may wear their own clothes, Christmas jumpers or decorate their uniform. All students are requested to donate £1 to charity for the privilege or alternatively they can bring an item for the foodbank. Money and foodbank contributions will be collected on the gate on entry to the school site. There will be lessons as normal period 1 and 2 with breaktime part of that time. Some year groups will have celebration assemblies while others will have had theirs earlier in the week.

Most students will dress appropriately and will understand our expectations. The following information is so that families are aware of our expectations of appropriate dress clothes where some students may be unsure. We expect students to arrive in suitable non uniform clothes. The following items are not allowed:

- Caps of any type (these will be confiscated until the end of the day)
- Ripped jeans
- Short shorts or short skirts
- Any clothing that will show midriff (stomach)
- Any clothing that shows the shoulders

Hoodies are permitted; however, the hoods are only permitted to be over the head if the student is both outdoors and it is raining. At no other point is the hood permitted to cover the head as part of our ongoing security measures. Any student wearing jeans or trousers must ensure they fit sufficiently to cover them to the waist. Any student with clothing that exposes boxer shorts or underwear will be placed in the Reflection Room or there is a possibility, dependent on circumstances, that a phone call home will be made and the student will be directed to go home and change before returning to school.

Return to school

We return to school as normal on Monday, 5 January with students expected to be onsite and in Tutor Groups by 08.45. The first period of the day will be used to support students with the transition back into school after the end of term break. Students will be taken through expectations and achievements to support their return.

We are looking forward to celebrating and enjoying the final week of term. The students and staff have worked very hard this term, and the upcoming break is well deserved with a special mention to Year 11 students who have been superb with how they have negotiated the challenges of just over two weeks of mock examinations in preparation for their GCSEs.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back safe and well in the New Year.

Yours faithfully,



Mr Duffy
Deputy Headteacher