



1 May 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Updates and Important Information

I hope you are well. I am writing to share some of the recent successes within Year 11 and to update you on the important weeks ahead as we move ever closer to the GCSE examinations.

Our recent **Applied Learning Day** was a real highlight. Students had the valuable opportunity to watch a live performance of **An Inspector Calls**, which has already strengthened their understanding of the text and supported their revision in English literature. Alongside this, students spent focused time working on their coursework across art, technology and drama. Their engagement, creativity and determination were evident throughout the day, and we are incredibly proud of the mature attitude they demonstrated.

I would also like to extend a sincere thank you to all parents and carers who attended **Target Review Day**. This event provided an excellent opportunity for form tutors to meet with families, discuss progress, and create final action plans to ensure every student feels supported and fully prepared for their upcoming examinations. Your involvement makes a significant difference, and we truly appreciate your continued partnership.

As we approach the public examinations, your support at home remains vital. Encouraging your child to ensure they have all equipment for their examinations, revise regularly, maintain a healthy routine, and make use of the resources available to them will help build their confidence. Please remind them that there is still a wide range of **after school intervention sessions** running across subjects. Attendance at these sessions is extremely important, as they offer targeted support and can make a real impact on final outcomes.

I would like to share some important information regarding the upcoming GCSE examination period. To ensure your child is prepared, I would like to inform you that **our first examination is scheduled for Tuesday, 5 May**. The **final examination will be held on Wednesday, 17 June**. Individualised examination timetables have already been distributed to all students, and they should refer to these for their specific examination dates and times. **Please note that all students must remain available until the official contingency day on Wednesday, 24 June** in case any examinations need to be rescheduled nationally. **GCSE Results Day will take place on Thursday, 20 August**. Students will be able to collect their results on this day, and further information about timings and arrangements will be shared closer to the date.

From **Monday, 11 May** students will begin following a **structured revision timetable**. This will support them in making the most of their study time between examinations. Further details about the revision schedule will be provided by the examinations team in due course.

Looking ahead, students also have something exciting events to look forward to. Firstly, to mark the end of this important stage in their education, we will be holding an **End of Key Stage 4 Assembly** on the afternoon of **Friday, 8 May**. This will be an opportunity to celebrate students' achievements and reflect on their time at Brentside High School. Secondly, an additional letter will be emailed to families for those students invited the Year 11 Prom.

I would also like to share with you some information regarding our **Sixth Form** here at Brentside as I know many students have already made applications. The Brentside Sixth Form is a highly successful and inclusive provision, **recognised by Ofsted as 'Outstanding' (April 2025)**. Students consistently make excellent progress, placing the sixth form in the **top 6-7% nationally for A-Level progress, the top 5% for Applied General qualifications, and the top 5% for Technical Certificate progress**. Ofsted highlighted that 'the sixth form is highly inclusive and provides students with an exceptional quality of provision, both for their academic and their wider development', noting also that 'the ambitious curriculum enables students to achieve excellent outcomes across both A-Level and vocational pathways'. In addition, they have acknowledged that 'the student led ASPIRE programme offers valuable opportunities for those wishing to pursue competitive careers such as medicine and dentistry', further enhancing students' future prospects.

As a final note, I would like to remind families that Yondr pouches have been loaned to Year 11 students and we will continue to use them in support of students taking their GCSEs. We will announce a suitable date toward the end of the GCSEs whereby we will collect all Yondr pouches from students for the incoming Year 6 cohort in September 2026.

Thank you once again for your ongoing support. Together, we can ensure that every student feels prepared, motivated and confident as they approach this crucial period.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "C. Allen". The letters are slightly slanted and have a casual, personal feel.

Miss Allen
Year Leader for Year 11