

Ref: KH/TM/ Year 10



Barr Beacon School
www.barrbeaconschool.co.uk

Monday 29th September 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome to Year 10 – Autumn term 2025

I am writing to update you with some important information for Year 10 as they embark on their journey towards successful outcomes at the end of Year 11.

Attendance – as always, we expect your child to be in school so they can be learning. There is a clear link between school attendance and outcomes at GCSE. There is lots of content on every GCSE syllabus and periods of absences mean that content is missed and it can be difficult to recapture. If your child is doing a BTEC, it is also important that attendance is prioritised because coursework is submitted throughout the 2 years and cannot be repeated easily. If you'd like to discuss issues regarding your child's attendance please email postbox@barrbeaconschool.co.uk and these will be directed to your child's Head of House. Please be reminded that we do not authorise holidays during term time.

Revision guides for purchase – we have bulk purchased the relevant revision guides for all of your child's courses and obtained a substantial discount from the suppliers compared to if you were to purchase all of the items individually. If you wish to take advantage of this offer, please proceed to parent pay and locate 'GCSE Revision Bundle' under 'payment items' as soon as you are able. The whole bundle is £60. If your child is in receipt of free school meals, you do not need to place an order and your child will be given these automatically. We will aim to give these out to all that have paid plus those on free school meals by October half term. We will send you a WEDUC message when they are ready for collection as your child will require a large bag to transport them home on this day.

Mocks – Year 10 will have their first set of mocks in full exam conditions in the sports hall in late May/Early-Mid June 2026. A detailed timetable will follow in due course. The rules of exams at Barr Beacon School and other essential guidance can be found here <https://barrbeaconschool.co.uk/exams/>

Access Arrangements During Exams - If your child already has access arrangements, they will be provided during these. If you are unsure if your child is entitled to access arrangements (e.g extra time, rest breaks) the guidance is <https://www.icg.org.uk/exams-office/access-arrangements-and-special-consideration/regulations-and-guidance/> If you'd like to speak to someone about access arrangements during exams, please send an email to postbox@barrbeaconschool.co.uk with the title 'exam access arrangements' and someone from the SEND team will respond to you in due course to outline the guidance.

BTECs – For all coursework elements we will be using TurnItIn, a trusted and widely recognised tool, to help ensure originality and accurate reference in student coursework. Plagiarism, whether intentional or unintentional, undermines the learning process and the value of education, and would result in work being downgraded by examining bodies. Pupils will be required to submit their written



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assignments through TurnItIn which will compare their work with that of their peers, as well as online and written sources.

Progress information – you will receive 3 reports this year detailing your child’s target grade, current predicted grade, effort, homework and behaviour. The dates of these are 08/01/26, 14/05/26 and 21/07/26. The final report will detail your child’s mock results.

Progress Information Evening – Yr 10 Progress Evening will take place on Thursday 14th May 2026 and will take place virtually. A link via school cloud will be sent in due course.

End of Year 11 Targets – your child will have received their individual subject targets from their class teachers. These are what we think they should aim to be getting in their final GCSE exams. If your child has not received these yet, please encourage them to ask their teacher.

Group Changes – during the year it may be necessary to change classes so that your child is in a class with those who are performing of similar ability. These changes will be made so that your child’s teachers can target the work to a specific level and most appropriately support pupils towards achieving their target grades.

Exam Boards :

Exam Board	Subject
OCR	Computer Science, Art, Business
AQA	English Language, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Science (Combined), History, Geography, Sociology, Psychology, Philosophy
EDEXCEL	Maths, English Literature, French, German, PE
WJEC	Hospitality and Catering
BTEC	IT, Media, Health and Social Care, Sport, Dance, Music

If you have any questions about the support that is being provided, please contact postbox@barrbeaconschool.co.uk

Yours sincerely,



Mrs K Hibbs
Headteacher



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