



Bristol Free School
Concorde Drive
Bristol BS10 6NJ

Tel: 0117 959 7200
admin@bristolfreeschool.org.uk
www.bristolfreeschool.org.uk

Headteacher: Mrs S. King

6 September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome back to a new school year at BFS

Students arrived at school looking very smart this week. This would not have happened without your support, which is much appreciated. If you do have any difficulties sourcing school uniform, please let your child's tutor know via email in advance and refer to the school website if you are unsure of our expectations for uniform ([Bristol Free School](http://www.bristolfreeschool.org.uk)).

Parent Update Term 1

I will hold a virtual parent update event on Wednesday 16 October at 5.30pm. This will be a chance for me to share the school priorities for the year ahead and answer any general questions parents/carers may wish to ask. Any specific queries about your child would be best directed to your child's tutor. The event will be recorded if the time is not convenient for you.

Mobile Phones Year 7 to Year 11

BFS has not changed its mobile phone policy. Mobile phones can be taken to school (at your own risk) but are not to be seen or used during the school day. We will confiscate mobile phones if seen and parents/carers will be informed if this becomes a pattern. Many schools are strengthening their restriction of mobile phones due to the distraction they have on learning so we will keep reviewing this policy to support our learning culture.

Attendance

There is a national drive to improve attendance at school. As part of this the government has asked all schools to share their Attendance Policy with families at the start of the school year. The key change is that students arriving late after 9.00am will have an absent mark for the AM session.

Parent Code of Conduct

The Russell Education Trust has recently introduced a Parent Code of Conduct that has been developed to protect staff in their schools. Most of our parents/carers at BFS are incredibly respectful and supportive of staff. Occasionally, throughout the Trust, there have been incidences of parents and carers behaving inappropriately on school sites and in their communications with school staff. You will appreciate that we have a responsibility to protect our staff from intimidation and abuse, and to protect our students from witnessing aggressive and inappropriate behaviour. That is the aim of the Parent Code of Conduct which is enclosed with this letter for your information.

Road Safety – Concorde Drive

For everyone's safety, please do not drive/park on Concorde Drive to drop off or pick your child up from outside school. We are a very large school of over 1300 students situated on a narrow road which makes it very dangerous at peak times. We had a "near miss" last year and are very concerned about road safety. We have raised this with the local council and will continue to campaign for better road safety measures around the school. If you need to drive your child to school, please arrange a drop off/collection point nearby, not on Concorde Drive.



I hope you enjoy the newsletter this week which is a celebration of our fantastic examination results this summer.
I look forward to working with you.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S King', with a stylized, cursive script.

Mrs S King
Headteacher