



# TERM 2 PARENT/CARER NEWSLETTER

January 2023 – March 2023

**Term 2 – Arts**

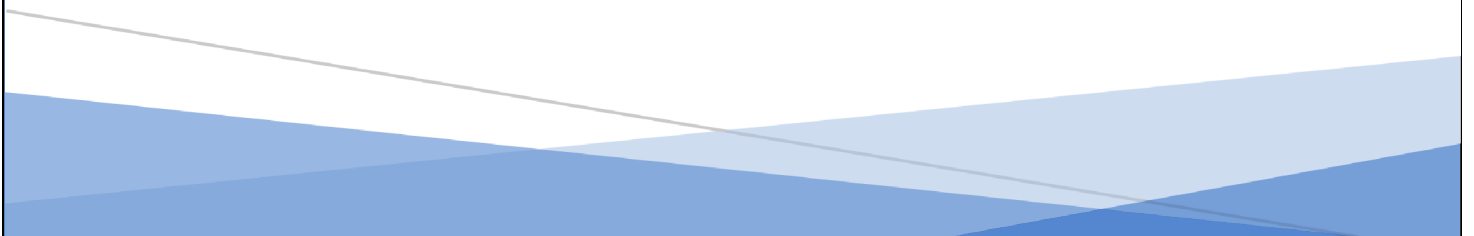
## Update from the Principal

Hello and welcome to the Spring Term Newsletter for Parents/Carers.

This newsletter provides a summary of some of the activities students have been involved in this term. I hope you enjoy reading about all the events that have taken place across the term.

I hope you all have a relaxing and enjoyable holiday and extend my best wishes to all our families celebrating Eid or Easter in April.

Mrs Hobbs  
Acting Principal



## **Year Group Messages**

### **Message for Year 7**

Dear Year 7,

During this term you have all shown growth, independence and friendship throughout school and on the residential trip activities. This growth and strengthening of character will help you to prepare for your final term. The summer term holds yet more excitement where you will be competing in the whole school Sports Day and your Gold Rewards Event.

I look forward to watching you become role models for our next intake of new students. Each one of you will help our school to demonstrate how the core values underpin all we do.

Have a wonderful break Year 7.

Miss Brassington  
Head of Year 7

### **Year 7 Residential Trip**

[CLICK HERE TO READ THE WEBSITE NEWS STORY](#)



## Message for Year 8

Dear Year 8,

A big well done to everyone in Year 8 for the way you have applied yourself since returning to school this spring term. It has been a very busy term, with lots going on in and out of the school building.

I would like to give a special mention and say well done to those students who went on the residential to Outward Bound. It was lovely to see you excelling in some difficult tasks and circumstances that tested not only your physical strength but your mental strength too. You demonstrated the core values, which made me proud.

I would also like to say a big well done to the year 8 girls' football team for representing the school with pride and always giving your all whenever you step on to the football pitch. As we approach the summer term, we must continue to strive for excellence in all that we do. Continuing to show and follow our 4 core values: integrity, honesty, compassion, and excellence on a daily basis; being the best version of yourself.

I wish you a restful holiday spending time with your family and friends, making memories to treasure along the way. Take care, and I look forward to seeing you all when we return.

Thank you  
Mr Kaine  
Head of Year 8

## Message for Year 9

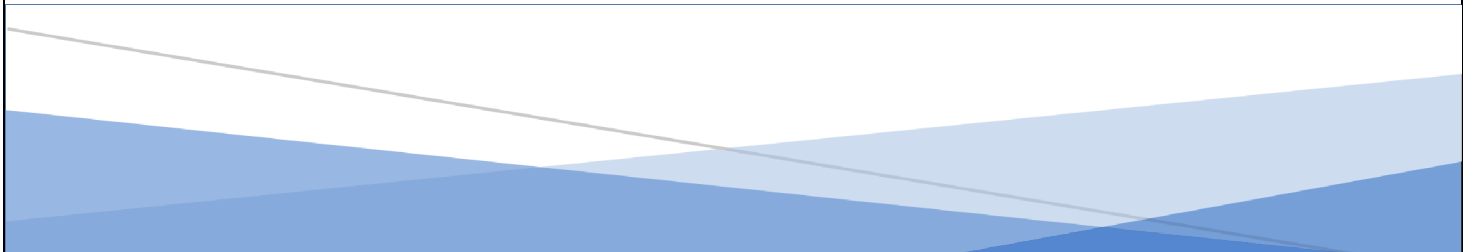
Dear Year 9,

Well done for all your hard work during the Spring Term of 2023. You have made leaps and bounds improving attendance, attitude to learning and general behaviour.

