

GREAT BARR ACADEMY NEWSLETTER AND CONSULTATION

As Acting Headteacher I would like to update you on some exciting developments that are happening at Great Barr Academy. We are currently in a process of making some significant changes to benefit all the pupils and students at the academy. At GBA we are committed to providing the best facilities and opportunities available to support our young people.

Break and Lunchtime changes

Through listening to what the students tell us, we want to ensure that during break and lunchtime pupils are able to have access to all facilities, particularly in relation to food and areas to eat. In order to address this we now have two separate break times and two lunchtimes. This means that there are less pupils queuing for food and more space on the yard for pupils to take their breaks. Every pupil still has one break and one lunchtime during each day. So far students have responded well and tell us that they appreciate the new arrangements.

Front of School Transport Hub

At the end of October a large civil engineering project started at the front of school at a cost of over £600,000. This funding has come from a combination of a grant from the department for education and top up funding from Shaw Education Trust. This hub will cater for up to three public transport buses both in the morning and after school.

We have incepted this project in order to safeguard our pupils travelling to and from school. We want to ensure that pupils have the best experience when travelling to school and that their safety is supported at all times. This project will also support the local community, by making the local bus stops easier to manage and reduce congestion.

If your child travels to school by bus then please speak to them about using the facility when it is completed in the New Year. We will provide further details shortly.

New Sixth Form Building

We are pleased to announce that in the New Year a brand new sixth form building will be constructed on site. This new facility will be ready to use in the summer term and will house a range of dedicated sixth form classrooms a learning hub and social spaces that will support the delivery of sixth form lessons. The current sixth form building will then be decommissioned and taken out of use and students will continue their studies in the new facility.

Consultation on Proposed Admission Arrangements 2021/2022

Birmingham School Admissions and Fair Access Service will facilitate a consultation process on our proposed admission arrangements for 2021/2022. The consultation will take place from 25/11/2019 until 06/01/2020. As a school we are determined to ensure our staffing and resources meet the needs of our existing students and that we can plan successfully for future developments focused on providing a first-class education for them. Therefore, our PAN (Pupil Admission number) needs to reflect our capacity to do this. We are requesting to set our PAN at 280 from 2021/22.

Details of our proposed admission arrangements can be found on the [school website here](#).

Details of the consultation process can be found at [Proposed Admissions Arrangements 2021/2022](#) and any comments on the proposed admission arrangements should be made at: [Birmingham BeHeard- Proposed Admissions Arrangements 2021/2022](#).

