

Dear Families,

I hope you are coping well in these difficult times. I am sure we are all hugely concerned about the appalling conflict in Ukraine and our thoughts are very much with all the people affected by this awful attack.

If your child is anxious about the news and requires support in school please let their tutor know. Here are some useful links giving advice on how to talk to young people about this crisis:

- <https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2022/02/25/help-for-teachers-and-families-to-talk-to-pupils-about-russias-invasion-of-ukraine-and-how-to-help-them-avoid-misinformation/>
- <https://schoolsweek.co.uk/we-should-not-hide-from-children-what-is-happening-in-ukraine/>
- <https://www.childnet.com/blog/supporting-your-child-with-upsetting-content/>

On a more positive note, the Government has now removed most Covid restrictions as the pandemic recedes but we would still ask that students who are ill with any winter illness symptoms remain at home until they are fully recovered and ideally have tested negative for Covid.

The summer exams are now coming into view and they are virtually certain to go ahead as normal. We will be sending out various further information soon on the exams timetables, revision methods etc. We are determined that our students achieve the grades they thoroughly deserve and are not disadvantaged by the pandemic. To this end we are providing extra lessons after school, extra online revision resources (accessed through the school website) and tips on the best topics to revise. The exam boards have also reviewed the content of exams to simplify them a little and will be reducing grade boundaries slightly to boost grades in the light of the pandemic disruption.

With my best wishes

Nick Goforth
Headteacher

Enrichment Week 2022

Unfortunately, due to a number of both practical and COVID related reasons we have taken the decision to cancel Enrichment Week during this academic year. This means that Tuesday 19 – Thursday 21 July 2022 will be normal school days. The last day of the academic year is the Extravaganza day on Friday 22 July 2022 which will end for students at 1.10pm.

However, Enrichment Week in 2023 is scheduled to go ahead as usual and will take place from Tuesday 18 – Thursday 20 July 2023. Staff are already looking at what plans they can make to offer some exciting activities for students at that time.

School Office notices

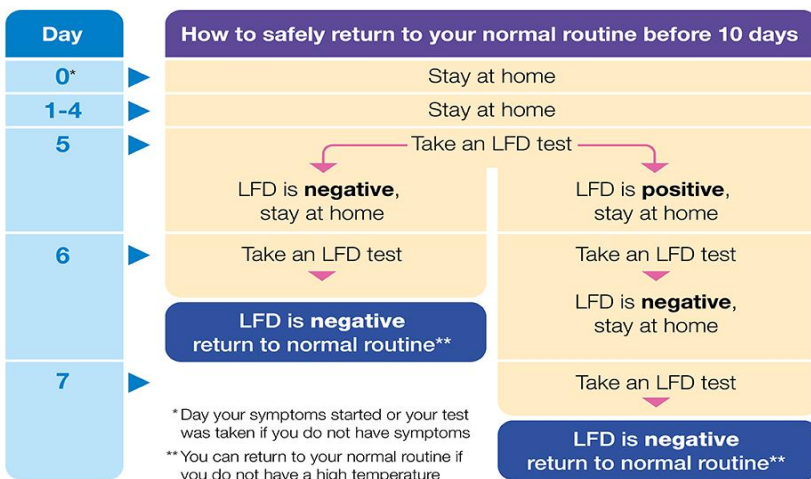
Covid-19 Update

In line with Government guidance, we are no longer providing students with Covid-19 testing kits. Should test kits be needed, please order these online using the following link

www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests?utm_source=24%20February%202022%20C19&utm_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm_campaign=DfE%20C19

or you can visit your local pharmacy.

Any students testing positive for Covid-19 should continue to abide by the following guidance which has not changed.



Children and young people with COVID-19 should not attend their education setting while they are infectious. They should take an LFD test from 5 days after their symptoms started (or the day their test was taken if they did not have symptoms) followed by another one the next day. If both these tests results are negative, they should return to their educational setting if they normally attend one, as long as they feel well enough to do so and do not have a temperature. They should follow the guidance for their educational setting.

You no longer need to report any Covid-19 test results using the link on the school website; this will be removed shortly. However, it is really important to still notify us should your child test positive. You can do this by telephoning 01773 825281 and selecting option 1 for student absences. Alternatively, you can email using our main school email account which is: belperschool@belperschool.co.uk

Plastic Cups

Student Reception and First Aid will no longer be providing students with 'take away' plastic cups for drinks. Students are encouraged to bring in their own water bottles/plastic cups which they can fill and re-fill at the water fountains situated around the school site. If parents could remind students to ensure they have water bottles/plastic cups in their bags ready for the school day it would be appreciated.

