

6th January 2026

Re: Spring Term Updates

Dear Parent or Carer,

I would like to start by wishing all our families a Happy New Year – I hope that everyone is safe, well, and had a restful break.

We would like to thank you for your support of the Academy during last term; we have been able to regularly celebrate the work and achievement of students, which is not possible without parents/carers' support.

Student entrance and exit for students Years 7-11

Entrance to site from 8:15am	<p><u>Both</u> the Beechcroft Road and the Glenburnie Road entrance will be open for students.</p> <p>This is in response to student and parent feedback.</p> <p>We are confident this will help all students be punctual to school</p> <p>As a reminder, both gates will close promptly at 8:38am; any student arriving after this time will be marked late and set a detention.</p>
Exit from site at 3:10pm	<p>Students will be able to use either the Beechcroft Road <u>or</u> the Glenburnie Road exit when they exit the site at 3:10pm.</p> <p>Both of these will be open, supporting calm and prompt student dismissal home.</p>

Students in Year 12 and 13 will continue to use the entrance and exit to the **Sixth Form Centre on Beechcroft Road**.

Planners

A significant change for the Spring Term is the introduction of Student Planners for all students in Years 8–13, who will now join Year 7 in using these as part of their daily routine at EBA.

This initiative is designed to support students in becoming more independent, organised, and responsible for their learning. It will also provide a clearer method of communication between school and home, allowing parents and carers to monitor:

- Homework that has been set and its due date
- Messages from teachers

Principal: Mr Damola Ademolake

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- Upcoming assessments
- Any detentions issued

Students are expected to bring their planner to school every day and have it on their desk during every lesson.

We kindly request that parents and carers check planners regularly, and sign them at the end of each week in the space provided.

Arrangements for eating and drinking

We have increasing concerns regarding litter and food-related waste on the playground. This issue negatively affects the environment, poses health risks, and places an unfair burden on our site team.

From Tuesday 6th January, students will no longer be permitted to consume food or drink in the playground, including items brought from home. To ensure sufficient indoor space, additional tables have been installed in the main hall where students may eat with their friends at break and lunch. Students must clear their tables once finished before going outside. Only bottled water will be permitted in outdoor areas.

Although this is a significant change, we are confident students will respond positively. This measure will help maintain a cleaner, more professional environment. Students who fail to follow the new expectations will receive a sanction, and any food will be confiscated.

Attendance

Attendance across the academy improved during the Autumn Term. Our attendance figure of **93.3%** was above the national average of **92.1%**, and higher than that recorded for 'similar schools' in government analysis.

Despite this improvement, nearly 7% of students absent on any given day is still too high and will impact achievement. We have high aspirations for further improvement to support students in meeting their academic goals.

Our expectation remains: Every student, every day.

To recognise excellence in attendance, 108 students from Years 7–13 who achieved 100% attendance last term were invited to a 'Pizza Party' celebration on Thursday 18th December 2025. We are extremely proud of their commitment and hope this encourages others to strive for the same.

Further attendance celebrations are planned throughout 2026:

Spring Term 1	Celebration for all students with 100% attendance for the Spring Term 1 (During week of 9 th February)
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Spring Term 2	Celebration for all students with 100% attendance for the Spring Term 2 (During week of 23 rd March)
Summer Term 1	Celebration for all students with 100% attendance for the Summer Term 1 (During week of 18 th May)
Summer Term 2	All students with 100% attendance for the Academic Year will be invited to an Attendance Rewards Trip to a Theme Park at the end of academic year

To support high attendance, we ask parents and carers to:

- Ensure your child attends school every day and is supported in meeting their attendance goals.
- Ensure your child arrives on time and is in line-up by 8:40am. Gates close at 08:38am.
- Limit absences to genuine illness. Minor ailments such as headaches, colds, temperatures or sore throats should not prevent attendance.
- Schedule non-urgent appointments outside school hours.
- Book all holidays and events outside of term time. Holidays during term time will not be authorised.

If your child is genuinely unwell and unable to attend, please

- Call 020 8672 8582 – dial 1 and leave a message on the answering machine
- InApp message on Arbor
- Email absence@ernestbevinacademy.org.uk

Punctuality

we will be placing increased focus on punctuality. Your support is essential in ensuring students arrive promptly, enabling a full day of learning and reducing disruption.

Students in Years 7–11 must attend line-up at 8:40am. All gates close at 08:38am. The following daily sanctions will apply:

Time	Sanction/Action
8:38am promptly	Student gates close
Any student who arrives at school between 8:38-9:00am	20min detention at break
Any student who arrives at school after 9:00am	1hr detention at the of the day. (Where lateness is critical or persistent, this sanction will be escalated)

Uniform

We firmly believe that wearing the correct uniform promotes identity, unity, and pride within our school community. We have been pleased to see students dressed smartly throughout the Autumn Term. Students must adhere fully to our uniform expectations. We ask parents and carers to ensure their child attends in full academy uniform - or full Business Dress for Sixth Formers - every day.

Please note: students arriving in incorrect uniform will not be permitted to attend lessons until the issue is resolved. Full uniform guidance is available on our website [here](#).

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Mobile Phones

In 2025–26, we introduced changes to our mobile phone policy due to well-evidenced concerns regarding their impact on students' wellbeing, safety, and learning. This policy remains in place:

- Mobile phones must be switched off at the gate and remain off and stored in bags until students leave the site.
- *Hear it or see it, we take it:* any visible or audible phone will be confiscated and held until a parent meets with a Head of Year or a member of SLT. Phones will not be returned to students directly.
- The academy will not investigate mobile phone issues occurring on site (e.g., loss or theft).
- Parents and carers are expected to carry out regular checks to ensure phones are used safely and appropriately.

Online safety

We strongly encourage all parents and carers to actively monitor their child's online activity, including social media use, messaging apps, and general internet access - particularly outside school hours. Parents should ensure they can access all devices and have the necessary passwords and PINs.

Frequent checks are essential for safeguarding young people from harmful content or behaviour. Any online concerns should be reported directly to the provider via their reporting system, and you may also report concerns to the police. We will continue to educate students about safe, responsible use of technology and the risks associated with online behaviour.

All staff at EBA remain committed to working in partnership with students and families to support an ambitious, successful future for every child. Our dedicated teachers and support staff are ready to help all students achieve their full academic potential.

With your continued support, we are confident that 2026 will be a year of shared success.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Blakemore
Deputy Principal