

Ref:KH/gk/gr/Year12OpenandStudyDay2026

15th June 2026

Dear Parents/Carers



University of Birmingham Open Day: Friday 26th June 2026

Barr Beacon School
www.barrbeaconschool.co.uk

We have been encouraging students to attend [Open Days](#) at the universities they are interested in. We know that our local universities hold very popular events, and therefore all Year 12 students will be granted a day's authorised absence on **Friday 26th June** to attend the **University of Birmingham Open Day**.

In order to gain entry to the Open Day, students will need to **book their place online** [here](#). Students can choose which sessions they attend during the day and parents/carers can accompany their children if you are available.

Students will make their own way to and from this event. Getting to the university is easy by public transport; the university has its own railway station. All students will need to **arrive between 9.00am-9.30am**, where they will register with Sixth Form staff at the bottom of the [Clock Tower in Chancellor's Court](#). Staff will then depart the university and will not be accompanying students during the remainder of the day. Students will not need to return to school in the afternoon and they can wear casual dress for this event.

If your child receives the 16-19 Bursary, we will reimburse the cost of their public transport if students keep their receipts.

Please complete this short [Consent Form](#) if your child wishes to attend this event. Any student who does not wish to attend, or who does not have a Consent Form completed, will be expected to attend school as normal.

We are aware that a number of other universities are hosting their Open Days on Friday 26th June. If your child wishes to attend a different event on this date, please ask them to speak to Miss Killick as soon as possible.

Additionally, we are aware many students are also keenly interested in apprenticeships, and we have booked onto a national apprenticeship fair in November for any interested students. More information will follow closer to the date.

Student Study Day: Tuesday 7th July

On Tuesday 7th July, Key Stage 3 and 4 pupils will be involved in the Matrix Academy Trust Sports Day. Year 12 students have therefore been granted a Study Day.

This Study Day will be the ideal opportunity for students to build on the careers research they have been undertaking in school. We have provided several guidance sessions, where students have begun their UCAS applications, learnt more about the apprenticeship pathway and started to perfect their personal statements and CVs. **Students should use this Study Day to finalise the first draft of their Personal Statement or CV and send this to their tutor for feedback.**



Barr Beacon School
Old Hall Lane
Aldridge, Walsall
West Midlands
WS9 0RF



Matrix
Academy Trust
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0121 366 6600

Barr Beacon School

@barrbeacon.school

postbox@barrbeaconschool.co.uk



In addition to this, students can do the final pieces of crucial research needed to ensure they have considered their future pathway carefully. We have included resources that we highly recommend below. Students could:

- Explore the universities and courses available through the [UCAS Search Tool](#)
- Log in to their [UCAS Hub](#) account to try a 'Subject Spotlight'; these are online taster lectures that will help students to see if a certain course is right for them.
- Learn more about apprenticeships with [UCAS](#), [Rate My Apprenticeship](#) or [Not Going to Uni](#).
- Check out our [Sixth Form Careers Guidance Booklet](#) for further support.

We strongly recommend students take the time to do this preparation now, and do not leave it until the Autumn Term, when they will be busy with their Year 13 studies. The more research they do now, the better their chances of finding a pathway they are happy with.

Work Experience Week: Monday 13th to Friday 17th July

A reminder that Year 12 Work Experience Week is taking place from Monday 13th to Friday 17th July. Students have been given links to 2 forms that need to be completed to confirm their placement: an [Employer Form](#) and a [Parent/Carer Form](#). Students who are struggling to find a placement for these dates will need to attend school, where we will organise virtual experiences and arrange for them to support within lessons and events in schools.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the support you have given to your child in their first year of post-16 study.

Yours sincerely



Mrs K Hibbs
Headteacher



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Old Hall Lane
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