

Issue 3 - Autumn 1, Week 3

The Beacon

We exist to transform the lives of children through education

Dear Families,

There have been so many positive highlights this week. It has been fantastic to see the number of students putting themselves forward for the Islington Council elections, increasingly calm corridors and focused classrooms, and a growing sense of belonging across the school. We are also pleased to see students working harder in lessons.



Students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 have completed their NGRT reading assessments this week, working with real focus and maturity. Across the school, we have also been reinforcing an important message, **our words matter**. We want every child to understand the importance of being kind, speaking politely and thinking carefully about how their words can make others feel. This will follow key messages in assemblies and the sharing of sanctions for negative language/behaviours which are named in this bulletin.

Some families will also begin to hear about clubs, enrichment activities and our first school trips of the year. These opportunities are an important part of our commitment to ensuring that every child has experiences beyond the classroom and can discover interests, talents and possibilities they may not have considered before.

Next week, we will be celebrating students who have maintained 100% attendance since the start of term. Some families will also receive a letter where attendance has begun to fall, so that we can work together early to understand what support may be needed.

Attendance matters because children cannot benefit from everything school has to offer if they are not here. I am committed to working with families to remove barriers that may prevent children from attending school, learning well, building strong relationships with friends and staff, and becoming something they may not yet know is possible.

Happy reading, and have a lovely weekend

Mr Collingwoode-Williams,
Head of School



Believe. Belong. Become. *Aspiring to be a light for others.*

Photos and moments of the week



- Students signing up for the Islington Council Elections
- Game of Jenga during lunch time with Years 7 and Year 8
- Line up before NGRT assessments and Assembly
- Year 11 assembly on Leadership by Ms MacDonald

Key Messages

Weekly Update

..On Behaviour

This week, we are strengthening our focus on two important areas that help create a calm, respectful and purposeful learning environment for every student, **equipment and language**.

1. Being Ready to Learn

We ask all students to arrive at school each day with the equipment they need to be successful:

- 2 x black or blue pens
- 2 x green pens
- 2 x pencils
- 1 x 15cm or 30cm ruler

Tutors will be completing regular equipment checks to help students build strong habits and ensure they are ready for learning.

Having the correct equipment may seem like a small thing, but it makes a significant difference. It reduces lost learning time, helps lessons start promptly and allows students to focus fully on their learning.

We would really appreciate families checking that students have the equipment they need each morning.

2. Words Matter

We are also reminding all students that **words matter**.

At Lift Beacon High, we want every student and member of staff to feel respected. We therefore expect students to speak kindly and respectfully to one another and to adults.

This includes language used between friends, said as a joke or spoken when frustrated. Swearing, abusive or intimidating language is not acceptable in our school community.

Our response will depend on the seriousness of the language used:

Behaviour	School Response
Swearing or explicit language used aloud during a lesson	Removal from the lesson
Disrespectful language towards a member of staff, or swearing	1 hour detention
Aggressive or abusive language towards a member of staff	Minimum 2 days in Refocus
Repeated abusive, threatening or intimidating language	Minimum 2 day suspension

Our aim is not simply to sanction poor behaviour, but to help students understand the impact of their words, repair relationships and make better choices in the future.

Thank you for working with us to reinforce these expectations at home. By working together, we can ensure Lift Beacon High remains a school where students are ready to learn, respectful to others and proud of the way they represent themselves and their school.

CountUP to Year 11 Mocks

6 weeks to go = 30 calendar weekdays
4 teaching weeks = 20 school days left
The countUP is on. **Every lesson matters.**



To keep building momentum and support our Year 11s, we will be introducing the following:

- **Revise2Rise – “In It 2 Win It”**
Students who attend Revise2Rise will be entered into random prize draws on carefully selected and random days to recognise their commitment and consistency.
- **Well Done Cards**
At the end of every Year 11 lesson, we are asking each teacher to nominate one student who has impressed you with their effort, attitude or quality of work and issue them with a Well Done card.
- **Revision Timetables Competition**
We will be asking Year 11 students to share their revision timetables and send in photos showing where they have displayed them, on their desk, fridge, bedroom wall or anywhere else that keeps revision visible and front of mind.

