



Blue Coat Church of England Academy

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Principal: Mr D Smith

14th July 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

The end of term for students will be at 3.00p.m. on Thursday 17th July 2025. The term will conclude with an assembly in St. Matthew's Church. Students will be dismissed from church at the end of the school day.

The last day of term will be a fundraising non-uniform day, with a minimum donation of £1 per student. All monies raised will contribute to a fundraising campaign to support young people in the local area through the summer holidays through The Black Country Foodbank. It is important that students come properly prepared for school with a bag and equipment as normal. Lessons will operate as normal.

Parent/Carer Survey

As we approach the end of the school year, we are keen to gather the views of parents/carers and would be grateful if you could complete a short survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ParentSurveySummer2025>

School Catering

Over the course of the last few months the school caterers Miquill have conducted an extensive student survey. A representative has provided feedback to students through assemblies. I am aware that queuing is always something which frustrates students and while this is inevitable to some extent, we have been exploring ways to speed up the process. You should have already received some information regarding a new system which uses facial recognition which we are introducing from September. More details are available on the school website:

<https://www.bluecoatacademy.org/latest-news/facial-recognition-is-coming-to-blue-coat-ce-academy/>

As a reminder, if your circumstances have changed, you may be entitled to free school meals. Check this out by visiting:

<https://www.bluecoatacademy.org/free-school-meals/>

If you are unable to complete the form online, please let your child's Head of Year know so that we can provide you with the necessary support. Please be assured that your application will be treated with the utmost confidentiality, and it will not affect any other benefits you may be receiving.

Collection of Exam Results

Years 12 and 13 – A Level results will be available on Thursday 14th August 2025 between 8.00a.m. and 10.30a.m.

Year 11 – GCSE results can be collected on Thursday 21st August 2025 between 8.30a.m. and 10.30a.m.

Students wishing to attend Sixth Form at Blue Coat need to collect results in person and sign up to courses on Thursday 21st August ready for September.

Students who are unable to collect results should visit <https://www.bluecoatacademy.org/exam-results-2025/> for details on how to obtain their results.

Please collect all results from the Tonks' Building.



School Photographer

The school photographer will be in school on Friday 12th September 2025. All students will need to attend in full school uniform on that day.

Arbor Parent Portal and App

Thank you to everyone who has already signed up for the Arbor App. The Arbor Parent App allows you to:

- Access your child's academic progress: View attendance, exam timetables and reports in real-time.
- Stay updated on school events: Receive notifications about important school announcements, events and calendar dates.
- Report absences
- Update your own contact details

The Arbor Parent Portal and App is designed to be user-friendly and accessible on both iOS and Android devices. A welcome email was sent to all primary guardians just before Easter, it is useful for all guardians to have the app as guardians can only update their own contact details and their child's but not the other contacts. If you have any questions or need assistance with the app, please don't hesitate to contact the Academy via email – bcacomms@bluecoatacademy.org

The Arbor App will provide you with early access to your child's timetable for September 2025.

Uniform

Uniform is something upon which we pride ourselves. Please ensure that your child wears the correct uniform, with the Blue Coat badge. If buying new shoes for your child this summer, please ensure they are plain black with no logos and definitely no training shoes. All students must be in full uniform for the start of the new term. It is important that students are equipped for learning every day. All students should have basic equipment including a pen, pencil, ruler and scientific calculator. Should you have any queries regarding the uniform, please do not hesitate to contact the school before the end of term. I appreciate all of your support in ensuring students adhere to our Uniform Policy.

The school P.E. uniform can only be purchased from school, orders can be placed via School Gateway which you can register for and log into via the school website:

www.bluecoatacademy.org/parents-carers/online-payments

Orders can be collected from the school reception between 2.00p.m. – 3.00p.m. each day during term time.

Please make sure that orders are placed as soon as possible if you want items of P.E. uniform before the end of term. Please note that prices will increase in September, all orders placed before September will be honoured at the current price. Orders should be placed and paid for online using School Gateway:

<https://login.schoolgateway.com/0/auth/login>

There will also be an opportunity to collect orders or purchase P.E. uniform between 12.00p.m. and 2.00p.m on Thursday 21st August 2025, this is the last date for collection before the Academy reopens on Tuesday 2nd September.

Autumn Term

From the start of next term, we are adjusting the timing of the start of the school day. We will be introducing a 10-minute session at the start of each day from 8.30a.m. where we will encourage students to make their way to their form room to make time for a check-in to make sure that all students are properly prepared for the school day. The formal form tutor period will then begin at 8.40a.m. – this is an important period in the day where students cover important aspects of the personal development curriculum, develop their understanding of effective study skills and promote important key skills which support effective engagement in their other lessons.

The academy re-opens for students next term on Tuesday 2nd September 2025. There will be a phased return to school to accommodate various induction activities which are taking place, which gives us the opportunity to

settle Year 7 into the school and accommodate some focussed work with Years 11, 12 and 13, before the rest of the school return. I would remind you that no students are allowed to leave the site at lunchtime.

Tuesday 2nd September – Year 12 students attend for enrolment and induction

Wednesday 3rd September – Students in Years 7 and 13 return to school, along with Year 12

Thursday 4th September – Students in Year 11 return to school, along with Year 7, 12 and 13.

Friday 5th September – All Year groups in school at normal time. Church Assembly will run as normal – all students should attend in full school uniform.

Term Dates 2025-26

As previously communicated, the term dates for the next academic year are:

Autumn Term 2025

Term starts: Monday 1st September 2025

Half term holiday: Monday 20th October 2025 to Friday 31st October 2025

Term ends: Friday 19th December 2025

Spring Term 2026

Term starts: Monday 5th January 2026

Half term holiday: Monday 16th February 2026 to Friday 20th February 2026

Term ends: Friday 27th March 2026

Summer Term 2026

Term starts: Monday 13th April 2026

Half term holiday: Monday 25th May 2026 to Friday 29th May 2026

Term ends: Tuesday 21st July 2026

As always, I am very much looking forward to continuing to develop good relationships with parents/carers to ensure that we are providing the best possible learning experiences for all students. I know that I, along with all of the staff and governors at Blue Coat Academy are grateful for your continued support over the past year and look forward to working with you again next year. I would also like to take this opportunity to wish you a very happy, restful and peaceful summer break.

Yours faithfully



Mr D Smith
Principal