Teenage Booster & Meningitis ACWY Year 9 plus Year 10/11 catch up session

Just a reminder to check your emails for details of the above which also includes a catch-up session for Year 10 and Year 11 students. Belper School is hosting the sessions on Thursday 31 March 2022 on behalf of the School Immunisation Team.

For any queries relating to these vaccinations please contact the School immunisation team directly on: 01283 707178 or: 01246 252953. Any queries relating to non-receipt of the email, please contact the School Office on our usual number.

Reminder regarding the launch of Cloud School Parent Mobile App

Following the launch of our new Cloud School Parent Portal we are pleased to announce that we have arranged for parents/carers to access their accounts via a mobile app. The app can be used alongside the full web browser version you currently use. Using the app you will have access to the same information available in the web version of Parent Portal but in a mobile friendly format.

The app is available to download from the Google Play Store or the Apple App Store.

Search for 'Cloud School Parent'

Look for the orange logo.

Install the app – you can't use it on tablet devices and/or smart phones.

The app is free of charge and has no in-app purchases options.

To ensure you have the correct app, please ensure that the developer is showing 'Advanced Computer Software Group' if using Google Play or 'Advanced Health and Care Ltd' if using the Apple Store. The app only supports the most recent and previous 2 versions of iOS and Android platforms.

Your username and password to log in to the Cloud School Parent app are the same as those you currently use to log in to Cloud School Parent Portal.

Please note that you can only use the Cloud School Parent app if you already have an active Parent Portal user account from the school. Please contact the school office if you do not currently have a Parent Portal account and we will send you the relevant information to enable you to register for one.



Interested in writing for a local magazine?

Where? E2

When? Thursday 12.15-12.50PM

Who? All welcome

Homework Club

Did you know we run a Homework Club in Learning Support? It's open to students in all year groups and includes free drinks and biscuits. The club runs every night from Monday to Thursday from 3.00pm to 3.30pm.

Remote Learning

At Belper School and Sixth Form Centre, we take great pride in our online offer and strive to give our students the best possible provision when they are not able to come into school. This may be for illnesses, injuries or other reasons.

Our primary remote learning offer is delivered through Google Classroom where work is uploaded for all subjects. The links provided broadly follow the curriculum that is offered within school so that students do not fall behind while they are off school.

Accessing the Work

Students received an email inviting them to join the Remote Lesson class for their year group at the start of the year with instructions of how to access the work if they are absent from school.

The links to the Google Classrooms for each year group can be found on the school website in the Remote Learning Section. Click on the links below for each year group. Once in the class, students should click each subject to see the work. Please note that to see the whole list of subjects, students need to click 'view more' at the bottom of the page. *Note: the links below are accessible to students only.*

[Year 7 Remote Learning](#)

[Year 8 Remote Learning](#)

[Year 9 Remote Learning](#)

[Year 10 Remote Learning](#)

[Year 11 Remote Learning](#)

Students should follow their usual timetable. Below are suggested times for lessons. These times are just a guide and we know it may not be possible for all students to follow the timings. They follow our usual day plan but are "rounded" a little to make the times easier to follow.

Subject 1	9.00am – 10.00am
Subject 2	10.00am – 11.00am
Subject 3	11.15am – 12.15pm
Subject 4	1.00pm – 2.00pm
Subject 5	2.00pm – 3.00pm

Please contact Matilde Warden, Deputy Headteacher, if you have any further questions.

Transport to attend a vaccination appointment at a Vaccination Centre

If you're struggling to get to your Covid vaccination appointment you can book a free return journey through Derbyshire County Council.

If you don't have your own transport, can't get a lift, and can't use public transport, then their Active Travel team can help you with door-to-door transport to and from your vaccination appointment.

The parent or carer of the person attending the vaccination clinic can also travel for free. For example, the parent of a child aged 12 to 15, or a carer for the person being vaccinated.

You'll need to contact the Community Response Unit at least three working days before the vaccination appointment to allow sufficient time to book transport. You can call them on 01629 535091.

Year 9 Options at 14+ Process

The Year 9 Options at 14+ Process has now begun. The process involves a number of events in the school calendar that will give both students and parents/carers the opportunity to carefully consider the options process and any option subjects. Please note the key dates outlined below. Additional information will follow about the Options Evening on 10 March which we intend to run as an in-person event if the COVID situation allows us to.

Monday 7 March – Students receive access to their Cloud School accounts.

Thursday 10 March - Options at 14+ Evening. It is anticipated that this will be an in-person event. There will be a presentation to parents/carers about the options process from a member of the Senior Leadership Team followed by subject displays with a further opportunity to talk to subject staff. Further details about this event will be made available shortly.

Friday 11 March – Options choice forms will be accessible to students through their Cloud School accounts.

Friday 18 March - Final deadline for Year 9 students to submit their options choice forms.