The next 20 school days matter. Every lesson, every intervention and every positive interaction is another opportunity to build confidence, strengthen habits and help our Year 11s move closer to success.

Lift Beacon High Clubs this term!

Sarah Chan - Head of Music

Beacon High Choir

Ms Chan will be running the first Choir rehearsal this Wednesday lunchtime at 1.05pm in the Music Studio (Classroom). If you love to sing, would love to learn to sing, or would like to have fun making music in a group, please come along! Anybody in Years 7-11 are welcome for this first taster session before deciding to commit to weekly rehearsals. If you are interested or have any other questions, please speak to Ms Chan in her classroom. I look forward to seeing many of you there!

Lyndsay Duncan - Head of Art

Year 9 After-School Art Club

By popular demand, this club is open to all Year 9 students of any ability. For the students, you will experiment with diverse materials outside of regular lesson times, focusing on clay sculpting, acrylic painting, and printmaking techniques. There are no rigid rules or grades; instead, you can choose your own projects, learn at your own pace, and develop your unique artistic voice.

- **When:** Every Thursday after school
 - **Where:** Art Room 1
 - **How to register:** See Ms Duncan to register! (All materials are provided)
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Open Events - Come and See Lift Beacon High

We are excited to welcome prospective families to our upcoming **Open Evening and Open Mornings**.

Open Evening will take place on **Tuesday 29 September, 1630 – 1900**, giving families the opportunity to meet our staff and students, tour the school and hear more about our vision and ambitions for Lift Beacon High.

Please Note: Students will leave school at 1425 on **Tuesday 29 September**

Lift Beacon High

*A school with purpose. A
community with ambition.*

Find out more about our school
at one of our open events.

Lift
Schools

Open evening:
Tuesday 29th September: 16:30 - 19:00

Open mornings 09:00-10:00
 Tuesday 15th September
 Wednesday 23rd September
 Thursday 1st October
 Friday 9th October
 Monday 12th October

LiftBeaconHigh.org

We are incredibly proud of our school and the journey ahead. **If you know a family with a child currently in Year 6 or Year 5, please encourage them to come and visit us.** There is no better way to understand our school than to see it in action, meet our community and experience the warm, ambitious environment we are building together.

PSHCE Topics this week

Ms F Begum - Head of PSHE/RE

Week 4 - Beginning 21st September

Year	PSHCE Topic
7	Transitions
8	Positive Mindset
9	Complex Emotions
10	Healthy Lifestyles
11	Balancing Everyday Pressures

European Day of Languages

Ms R Moran Hernandez - Head of MFL

Next week we will be celebrating European Day of Languages at Lift Beacon High.

Students will take part in a range of activities designed to celebrate the different languages, cultures and backgrounds represented across our school community. This will include a special assembly, tutor time activities and a Year 7 writing competition.



We are also inviting families to get involved through our Cultural Cake Sale.

We would love families to bake a cake with their child that either:

- originates from a country that is important to your family; or
- represents something about your child's culture or heritage.

As Lift Beacon High is an **allergy aware school**, all cakes must be completely nut free, and all ingredients used to be labelled. If not, it won't be able to be brought on site.

The cakes will be sold in school on **Friday 2 October**, with proceeds donated to charity.

We are incredibly proud of the diversity within our school and look forward to celebrating the languages, cultures and traditions that make our community so special.

Gracias, merci, danke, grazie, obrigado, and thank you!

Information from our community

Islington Active Girls Club

Girls can come along and take part in a free multi sports and other sports and games coached by Access to Sports. The club is every Wednesday in term time, 4.30-6pm London Metropolitan University, 166-220 Holloway Road, N7 8DB.

For further information contact Denise.Lake@islington.gov.uk



Message from the Mayor of London for parents (Universal Free School Meals)

Please click [this link](#) to find the attached letter to families reassuring families of the continuation of the Mayor of London's Universal Free School meals. It also reiterates the changes to the national Government's FSM scheme and the importance of registering.

Student Success

Top Attending Tutor groups in the first week of term.

A well done to the Class below for having the highest attendance this week!

