



Blue Coat Church of England Academy

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Principal: Mr D Smith

13th October 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a busy start to the new school year. The changes which we have introduced this year are designed to establish a better rhythm for learning for students and to ensure more full weeks of teaching across the school year. While students are in school for the same number of days across the school year, we hope that the new structure will support students to learn more effectively as each half term is more equally spread out. Students last day in school this half term will be Friday 17th October 2025 (normal time). We will return to school at 8.30a.m. on Monday 3rd November 2025.

We have welcomed a number of new staff to the school at the beginning of this school year:

Ms Akhtar – Learning Support Assistant

Mr Ali - Teacher of Mathematics

Miss Allen – Teacher of Art

Dr Hills – Lead Practitioner (Mathematics)

Mrs Holmes – Teacher of English

Mr Ingar – Teacher of Geography

Miss Lambrias - Learning Support Assistant

Mrs McKeon – Assistant Principal (Personal Development)

Mr Newman – Teacher of English

Mr Stanton – Teacher of Mathematics

Miss Ul-Haq - Teacher of Mathematics

School Partners Football League Game

Following the success of the School Partners matches in previous seasons, we have again been invited to participate in the scheme offering reduced priced tickets for the “School Partners” Football League 2 match, the Walsall v Bromley fixture on Saturday 29th November 2025. A separate letter from Walsall F.C. is being sent out with this letter – the deadline to return forms and make payments will be Friday 7th November 2025. **Please note that tickets will be sent by Walsall F.C. via email.**

Student Safety

We have experienced some issues since the start of term with parents/carers parking inappropriately outside the school. No parents/carers are allowed on to the school site to park and we would encourage you to arrange drop off and pick-up points away from the immediate vicinity of the school where parking is available.

As the nights draw in, we would appreciate your support to ensure that students take sensible precautions when travelling to and from school including avoiding being distracted by mobile phones when crossing roads. **Students must not remain on the school site at the end of the school day unless they are attending a supervised activity.**



Arbor Parent Portal and App

Thank you to everyone who has already signed up for the Arbor App which 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. If you are not signed up then you could miss out on important updates and information.

If you have any questions or need assistance with the app please don't hesitate to contact the Academy via email – bcacomms@bluecoatacademy.org.

Attendance

Finally, can I please remind all families of the importance of school attendance. Research shows that students who fall below 95% attendance achieve lower exam results, which will impact on future opportunities. If your child has only 90% attendance for their five years in school, it means they will have missed half a school year of education. As a school community we want the very best for all students and this requires full attendance. Thank you in advance for your support with this.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D. Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

D. Smith
Principal