You have all made the big decision and selected your options. Now it is time to focus. Having a good attitude towards learning will have a positive impact on your progress in lessons. This will allow you to achieve your full potential in year 9, which will allow you to have a successful start to GCSE's in Year 10.

Students involved in the Commando Joe programme continue to display excellent engagement with the activities. You continue to make improvements, building resilience; listening skills; communicating ideas and working together as a team. Well done for giving your best. Congratulations to all students who received awards in the celebration assembly. Enjoy your holidays and I look forward to seeing you in April for the summer term.

Miss Klu  
Head of Year 9



## Message for Year 10

Dear Year 10,

As the end of term approaches, I would like to reflect on all your achievements so far this year and congratulate all of you who received awards in the celebration's assemblies.

The summer term will include your first attempt at sitting GCSE exam papers so it is important that you continue to work hard.

We would like to congratulate the Year 10 football team who have won the Bradford School's League!! The team have played some brilliant football with pace, power and fair. This coupled with a fantastic attitude representing the school and our values of compassion, honesty, integrity and excellence. You have exemplified what it means to be a team! They have played out of their socks all season. Well done to the team, captain and manager. Thank you to all the staff and students that have supported them".

Roll on the round of champion's semi-finals.

I hope you have a relaxing holiday. Stay safe and I will see you on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023.

Mr Stokes  
Head of Year 10

## Message for Year 11

Year 11 have had another fantastic term! Students have continued to show a positive attitude towards their learning and their behaviour. I am proud of them all!

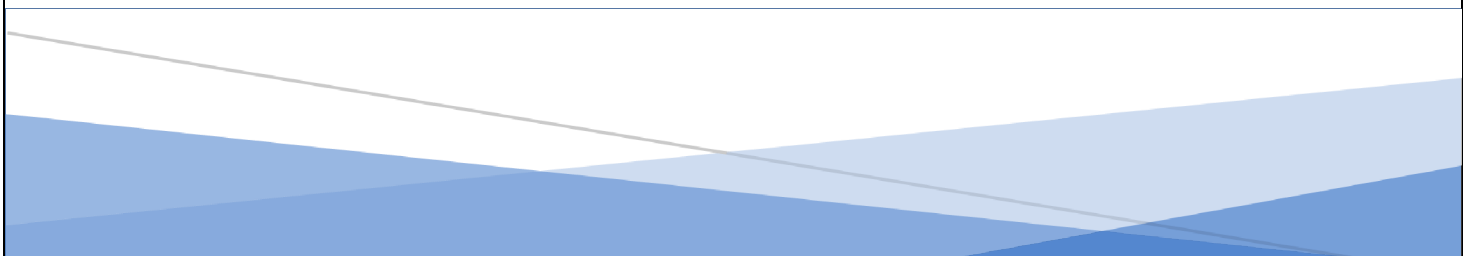
The Year 11 Leadership team have been set two challenges this term; to fundraise and for a local food bank and to make a changes in school to address the challenges of climate change.

**The "Favouring Food Bank" Team** - Have asked both students and staff to donate supplies to support local food banks.

**The "Go Green" Team** - Will be focusing on raising the profile of recycling at school, decreasing the amount of plastic used and fundraising to buy more suitable bins for around the building to promote recycling.

Students have also completed a second series of mock exams. Their attitude and behaviour was excellent throughout. I hope all students have a restful but proactive break ahead of what will be the final chapter in their One In A Million journey!

Mr Brennan  
Head of Year 11 & Attendance Manager



## Student Leadership – Spring Term

This term the Student Council team have been involved in a number of projects including; changes to the school lunch, evaluating the school planner, enhancing the school house system badges and planning Ramadan support for students and EID celebrations. They were also invited to take part in a 'Local Democracy Workshop' at Bradford City Hall, which included a tour of the magnificent courtroom, the Lord Mayor's office and Council Chamber. During the visit students met with Councillor Sue Duffy and had lunch with Lord Mayor, Martin Love.

Six student leaders were tasked as researchers for the 'Fix our Food' project. The students were asked to conduct research into Free School Meals (FSM) focused on the research question; 'Does the current allowance for free school meals allow young people to choose tasty, healthy and sustainable food at school?'