Group	Tutors	Avg Att %	Rank (Avg Att)
7A	Ms Duncan	95.95	1
11D	Mr McAndrew	95.33	2
7B	Mr Hodgson	95.05	3
10A	Ms Chan	95.03	4

Dates for your diary

Two weeks look ahead

Monday 21st September	English GL Catch Up (P1 - P4)
Tuesday 22nd September	Maths GL Catch Up (P1 - P4)
Wednesday 23rd September	- Open Morning 0900 - 1000 (AHR) - NGRT/GL Cath Up (P1 - P4)
Thursday 24th September	NGRT/GL Cath Up (P1 - P4)
Friday 25th September	European Languages Day (RSE)

Monday 28th September	Year 9 Tender Programme (This will involve Year 9s not being in lesson) (AMA)
Tuesday 29th September	- Open Evening 16:00 - 19:00 (AHR) - School will close early for students at 1425.
Wednesday 30th September	
Thursday 1st October	- Open Morning 0900 - 1000 (AHR) - Black History Month - Honoring Our Communities (AMA) - Spooky Poem Competition this month (RSE)
Friday 2nd October	European Languages Day - Charity Cake Sale

Key Dates

Autumn 1

Tuesday 1 September 2026 to Friday 16 October 2026

Tuesday 15th September: Open Morning 0900 - 1000

Wednesday 23rd September: Open Morning 0900 - 1000

Tuesday 29th September: Open Evening 1530 - 1930 (for Year 5, 6 and current Year 7s)

Friday 9th October: Open Morning 0900 - 1000

Monday 12th October: Open Morning 0900 - 1000

Half Term: Monday 19th October 2026 - Monday 30th October 2026

Autumn 2

Monday 1st November 2026 to Friday 18th December 2026

Wednesday 2nd December: Year 11 Parents' Evening 1600 - 1800

Thursday 3rd December: INSET Day

Thursday 4th December: INSET Day

Friday 18th December: Celebration Assemblies and Last day of term

Winter Holiday: Monday 21st December 2026 to Friday 1 January 2027

Spring 1

Monday 4th January: INSET Day

Tuesday 5th January: INSET Day

Wednesday 6th January: First day of School

Weekly reminders

Uniform Weekly reminder: Clarity on Shoes, PE Uniform and Equipment

Shoes

After speaking with some parents and carers on Friday, I wanted to clarify our expectations around footwear.

Students in **Years 7–10 should wear school shoes rather than trainers**. As there have been some mixed messages, families will have until **after Christmas** to make this change.

Please note that trainers may affect a student's ability to represent the school at some visits or events where full uniform is required.

Year 11 students may continue to wear trainers this academic year.

Acceptable	Unacceptable
     	      × Black Nike Air Force 1s × Vans or trainer-style school shoes

Equipment

2x Black or blue pen 2x green pen 2 x pencil 2 x highlighters 1 x pencil sharpener 1 x rubber	1x 15cm or 30cm ruler 1x Casio FX-83GTCW scientific calculator 1x Yondr pouch Pencil case Water bottle Black school bag**
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**The school bag must be black from after the October half term

The black school bag (backpack) will be important as students will now take their books home. Handbags and side bags will not be allowed from after the half term.



PE Uniform

This approach provides a phased introduction of branded PE uniform, while maintaining a consistent, practical and affordable core PE kit across Years 7–11.

Year Group	PE T-Shirt	Long-Sleeve Top	Shorts	Sports Trousers
Year 7	Branded polo T-shirt	Branded quarter-zip fleece***	Plain black sports shorts	Plain black jogging bottoms
Years 8–9	Plain black until Christmas; branded polo T-shirt from Spring Term	Plain black until Christmas; branded black quarter-zip fleece*** from Spring Term		
Years 10–11	Plain black T-shirt	Plain black, no hood		

***The black quarter-zip fleece is optional

- Hoodies are not permitted to be worn during PE lessons.
- Cycling shorts and leggings are not permitted
- For health and safety reasons, students may be required to remove jewellery during PE lessons where the activity presents a particular risk.

Useful Links and Emails

ParentPay: www.parentpay.com

Safeguarding: safeguarding@liftbeaconhigh.org.

NSPCC (National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children): nspcc.org.uk

Childline: childline.org.uk Contact: 0800 1111

Contact

Tel: 020 7607 5885

Email: postbox@liftbeaconhigh.org

Address: Hilldrop Rd, London N7 0JG