



Biddenham

International School & Sports College

Principal: Mr David Bailey

Head of School: Ms Eleanor Grylls

16th September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

I wanted to write to you to introduce myself as the Head of Sixth Form at Biddenham and give some details about the direction for Year 12 during this academic year.

Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity to let you know how impressed we all are with the attitude and effort that the year group have shown since starting in Sixth Form. We have an ethos within Sixth Form of high achievement with a supportive culture and we can already see how the year group has adapted to this environment. It is important to remember that students should ensure they use the support of their teachers and the pastoral team as well as the resources available to them both online and via the library at school to complete their independent learning expected of them at this stage to enable them to progress to their full potential.

I would also like to take this opportunity to re-emphasise the importance of attendance throughout the year. Poor attendance significantly impacts academic achievement and in recent years we have seen that where a student's attendance drops below 90% they achieve one grade lower than expected. Therefore, your child must be present so that they are able to make the most of their lessons and the additional support their teachers provide. Students are expected to attend the additional wrap-around support provided to them which include tutor times, assemblies, EPQ/Core Maths, Skills lessons and the Wednesday wellbeing session.

Students are expected to be in school before 8am for their allocated tutor sessions and before 8:50 a.m. on Tuesday. They should be onsite until 2:35 p.m. everyday. Should your child be ill, then you should report this via the Sixth Form Attendance email address on sixthformattendance@mybiddenham.com or call 01234 342521. If the need arises during the school day and you need to contact your child please can we encourage you to do this via the school office and avoid calling your child while they could be in a lesson.

I have also included a calendar of Sixth Form events for your reference. As you can see, we have a wide range of extracurricular opportunities for our students at Biddenham Sixth Form, both in person and online. Please note the work experience week from **November 4th** for our L3 students (details about this will be shared in a subsequent letter.)

Moving forward, there will be an assessment week on 21st October for all A level/Level 3 students, which will be an indicator of how students are progressing in their subjects. You will receive a report on 18th November so you will be able to see how well your child has started on their A level journey.

If you have any questions regarding the report then please feel free to get in contact with your child's tutor via email or please call to arrange a convenient time for the tutor to give you a call.

Biddenham Turn, Biddenham, Bedford, MK40 4AZ

Tel: 01234 342521

Fax: 01234 334530

Email: enquiries@biddenham.beds.sch.uk

Website: biddenham.beds.sch.uk

The Sixth Form pastoral team is as follows:

Tutors:

Mrs. G. Johnstone gail.johnstone@mybiddenham.com
Mrs. N. Fountain nic.fountain@mybiddenham.com

Pastoral Leads:


Mr. A. Smith ali.smith@mybiddenham.com (Y12)
Mr. A. Shakoor abdul.shakoor@mybiddenham.com (Y13)

Head of Year:

Mr. E. Evans ed.evans@mybiddenham.com

On behalf of the Sixth Form pastoral team, we look forward to working in partnership with you and your child for a successful year ahead.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Ed Evans', with a horizontal line underneath.

Mr. E. Evans.
Head of Sixth Form