The first stage of the research project included working with six other schools and a team of researchers for an initial research day at York University. The day focused on: why FSMs are important; what healthy foods are; what sustainable food is and how the research project will be conducted.

The next stage involved the six students purchasing a lunch everyday for a week; the students had to select a lunch that is healthy and sustainable, but that they would also want to eat, all within the FSM budget. Each day they had to fill in research sheets and discuss options chosen relating back to the research question. The findings from the research will be gathered together and analysed. The hope is the 'Fix our Food' project can take the findings to parliament!

Our Year 11 Leaders have launched their two initiatives; 'Going Green' and 'Supporting our community'. Next term we will see the impact of these. Our Head Boy and Head Girl have also delivered whole school assemblies this term.

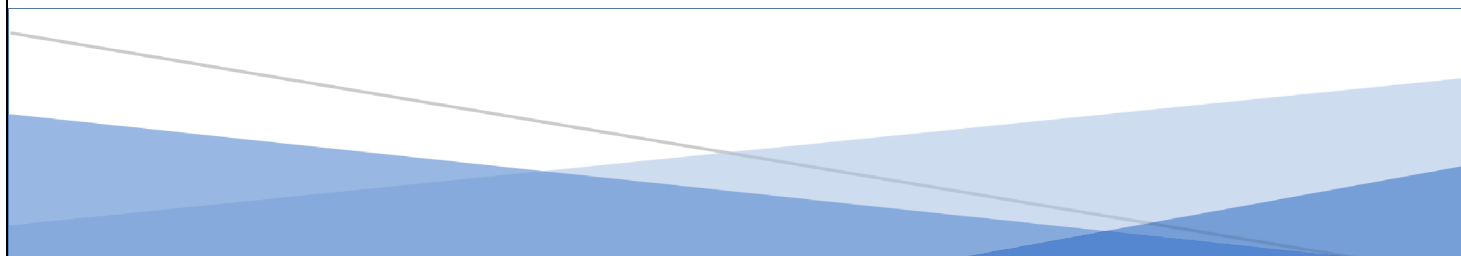
## Values Champion

Values Champions were chosen for this term. Students are wearing their badges with pride, acting as student role models and enjoying the use of the 'queue jumping' in the canteen. Six students who consistently demonstrated our school values during the Residential were also awarded with Value Champion awards.

Well done to all.

## Enrichment

This term's enrichment timetable has included: Reading and Homework club, Food Life Skills, Art club, Jiu-Jitsu, Mindfulness, British Sign Language, Archery, First Aid, Basketball and Girls football.



## House System

Students have been involved in a number of house competitions for the Arts term including: World Book Day Treasure Hunt, Food Bank donation (lead by Year 11 student leaders) and the Best House represented at the Outward Bound Residential.

Currently Lister is taking the lead. Go LISTER!

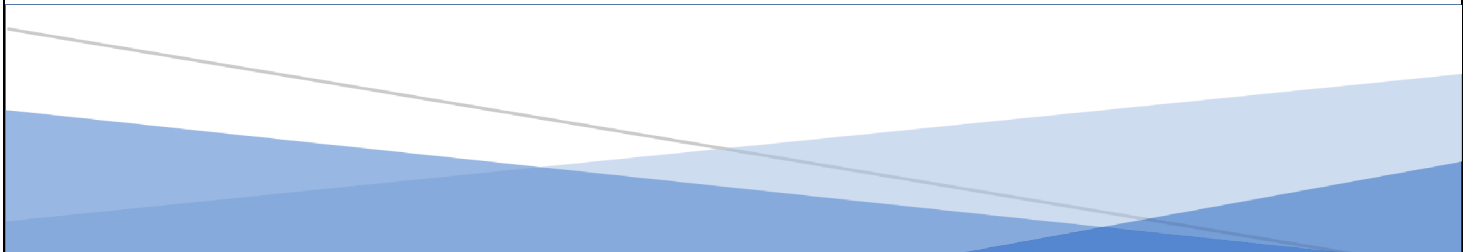
Year 10 sports leaders also led on girls' football.

## Careers

One In A Million Free School supports all students from Year 7 to Year 11 with their career pathways and post-16 options. Students have continued to be involved in a number of Career based activities:

- All Year 11 had their careers appointments with a Shine Careers advisor. They have also had support with next step destinations, applications, interview prep/tips and personal statements/CVs writing.
- 30 Year 10 students took part in a NHS workshop for the Nursing sector. The session involved nurses who helped the students to understand day-to-day life as a nurse and the students took part in an activity session.
- All students took part in National Careers Week. Our KS3 students acquired further knowledge about employability skills and various career pathways. They reflected on which skills they use around school and set targets on which skills to develop. Year 10 students began to explore post-16 options, researching which option would be best suited for their future career. Year 11 students developed their knowledge on their chosen career choice.

