

Newsletter

21st March 2025



A bumper newsletter this week, covering the many inspiring experiences at BLC in the last two weeks. It has also been a day of Comic Relief fun across the campus today and the early indications are that we have raised hundreds of pounds for good causes. As soon as the final amount is confirmed, we will of course share this news with the school community.

Safer Together



Since October, our Year 9 pupils have been working on a creative project centred around the impact of violence in South Bristol. The final phase of this project saw five of our pupils working alongside their peers from Oasis Academy John Williams and Merchants' Academy to produce a short film.

We are so proud of all of our pupils who have contributed to this and we are delighted to invite you to attend the premiere of the **Safer Together at Ashton Gate on Monday 31st March**. Please see the advert at the end of this newsletter for further information and use this QR code to book your tickets.



Community Iftar

Thank you to all of the pupils, staff, parents/carers and wider community who made our Community Iftar possible on Wednesday, March 12th. It was a lovely celebration of the rich community we have here at BLC, with well over a hundred people attending to hear a presentation from Riz from the Bristol Muslim Cultural Society on Ramadan and the reasons why Muslims fast during Ramadan. This was followed by food to break the fast, all prepared by the wonderful BS13 community. We look forward to hosting our third Community Iftar next year and wish everyone Eid Mubarak for the end of the month.



Attendance

It's great to see that, since the start of this term, pupils' attendance is on the rise. This is especially good to see in a week when the media have been sharing the impact of low attendance in schools nationally. This chart comes from a report published last week, looking at the impact of attendance on Key Stage 2 SATs results and GCSE English and maths:

Figure 1 Proportion of pupils in each 5% attendance band for Year 6 achieving expected standard in RWM at the end of KS2

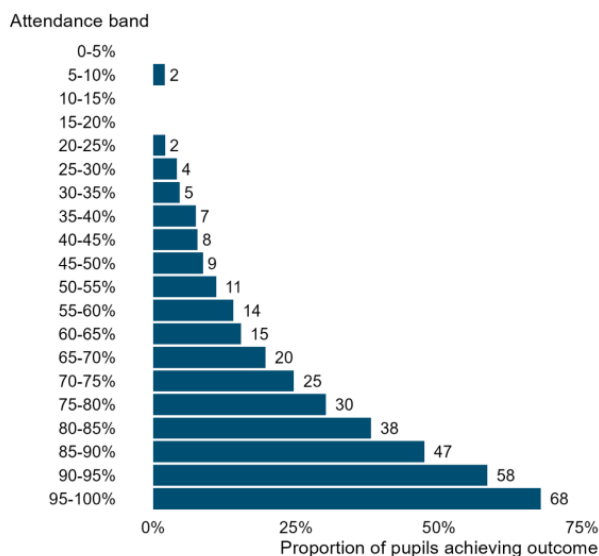
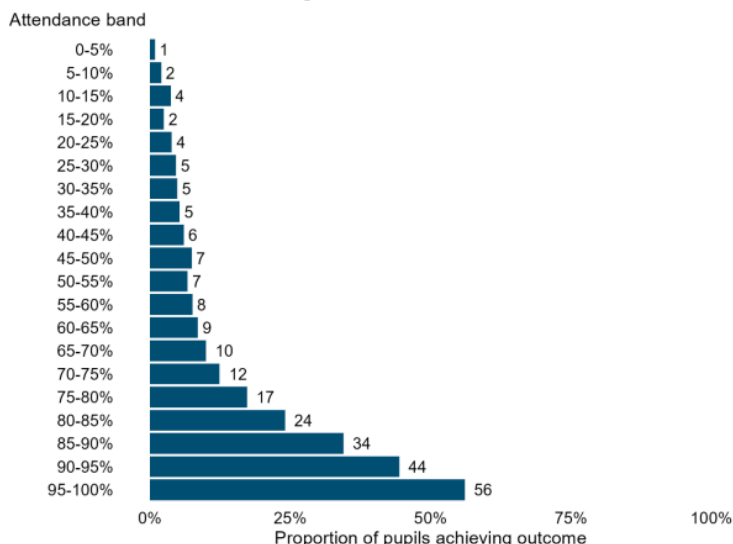


Figure 6 Proportion of pupils in each 5% attendance band for Year 11 achieving Grade 5 or above in English and Maths GCSE at the end of KS4



As a whole school, we still need more of our pupils in school every day – too many children are missing too much school, especially on Fridays when they are missing core lessons like English, maths, PE and science. However, I am delighted to say that we have had some of our highest attendance days of the whole year this week – a massive **97.2% of all primary pupils were in school** on Thursday, which is amazing! **Years 1, 2, 3 and 4** each have a weekly attendance above the national average this week. In secondary, **Year 7** are leading the way (also above national average) with **Year 10** very close behind. Let's see how long we can keep this up, to help all children achieve the very best that they can.