Upcoming dates

Thursday 10 March 2022
Year 9 Options at 14+ Evening
(more information soon...)

Thursday 31 March 2022
Teenage Booster & Meningitis
ACWY vaccinations for Year 9
plus Year10/Year 11 catch up
session

TERM DATES

Spring 2
28 February to 8 April 2022

Summer 1
25 April to 27 May 2022

Summer 2
6 June to 22 July 2022

Students returning to school following an injury/operation

A quick reminder that we need at least 24 hours' notice must be given to school if your child has had an injury/operation and is planning to return to school on crutches with a sling/cast, in a wheelchair, or with any other injury that may require a risk assessment. We will then contact you to arrange a meeting between yourselves, your child and school to ensure that we have the opportunity to:

- assess your child's requirements and make arrangements for them to safely access the necessary areas in school during lesson and social time
- discuss with you any aspects of the curriculum they are unable to participate in for the period of their recovery (such as PE or Drama) and make alternative arrangements for them to study/be supervised as appropriate
- ascertain whether your child requires any medication/pain relief whilst at school and complete the appropriate documentation
- ensure your child is aware of what action they need to take in the event of an emergency

As students may not be able to return to school until this meeting has taken place, we would appreciate parents/carers giving us as much notice as possible.

PE news & information

Here are a few reminders and messages from the PE faculty:

1. Piercings - students and parents/carers are reminded that Belper School is required to enforce Derbyshire County Council policy on this matter. All piercings have to be removed for PE. In the event that a student cannot remove a piercing within the first six weeks of the piercing taking place, tape can be worn for non-contact activities. Students in this situation need to take responsibility for bringing and applying their own tape. Students with taped-up piercings may not take part in activities where there is potential for contact with an opponent, whether their piercings are taped up or not. Sports in this category are football, netball, handball, basketball, rugby and hockey. For these sports students with taped-up piercings will take part in the skills and practices then will take part in alternative activity while their class-mates are playing a game. The PE faculty strongly recommends Easter as a good time to get piercings as all summer activities are safe to participate in with ears taped up.

2. Any old football boots??!! If you have any old football boots, trainers or any other old sports kit at home gathering dust, feel free to pass it on to the PE faculty. There is usually someone is grateful to borrow a pair of boots or trainers when they have forgotten or misplaced their own.

3. New clubs programme - the new programme, which is fairly similar to the old one, has been confirmed. Students are encouraged to get involved as much as they can. The clubs on offer at school are especially important for students aspiring towards examination PE success. There will often be other sessions organised to fit in around after-school fixtures and these will be communicated to students via google classroom. The programme is available to view on the website by [clicking here](#).

4. Mouthguards - Now we are back to normal with the sports we are covering in PE lessons, the PE faculty would like to remind all students and parents that mouthguards are strongly recommended for hockey and rugby. Please ensure the 'boil and bite' process to mould the mouthguard to fit takes place at home under the supervision of an adult prior to the mouthguard being needed in school.

5. Shinpads - Shinpads are compulsory for hockey, football and rugby and must be worn in conjunction with long black football socks for these three sports.

6. Fixtures - Well done to the many students who continue to represent the school. The under 14 girls are through to the next round of the county cup football after victory over West Park. Not so fortunate were the under 16 boys who went out on penalties after a 1-1 draw in the sleet and snow at Highfields (Matlock) last week.

Well done to the boys and girls in years 7 and 8 who have played their first competitive basketball matches in the past couple of weeks - keep up the training as there are more fixtures on the horizon. Also, the return of the light nights will see a return to football and netball activities, so students need to keep up to date on google classroom to know when these opportunities arise.

7. Just a reminder of our kit supplier's details if any new kit is needed through the year: www.loopwear.co.uk

Foreign Language Spelling Bee competition

On 14 February 2022, seventeen Year 7 students took part in the school final of the Spelling Bee, having won the Stage 1 competition in their classes in December. They had to learn 150 words and how to spell each word in either German or French. The competition involved translating and spelling as many words correctly in one minute as they could. The standard was very high. Huge congratulations to Ruby, Hope and Isobel who will now represent Belper School at the Regional Final later this month.

Can you help us develop our local history units of work?