A Year 8 student's reflection of the session: *"I understand now that the skills we need for our jobs, we use in school all the time! Skills like being on time and problem solving are helping us prepare for when we are older."*



## World Book Day

Students engaged in a range of activities to promote reading during Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023 as part of texts and additional literacy for National World Book Day.

The activities included a treasure hunt, whole class reading of additional texts and fun and reading lessons for students in Years 7, 8 and 9. All these activities are part of a wider programme of events designed to boost literacy and develop a love of reading.

We encourage all our students to read for pleasure, so choosing the right book is crucial! Our school has a well-stocked library and staff are able to direct students to the most appropriate books to match their interests and reading levels.

If you would like any assistance or support on how you can encourage your child to read more at home then please contact the school.

[CLICK HERE TO READ THE WEBSITE NEWS STORY](#)





## Attendance Matters

# Attend Today Achieve Tomorrow!

One In A Million Free School strives for excellence in all aspects of our school including Attendance.

Attending school on a regular basis is key to achieving a child's full academic potential. It will set students up for good routines later in life and the working world, provide opportunities to socialise and increase confidence as well as fulfilling their dreams and aspirations.

Students with excellent attendance are included in our rewards challenges, end of year trips and prize draws throughout the academic year.



Important  
Information

## Important Attendance Facts for Parent/Carers

Attendance of 90% is the equivalent of 19 days absent over the school year. On average those students who did not achieve grade 9 to 4 in English and Maths were found to have an attendance rating of 91.2%.

At One In A Million Free school we expect students to have Excellent Attendance, which is at least 97%. We understand that students fall unwell or have medical needs where attending school daily is not as achievable, however parent/carers must call school on the morning of any absence.

## Tips For Excellent Attendance

*Top Tips*

- Talk to your child about the importance of going to school every day
- Take an interest in their school work, including helping with homework and attending parents/carers evenings. If they know it matters to you it will matter to them.
- Have set times for going to bed and waking up so your child gets plenty of sleep and is up in good time to get to school on time.
- Stop using electronic devices one hour before bedtime.
- Have clothes and school bag ready the night before.
- Only let your child stay home if they are genuinely ill.
- If your child doesn't want to go to school, find out why and work with your school and child to try to sort out the problem.
- Celebrate your child's achievements at school and their good attendance.
- Book doctor, dentist, and other appointments after school hours.
- Book holidays in the school holidays, not term time.
- If you need help, ask for it. Speak to your child's Head of Year

# Holidays During Term Time

You can't take your child out of school during term time. If you do, you could receive a penalty notice.



## Holidays During the School Term - The Law

Once your child is registered at One In A Million Free School, the law says you must send them to school every day and on time.