Parking

We encourage all pupils to consider the environment when coming to school and to walk or cycle to school as much as possible. If it is essential you drive your child or children to school, please can I remind you of some really important steps:



1. In the morning, access into the primary car park is allowed for Blue Badge holders only and we do ask that you pause to show the badge to the duty member of staff as you drive in. This is to help keep the entrance clear for New Fosseway students, as well as keeping it safe for our youngest pupils.

2. Please consider our neighbours when waiting. Make sure that you are not blocking any entrances to driveways and access roads and please park safely and responsibly. If you are able to park a little further from the school and walk the last bit, I am sure that would be appreciated by our local residents.
3. If you are asked to move your car, please respond politely and cooperate. Respect is one of our school values and I hope that extends to our parents & carers as well as to our pupils and staff

Making the most of ClassCharts (Years 7-11).



ClassDojo

We are delighted that so many parents/carers keep in touch with us through ClassDojo (primary) and ClassCharts (secondary). However, whilst almost 100% of our primary parents/carers are signed up to Dojo, there are still many parents who are not using ClassCharts to its full power.

ClassCharts is a key method of communication for you and us and serves as an invaluable tool for both you and your child. By using ClassCharts, you can gain insight into your child's daily school life. Through the use of ClassCharts you will be aware of regular updates and announcements which can support the engagement in your child's education, providing a holistic view of their school experience.

Please ensure that you have downloaded and are regularly checking the **ClassCharts App** where you can:

1. Keep track of how many times your child has demonstrated our BRIDGE values and gained positive points.
2. Receive updates if there have been any challenges in class, enabling you to discuss these with your child.
3. Monitor your child's homework assignments and deadlines.
4. Review the daily timetable to help your child prepare for the day.
5. Stay informed about upcoming events through the 'Announcements' feed.



To access the website, please use the following link or download it in app store (There is a parent and child version of the app): [Access pupil details](#)

If you need us to resend your login details, please contact the school at enquiries@blc.school.

Bristol Achieve mentoring programme

For the last 4 years pupils at BLC have been working with Bristol Achieve. Now running across Year 8,9 and 10, our children work with sixth formers from schools and colleges across the city. This year our year 8 and 9 were paired with sixth formers from Redmaids School. After a boardgame meet and greet at Redmaids, their mentors came to BLC for 10 weeks helping them to build presentations, perfect their public speaking skills and develop their confidence.

Week 10 saw us return to Redmaids where our group give speeches in front of a panel of experts made up of the CEO from the John James Foundation, Bristol Education Partnership and Community of Purpose. With topics ranging from the Olympics to K Pop, it was a joy to watch and after much deliberation the winners were announced as Taylor and Teya in Y9, who spoke brilliantly about feminism. The group did superbly and with Y10 on their third week of the programme with Clifton High School, watch this space for more excellent achievements.

Conduct towards staff

Many of you may have read about the increase in incidents of abuse against school staff nationally, [as reported in the media](#) recently. Sadly, I have to report that there have been a very small number of such incidents here at BLC, and even one incident like this is one too many. Abuse and threatening behaviour is unacceptable and will not be tolerated at Bridge Learning Campus and we will take action where necessary.



Thankfully, we know that the very large majority of our pupils' parents and carers always show respect in their conversations with staff and model the behaviour we expect from our pupils. Don't forget that members of the leadership team are available to meet with parents/carers and the wider school community after school every week on Mondays (primary) and Fridays (secondary). No appointment is needed, just drop-in for a chat if you would like to share any thoughts or concerns with us.

Looking ahead to next week...

Finally, we wish "**Good luck**" **all of our Year 6 pupils** next week as they sit their Mock SATs exams. This will help them to understand what it will be like before they sit them in May and hopefully soothe any worries they may have. We are sure they will show their best, as they do in their daily learning.

Also, a large majority of our Year 10 students are taking part in a week of Work Experience, working in a huge variety of settings, testing their employability skills and learning what it takes to be successful in the workplace. We hope they have an enjoyable and productive week and I am sure we will be able to share some of their experiences in the next newsletter.



Best wishes,

Mr Maule

SAFER TOGETHER

**A KNIFE VIOLENCE PREVENTION FILM:
MADE BY YOUNG PEOPLE - FOR YOUNG PEOPLE**

**FILM PREMIERE
31.03.2025**



**AMPLIFYING YOUTH VOICE
EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES**

ASHTON GATE STADIUM
31 MARCH 2025

EVENT: 18.30 - 20.00
DOORS OPEN: 18.00

FREE (TICKETED EVENT)



Partners, funders and supporters:

