



Year 9 Newsletter

September 2011

WELCOME BACK NEWSLETTER

Dear Parent/Guardian

After a relaxing and enjoyable summer break, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Year 9 students on their excellent dedication towards the Year 8 Certificate of Achievement last year. I am extremely impressed with their enthusiasm for embracing the wide range of extracurricular activities available to them at Bexley Grammar School and truly hope that they continue to do so during this academic year.

Time is flying by; the year group are now moving into Key Stage 4 and will begin studying for their GCSEs in several core subjects. It is an exciting and challenging time for the students; they have begun learning in new teaching sets and will also start to think about their futures in preparation for choosing their GCSE option choices in the spring term. Your support as parents has been greatly appreciated by me and my excellent team of Form Tutors. We will continue to support and develop your child on the road to reaching their potential, and I hope that by continuing to work together we can strive for a high level of achievement.

Communication between parents, students and teachers is important, so please continue to make use of the student planner which should be monitored on a weekly basis by both you and Form Tutors.

I would like to wish all Year 9 students the best of luck in starting their Key Stage 4 studies. If you have any queries, please view the School website or contact your son's/daughter's Form Tutor for further information.

Yours sincerely

Mrs L Gradley
Director of Studies, Year 9

HELPFUL REMINDERS

- The weekly newsletter will be available via parentmail every Friday or alternatively on the school website www.bexleygs.co.uk. This will enable you to see the excellent opportunities that we offer at Bexley Grammar School across the whole school. Hard copies of the newsletter are available at Reception.
- To add money onto the lunch account for your son/daughter you will need to access your account through www.parentpay.com. If there are any problems, you can contact the Finance Office.
- School planners have been issued so that pupils, parents and the school can keep up to date with pupil progress.
- Please can I remind your son/daughter that they must have a padlock on their locker. Spare keys may be given to Form Tutors.
- Please return reply slips for the Year 8 summer term reports to Form Tutors as soon as possible.

THE YEAR 9 TEAM

Director of Studies

Mrs L Gradley

Senior Academic Mentor

Miss S Brand

Form Tutors

Miss P Bartlett	9PEB
Miss L Burden	9LRB
Mr M Lawrence	9MGL
Mr T Murray	9TM
Mrs K Purdom	9KAP
Miss N Thurlow	9NET

CLARIFICATION OF UNIFORM RULES FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2011-2012

I would like to ensure that students and parents are clear about the uniform policy and therefore would like to clarify the following which can also be found in the school planner:

SCHOOL UNIFORM

It is policy to have School uniform and all students must keep to the following regulations. They are designed to be as simple as possible but no list can be completely comprehensive. If in doubt about any items it will be necessary to consult the Headmaster whose decision must be final. **Items marked * are compulsory.** Where other items are bought, please follow the guidelines given.

NB There are no official School outfitters. The following stores are aware of the School's uniform regulations:

Caseys	Matthews Ltd
240 Blackfen Road	33 Upper Wickham Lane
Sidcup	Welling
020 8850 8645	020 8303 1834

These outfitters do not sell all the items mentioned; other outfitters such as Marks &

Spencer, BHS and John Lewis, Bluewater may supply comparable items.

***Shoes**

- Plain black with no contrasting trimmings.
- No other colours are allowed.
- Shoes must be of a substantial style with a full toe and heel.
- Definitely **no boots, kickers, canvas shoes, trainers or shoes that cover the ankle.**

***Tights or Socks** must be worn.

- For boys: plain black or grey colour.
- For girls: must be ankle length socks or full tights. Leggings, leg warmers & knee high socks/tights are **not** allowed.

***Trousers** (boys)

- Mid or dark grey long trousers.

***Skirt** (girls)

- Mid/dark grey skirt with single, double box or knife pleats.
- Pleats must be all round the skirt and must begin at the waist.
- This is the only type of skirt to be worn until Year 10.
- In Year 10 and Year 11 a straight A-line skirt (without slits) may be worn.
- Skirts must be no shorter than 2 inches above the knee.
- Please note that mini-skirts are not suitable for School.

***Shirt**

- Plain light blue with a collar, short or long sleeves but not sleeveless.
- Shirts/blouses must be tucked in.
- Polo shirts and T-shirts must **not** be worn.

***Blouse**

- Plain light blue with a rever collar, short or long sleeves but not sleeveless.
No long sleeved tops to be worn underneath shirts or blouses.

***Blazer**

- Navy blue, not black, with House Badge.
- Badges are available from the School.

Pullover (optional)

- **Only to be worn with a blazer**

The official navy blue School pullover, V-necked with embroidered School logo, is available from Caseys and Matthews. No other logo is acceptable. Sweatshirts, cardigans or sports tops may **not** be worn.

***Tie**

- Navy blue with a single Bexley Grammar School badge.

***Carpenter's Apron**

- Unbleached/off-white carpenter's apron or equivalent is required for Science and Technology lessons.

Hair

- Hairstyles must not include motifs or tracks and should be one natural hair colour
- Ribbons/hair clips if worn must be navy blue or black.
- Students must be clean shaven.

Topcoat

- Navy blue, dark grey, or black top-coat. These should be in a simple style and without additional colours, denim material or logos. Our concern with this regulation is that the reputation of the School is judged by the appearance of students on their journeys to and from School. Leather coats should not be worn as the School cannot accept responsibility for loss or damage.
- Scarves and gloves must be black or navy (no sports team scarves).
- Outdoor wear should not be worn around the school between lessons.

Jewellery

- No jewellery, apart from a wristwatch, is permitted
- Any body piercing should be arranged for the summer holiday so that studs etc. can be removed while at school.
- Make-up must not be obvious. Coloured nail varnish is not permitted.