We are looking to continue developing our local history units about the school and the local area in the industrial period. If you have any documents about the school, such as timetables or reports from the 1970's, 1980's, 1990's or even early 2000 and are willing to share good copies then that would really be appreciated. We would love to compare these to see how things have changed. Or if you have any knowledge about Belper and the mills during the industrial period, that could help us develop our Year 8 and GCSE units, comparing the local and the national, then please get in touch. swg@belperschool.co.uk

Applications for College and Sixth Form

Students in year 11 should now have applied / be actively applying for 6th Forms / Colleges (if your preference is an apprenticeship we strongly recommend that you apply for a full time education course as a backup)

Derby College have the following open evenings coming up

The Roundhouse

Thursday 10 March 2022 5.00pm - 7.00pm

<https://www.derby-college.ac.uk/event/the-roundhouse-open-day-3/>

Come along to The Roundhouse Virtual Open Evening for advice and guidance on the following subjects:

- Apprenticeships (including Hospitality & Catering)
- Brickwork plus groundworks
- Business Leadership & Management
- Carpentry & Joinery
- Childcare
- Electrical Installation
- Employer Academies / Work Experience
- Engineering
- Hair & Beauty
- Health
- Inclusion Curriculum (for students with Learning Difficulties/Disabilities)
- LEXIS
- Motor Vehicle
- Painting & Decorating / Plastering / Wall and Floor Tiling
- Plumbing & Gas Training
- Professional Construction
- STEPS
- Teacher Training, Coaching and Mentoring
- Travel & Tourism (including Cabin Crew)

PLUS: You can find out all about our exciting new T Level courses.

T Levels are 2-year courses that follow GCSE's and are equivalent to 3 x A Levels. You will spend 80% of your time in the classroom and 20% of your time on a 45-day work placement to give you the skills and knowledge that employers are looking for.

continued on next page ...

Broomfield Hall

Wednesday 27 April 2022 5.00pm - 7.00pm

Come along to the Broomfield Hall Virtual Open Evening for advice and guidance on the following subjects:

- Agriculture
- Animal Care
- Apprenticeships
- Arboriculture
- Conservation & Countryside
- Construction (Groundworks)
- Employer Academies/Work Experience
- Equine
- Floristry
- Horticulture
- Inclusion Curriculum (for Students with Learning Difficulties/Disabilities)
- Public Services and Security
- Sport

PLUS: Get information on our Higher Education/University Level courses in Land based, Sport and Public Services & Security.

Confetti - Nottingham

We're a specialist creative industry institute part of Nottingham Trent University and our Creative Quarter campus is home to the very best technology, studios and equipment, industry-connected tutors and over 2000 passionate and committed students. Our graduates go on to careers in music, gaming, TV, film, live events, graphic design and many more.

At Confetti, we offer courses at varying levels to suit a range of academic abilities, but what unites all our students and tutors is their passion for creative technology. We then use our skills, experience and industry links to help turn that passion into real job options. Find out more by discovering our range of college courses, foundation and three-year honours degrees, and postgraduate degrees or coming along to an open day.



Decisionz e-zine is the local careers and advice magazine for young people aged 14-18 across Nottingham and Derbyshire. It's distributed three times a year in September, January and May and is jam-packed with top tips, useful information and local opportunities.

The Spring 2022 E-Zine is now available.

You can go to the Decisionz website and view the latest e-zine by going to <https://www.decisionz.co.uk/view-e-zines>

General information on finding out about Higher & Degree Apprenticeships

Higher and Degree Level Apprenticeships are now available as a serious alternative to university. It is worth noting that the further away that students would consider moving the more availability there is. There are various pros and cons but we thought parents might be interested in knowing what is currently on offer for future reference. The salaries paid are sometimes enough for apprentices to look at a house share with other apprentices, students or young professionals. Young people from all over the country come to Derby to do Higher and Degree apprenticeships in Derby.

Explore 220+ Higher and Degree apprenticeship vacancies in the new February edition of the Higher & Degree listing 22.

Discover vacancy details from over 40 employers, including:

Vacancy locations

Salary information

Direct application links

Follow the link below for more info

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/higher-degree-listing/>

Apprenticeship Hints and Tips for Parents & Carers

We know from experience that getting an apprenticeship takes a lot of work and that students and parents/carers have many questions. Everyone's situation is different and we are happy to provide help and advice for individual students. Please contact ers@belperschool.co.uk



Mertrux

We're Looking For Our Future Stars In The Mercedes-Benz Apprenticeship Program For Cars, Vans and Trucks.

We Have Apprenticeship Roles Available Starting in August 2022:

Derby - 10 Chequers Road, Derby DE21 6EN Tel: 01332 290290
 Nottingham - Clifton Lane, Wilford, Nottingham NG11 7ES Tel: 01159 248100
 Leicester - Knights Road, Beaumont Leys, Leicester LE4 1JY Tel: 01162 361400

Discover More and Apply For Your Perfect Career Opportunity via Google

Mercedes-Benz Apprenticeship

Mercedes-Benz

MERTRUX APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

Mertrux have apprenticeship opportunities for Truck Technician and Customer Service Expert apprentices. They are ideally looking for students who will gain level 5 or above in English and Maths.

The application window will open shortly ready for interviews in April/May and a potential start date of August 2022.

Our next newsletter will be published on 21 March 2022