



# BURSCOUGH PRIORY ACADEMY

Burscough Priory Academy,  
Trevor Road,  
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Website: [www.burscoughprioryacademy.org](http://www.burscoughprioryacademy.org)

Executive Headteacher: Mrs L. A. Gwinnett

Ref: 3138 LMA

28<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian,

## End of Half Term Update

As we are now at the end of the first summer term, we want to write to you all to express our thanks for your continued support, offer some reflection and an update for the term to come.

### Half Term Review

It has been a fantastic half term, extremely busy but calm and purposeful in school. That being said, we know that all the students and staff are looking forward to a well-earned break and rest next week. Whilst continuing to maintain the strict health and safety protocols, everyone has worked diligently to juggle the Covid related practice in school whilst trying to offer a near normal school experience. There has been so much to be proud of this term; the way Year 11 have responded to the assessment process, yesterday's excellent and 'current' PSHCE day followed by a truly collaborative Parents' Evening for Year 10. We have finished the term with rewards and awards being sent to parents this afternoon – a lovely way to start the weekend and the break.

### Staffing

At the end of this term we say goodbye to Mrs Brook who has secured a new post within the Trust following her maternity leave. I know that many of you have already passed on your messages of good luck.

Ms Davies in the Attendance Team will also be moving to a new post as we move into the final summer term. She leaves with our very best wishes as she takes up her new role.

### Thank you

This year, Teacher Assessed Grades [and the whole process that belies them] have replaced this year's GCSE examinations for Year 11 students. There are so many colleagues right across the country who have openly talked about this half term being the most challenging in their career because of the workload and pressure. We know that Year 11 appreciate all of their hard work, but we want to acknowledge this and say a huge thank you to the staff team at BPA. The students are lucky to have such a strong, passionate and committed team and I am proud to lead this staff- those who are teach and those who support teachers to teach.



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## Class of 2021

That being said about the staff, never more has a group of young people inspired us adults. Their patient, mature and resilient approach to what they have faced will no doubt stand them in very good stead for what is to come.

The Class of 2021 said an emotional goodbye to BPA at their Leavers' Celebration and Assembly. This year group have faced great challenge and uncertainty but they have continued to attend, work hard and show incredible resilience- they are a year group who are so highly thought of by all of the staff. We have watched you grow, mature and blossom from the children that started in 2016 to the fine young adults we see now. They are the reason we do this job.

As we move through the UK roadmap out of the restrictions, we will provide you with an update about the organisation of the Valedictory Dinner on Thursday 1 July and then Examination Results Day, scheduled for Thursday 12 August.

## Looking Ahead

Just like this half term, Summer Term 2 is sure to be very busy! The final term will see all students complete a range of assessments, Year 9 will be preparing for the start of their GCSE year, Year 10 will complete the first year of their GCSE course, Year 8 will prepare for their streamlined curriculum options in Year 9 and Year 7 will be coming towards the end of their very first year of life at school. This all takes place as we begin to induct the Year 6 students into the BPA family. We hope that restrictions lift in June so that we can enjoy some of the 'normal' whole school events that we are accustomed to such as sports day, enrichment days and college trips for Year 10.

As a reminder and you will have received a letter to confirm, here are two key sets of dates for the weeks to come:

**Week commencing Monday 7 June-** Year 10 Practice Examinations

**Week commencing Monday 14 June** – Year 7, 8 & 9 in class assessments and examinations

## Uniform Update

Some of you may be aware that we are changing uniform suppliers. This is in the final contractual stages and we are awaiting an update about when the stock will be available from the new suppliers. As and when (and we expect this imminently), we will let you know about the supplier, the ordering process and any further, related information.

In the meantime, if you do need a particular item of uniform, please contact school and we will source this for you.



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## Covid -19 Update

As noted previously, the Lateral Flow Testing Programme is expected to continue during the half term week. Please take tests on Sunday night or Monday, then again on Thursday and then followed by Sunday/Monday again before we return to school. Tests should be recorded on the government's site as well as directly to school. If any test is positive, please email [enquiries@burscoughprioryacademy.org](mailto:enquiries@burscoughprioryacademy.org) to highlight this to school. Following the positive test, all of the family (or bubble) should self-isolate and the individual must book a PCR test. Following the result of the PCR test, this should also be reported to school.

Since our last update about the use of face coverings, we received a further update from the public health officials supported by the local authority which recommended that all students and staff continue to wear them until mid-June, right across Lancashire. Sensibly, like our colleagues right across the county, we will adhere to this advice. This will be in classroom and communal areas in school for both our staff and students. Attached to this letter you will find a copy of the update from Dr Sakthi Karunanithi, Director of Public Health for Lancashire.

On the first day of the new term, we will have an assembly and a session to outline (and give practise time) to some simple changes in school routines. Monday 7 June will follow all of the routines that are in place today. In summary, the revised routines that will start from Tuesday 8 June are:

- Year 7 will use the front gate (on Trevor Road) to enter site in the morning and move to the back yard via the green gate
- Year 7 (and 8) will use the front gate at the end of the day, leaving site at 3.10pm
- Year 9 and 10 will continue to use the front gate at the end of the day leaving site at 3.15pm
- Students will line up for lessons on the yard at 8.45am, after break and lunchtime
- In between some lessons, students will move around the school following the designated (and strict) one-way system whilst wearing masks.

Despite all of the challenges we have faced over the past fifteen months, we take nothing for granted and often pause to reflect on how much this community has achieved together. On behalf of all of the staff, we wish everyone a safe and enjoyable half term break. We look forward to greeting the students in Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 on Monday 7 June at 8.45am for a fantastic final term of the year.

Yours faithfully,

*L MacLaren*

Mrs MacLaren  
Head of School



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