

HIGH STANDARDS, HIGH ASPIRATIONS, HIGH EXPECTATIONS

10th December 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

As I write this, we are deep into Term 2 and rapidly heading towards the festive break. The Year 10s have equipped themselves well to deal with the rigor of GCSE studies and have made a strong start across the board. In this newsletter I will remind you of some key dates for the year ahead, I will share the core mock timetable for Term 3 and also an update regarding the Bromcom Student App and Homework in Year 10.

Key Dates

Event	Date (*subject to change)
Core Mocks	Thursday 16 th to Tuesday 21 st January
Reports Home:	TBC – in time for subject evening
Subject Evening:	Thursday 13 th February 2025
Term 6 Mock Exams:	W/C Monday 23 rd June 2025
Careers Week:	W/C Tuesday 8 th July 2025
Reports Home:	Thursday 17 th July 2025

Core Mocks and Mid-Year Assessments

In January, we will sit our first set of ‘mocks’ in the three core subjects of English, Maths and Science. This will replicate the actual exam conditions of the public exam series and will be a good first taste of what to expect in the summer of 2026. There will be 6 mock exams in total, 3 in Maths, 2 in Science and 1 in English. The timetable can be found here:

<https://bristolmetropolitanacademy.clf.uk/wp-content/uploads/Y10-T3-Mock-Timetable-Jan-2025.pdf>

In assemblies and tutor time, I have been working with the students on making a plan early to complete some revision for these mocks. We spoke of the benefit of revising for these early mocks as a way of banking time and knowledge for future revision. Here you will find a link to a PDF document of a booklet containing blank revision planning timetables, of which the students have received a hard copy of last week.

<https://bristolmetropolitanacademy.clf.uk/wp-content/uploads/Jan-Mock-Revision-Planner.pdf>

Please do ask to see your child’s plan for revision and encourage them to stick to it. At this early stage of the GCSE courses it is all about developing habits which will seem them succeed over the course of the next two years.

Bromcom Student Portal App and MCAS App



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Last week we also helped students to download the Bromcom Student Portal App onto their phones during tutor time. Although we are still a mobile phone free site during the school day, the app provides the opportunity for staff to set and record homework tasks that students can then view and keep track of at home. This move came after taking student and parent voice around the recording of homework in Year 10.

If your child is yet to download the app, please see the guide attached below which has a step-by-step guide on how to download it. If they don't want to have it on their phone, or their phone does not support the app, then they can also access the Bromcom Student Portal via desktop. It is also now on the homepage when they log on to a school computer.

<https://bristolmetropolitanacademy.clf.uk/wp-content/uploads/Bromcom-VLE-Student-App-Magic-Link-2-1-1.pdf>

I have asked teachers of Year 10 to have a trial of setting homework on the Student Portal over the next two weeks by way of a 'soft launch'. Hopefully the process will be fully ready for Term 3.

Exam Access Arrangements

We are still working our way through students on the SEND register and their assessment of need to determine whether they might be eligible for exam access arrangements for the 2026 exam series. If you have yet to return the parental consent form sent out in term 6 at the end of the last academic year, we welcome their return as soon as possible.

Targets and Data

For those who are aware of how target setting works at secondary level, you will be aware that due to COVID and a lack of SATS in primary school, national targets will not be set for this year group. As such, the CLF will be using baseline data from tests taken in Year 7 to create nominal targets for the students. We hope to have these ready by the time we publish reports/have our Year 10 subject evening. We thank you for your patience on this matter.

Punctuality and Attendance

Our year group attendance last week was at 87.5%. As we enter winter, I know seasonal illness will be on the rise, but please can I ask that students do return to school as soon as they are well enough to do so and ask their teachers how they might catch up on missed work. Further to previous communications, I'd like to remind you that all students are expected in the building by 8.35am at the latest, with the main academy doors closing at this time. Some of our students are missing out on our tutor programme and fortnightly assemblies by arriving after this time.

I look forward to working with yourselves and your children over the course of the coming months during this academic year. As always, any questions or queries then please do use our central mailbox - info@bristolmet.net .

Kind regards

Andrew Price

Year 10 Raising Attainment Lead | Associate Assistant Principal