## Penalty Notices and Fines

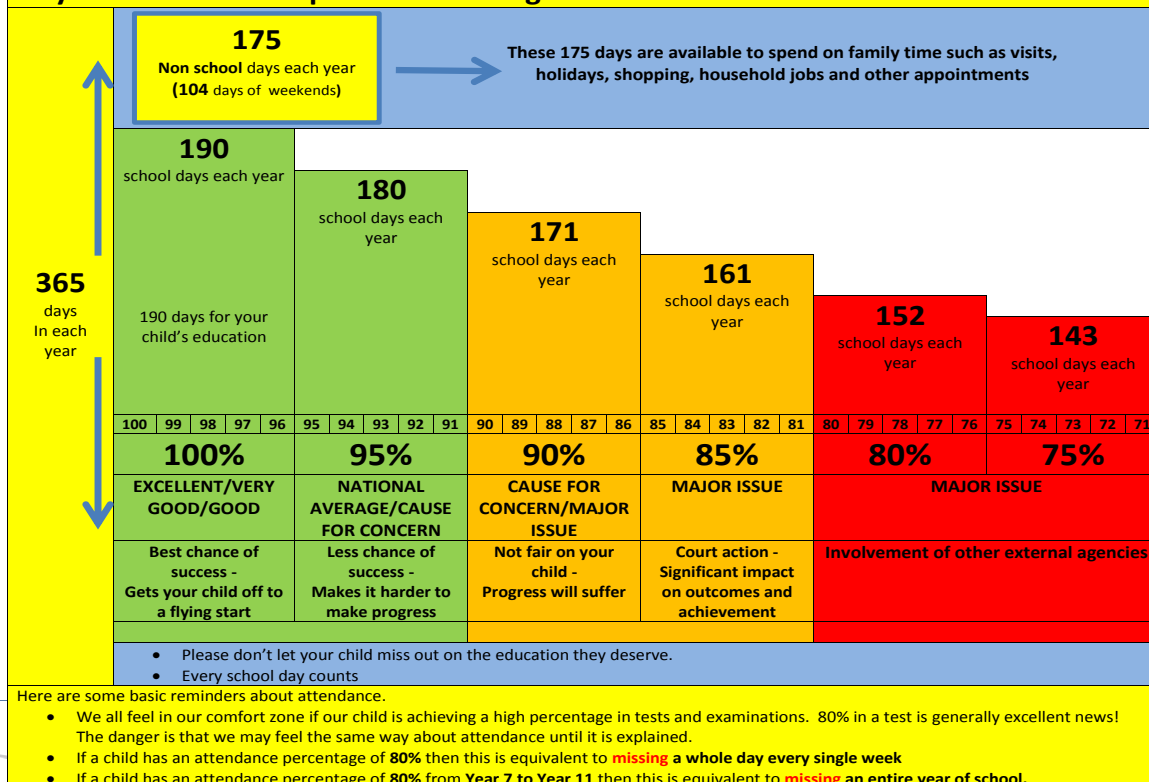
If you take your child out of school without permission, you may receive a penalty notice.

If you receive a penalty notice you will have to pay:

- £60 per parent for each child - if you pay within 21 days
- £120 per parent for each child - if you don't pay within 21 days, but do pay within 28 days.

*If you don't pay, you will be taken to court.*

### Days off school add up to lost learning!



# Attendance Services To Support You And Your Child

## School Home Support (SHS)


Here at OIAMFS we work in partnership with a charity called School Home Support (SHS). SHS to work with children and families to maximise educational opportunities and improve life chances. They look beyond the classroom to understand and tackle the issues affecting children's learning. We have an SHS practitioner Zoe Dempsey based at OIAMFS who will be happy to help with advice and information and practical and emotional support.



**Here to Help About me:**

Hi, my name is Zoe Dempsey and I am employed by an independent education charity called School-Home Support (SHS). I work in partnership with your school to support children and their families to get the most from the educational opportunities on offer. I can help with advice and information and practical and emotional support.

**Contact details**  
Tel: + 07812 461 120  
(you can call or text)  
Email: [zoe.dempsey@shs.org.uk](mailto:zoe.dempsey@shs.org.uk)



**School Home Support**

School-Home Support is a charity working with children and families to maximise educational opportunities and improve life chances. Partnering with schools, local authorities and families, we look beyond the classroom to understand and tackle the issues affecting children's learning, such as housing, poverty and mental health. Since 1984, we have used early intervention to break intergenerational cycles of deprivation and low aspiration, replacing them with children in school and ready to learn.

For more information please visit [www.shs.org.uk](http://www.shs.org.uk)

Registered charity in England and Wales  
1136344



**Children in school, ready to learn**

**Meet Your SHS Family Support Practitioner**  
One in a Million Free School



**Information and advice I can help with:**

- Settling in at school
- Housing and money worries
- Feeling happy and confident
- Benefits and support
- New starts, changes and settling in
- Supporting your child's learning
- Getting to school on time
- School attendance
- Mental or physical health issues
- Family problems
- Behaviour at home and school
- School grades and results
- Courses, training and volunteering
- Bereavement
- Family breakdown



**If you are feeling worried, concerned or just need advice, you're not the only parent who feels this way. I'm ready to help you find solutions; that's what I'm here for**

**How I can support:**

- Acting as a link between home and school
- Listening to you
- Offering practical suggestions and advice
- Going to meetings with you
- Promoting regular attendance
- Arranging adult learning courses
- Facilitating a parent drop in
- Supporting you

**Why not pop in for a friendly chat? or I can also visit you at home**

**Confidentiality**

Please note I do not and will not tell anyone anything that you tell me without your permission, except if I believe a child/person is at risk, or if it may have an impact on a child's learning or well-being

## BCL Attendance Officer

BCL Consultancy Limited is into its 4<sup>th</sup> year of attendance partnership with One In A Million Free school. BCL's prime focus is supporting the school in achieving Excellent Attendance.



## E- Safety

At One In A Million Free School, we appreciate that E-Safety is an important part of keeping children safe. We have security measures in place at school, which are constantly monitored, to help safeguard students from any potential dangers. E- Safety is taught to all students explaining and demonstrating how to stay safe and behave appropriately online. However, One In A Million Free School can only be successful in keeping children safe online if we work with you as parent/carers to ensure the e-Safety message is consistent. Your help is needed to talk to your children about how they can keep safe and behave appropriately online.

Actions which you may wish to take to help safeguard your children online include:

- Install/use parental control software which allows you to limit sensitive information you don't want your child to access
- Make sure your browser is set to take advantage of built-in security and safety features - Look under "Tools," then "Internet Options."
- Turn on all the filtering and security features in your computer's search engine
- Set high security and privacy settings with browsers, memberships, and social networking sites.
- Install and maintain Internet security software on all devices.
- Always read app/site ratings before allowing your children to visit/download.
- Check your browser's history to see which sites your children are visiting and how often.
- Limit younger children's online chatting, even within the friendly interface of a favourite game or club site. As they get older, introduce the concept of chatting with people they know.
- Make sure the computer or device your child uses is within your view, in a public space like the kitchen or family room.
- Teach your children to tell a parent, teacher, or trusted adult if they feel uncomfortable about anything they've seen online.
- Always reinforce that your child needs to ask your permission before talking to anyone new online.
- Ask your child not to download files (e.g., music, games, screensavers, ring tones), make online purchases, or install software or apps without your permission.
- Talk about protecting private information and never sharing passwords with friends.



## School Uniform

All our students in Year 7 to 11 are expected to wear the approved school uniform.

A high standard of work and behaviour is expected from all our students and we believe these are helped by also having high standards of appearance.

All items of school uniform are worn conventionally and we expect parents/carers to support our reasonable requirements. We operate uniform checks each morning to ensure our students uphold our high standards with regard to the dress code and to check on essential items for a successful school day. If the correct uniform isn't being worn, students will be asked to change into school owned alternatives or they may be sent home to change.

Non uniform coats, hoodies or footwear should be removed before students enter the building and stored in their locker.

### BOYS - Examples of appropriate trousers and footwear

Plain black unbranded



**Shoes** - Plain black leather or leather-look school shoes with no logos or brand names.



Tailored black fitted trousers  
Plain black slim belt is allowed

### GIRLS - Examples of appropriate trousers and footwear



**Shoes** - Plain black leather or leather-look school shoes with no logos or brand names.



## Safeguarding and Support

As a safeguarding team we aim to provide a safe environment for our students to learn in. We want to make sure that our students remain safe, at home as well as within school. If you need to talk, we are here to listen. If you are worried about something you can talk to a member of staff in school.

Our safeguarding team are:

Miss Woodcock – Safeguarding Lead

Mr Gallagher – Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Hobbs – Safeguarding Deputy

Numbers to contact if required during the holidays:

Childline: 0800 1111

First Response: 0800 952 1181

Mind In Bradford: 0800 1884 884

## Useful Information

### **British Gas**

British gas is now providing grants for people who need help with their energy bills, even non customers.

Fuel voucher codes are also available if people can't afford to top up their meter.

**Telephone 0121 348 7797**

<https://britishgasenergytrust.org.uk/>

### **Assisted Purchase Scheme**

The Assisted Purchase Scheme is a low cost solution for people to buy essential items such as beds, electric cookers, fridge freezers, sofas, microwaves and washing machines.

<https://www.bradford.gov.uk/benefits/applying-for-benefits/assisted-purchase-scheme/>



## Upcoming Events

Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> April	School opens
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> April	School closed to students – Data planning day/Eid
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> April	Non – uniform day/Eid celebration
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 8 Parents evening 16:00-18:00
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> May	May day – bank holiday
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	Coronation Bank Holiday
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 7 parents evening 16:00-18:00
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> June	GCSE exams
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> May	Half term – school closes 1 week
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	HPV/SLB catchup jab session (AM)
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> June – Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	Year 10 exams
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	HPV catchup Year 8
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> June – Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	Eid ul Adha – TBC
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	Report to parents – Year 7, 8 and 9
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 7 Transition day
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 10 reports to parents
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 7 transition day
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	Sports day TBC
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	Rewards trip – Flamingo land (selected students) TBC
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	Culture Day
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	School closes for the summer

