



YEAR 11: Welcome Back!

March 2021

A WORD FROM MR WADE

Thank goodness the students are back!

The last time I wrote something for the Year 11 Bulletin was in November and, at that point, my words were based on the knowledge that exams would be going ahead as planned and that we had our game plan ready to take Year 11 through to June and do the very best for them that we could. It's a good thing that I am not a betting man!

As I said in my assembly last week, the most important thing now is to look forward, never back. Our students can influence the future and not the past and we will help them to remember that.

All we need from our students is that they are ready to learn every day with an attitude to their learning that clearly demonstrates that they are here to do their very best and work alongside their teachers to learn brilliantly. There will be continuous assessment in lessons as has always been the case. Our students need not be frightened of that because it is nothing new.

By Easter we should know more about the exam board expectations of us. We will look at their suggested mini assessments and determine if they are right for our students or not. If they are not, then we will write our own assessment/mocks. Whatever we decide, we will be totally focused on our Year 11 students and making sure they all have the opportunity to shine.

To conclude, it is wonderful to have Year 11 and the rest of the students back with us. We are determined to look after our students and all we ask is that they are ready and willing to learn every day and contribute in a positive manner at all times. We want them and you to talk to us if you are worried about anything or even just not sure. We are here to help and always will be.

Mr Wade, Headteacher

WELCOME BACK AND YOUR CHILD'S WELLBEING

It has been absolutely wonderful to welcome Year 11 back this week. For many students, being back in the building is supporting their well-being simply by returning to an even more structured day and through the much-needed contact with their teachers and friends. We are, however, aware that some students may be finding it difficult to readjust to the early mornings, the hundreds of people and the other changes that come with schools reopening. We therefore wanted to take this opportunity to remind you of the support our students have available to them.

5 Top Tips

1. Dial bedtime back by 15 mins every couple of nights. For some, staying up late and getting up last minute has become the norm. Do they need to build new, healthier habits?
2. Promote screen-free time before 'lights out'. Can their mobile be out of reach overnight to support quality, uninterrupted sleep?
3. Remind them to be organised for the next day at school: uniform and lanyard; school bag with planner, stocked pencil case, books, a drink and snack etc.
4. Encourage mask-free time outside – getting active, clearing their minds, and keeping fit.
5. Chat about their day over dinner and give praise and encouragement. What went well today? What did they enjoy? What did they learn? Who did they catch up with?

Who can help my child in school?

- Their tutor
- Their teachers
- The key contacts detailed below: Simon Wade, Frances Wade, Jules Bhandara, Angela Pilkington & Mike Barnes

More information can be found on our dedicated webpage here:

http://www.beckfoot.org/?page_id=17944



KEY CONTACTS



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We are also very fortunate to be able to provide our students with support through **Place2Be**.



Improving children's
mental health

Place2Be is a charity organisation that is based in Beckfoot School three days a week. They offer professional support and guidance for students who are struggling with their mental health and/or emotional wellbeing. The team is led by Judith Revers and she is contactable on becx13@beckfoot.org.

What help can my child access out of school?

We have found a variety of relevant websites and associations which you might like to have a look at to help your child stay mentally healthy. Why not try an Action for Happiness daily challenge calendar, as a family?

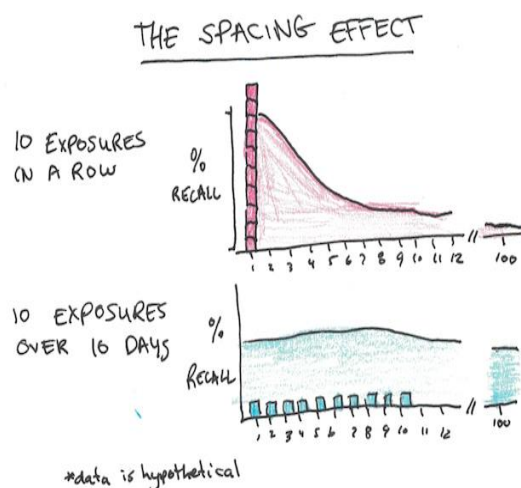
[Be Kind Campaign](#)
[Action for Happiness calendars](#)
[ThinkUKnow: Home Activity Packs](#)

[Kooth: How to Sign Up](#)
[Stress Me Less Tips](#)
[We All Have Mental Health](#)

SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD'S INDEPENDENT STUDY

So many of our students are wanting to be reminded of how best to revise and undertake independent study. We therefore thought it might be useful to share this information with each of you in order that you are aware of some of our top tips! Please find details below. More information can also be found on our dedicated Year 11 support webpage which can be found here: http://www.beckfoot.org/?page_id=16835

When



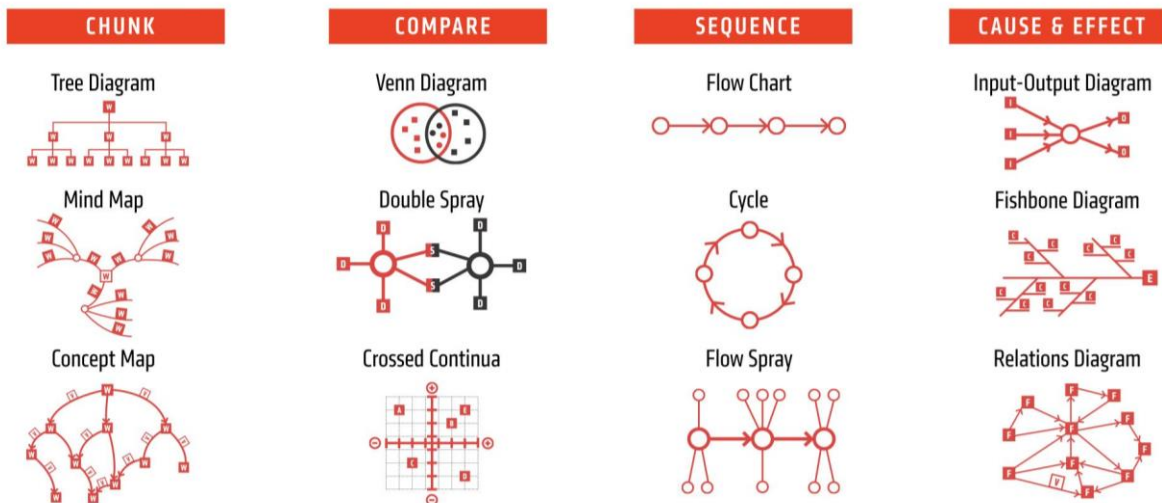
When we 'cram' we forget more quickly. When we space out our independent learning we create much stronger memories.

The graphs to the left show how the same amount of revision can result in much higher levels of recall when we space it out over time.

Create a revision timetable. We have shared an example with you before and saved it here for you to download and print:
<https://becbd.sharepoint.com/sites/beckfootlearners2020/SitePages/Year-11---Revision-Folder-Resources.aspx>



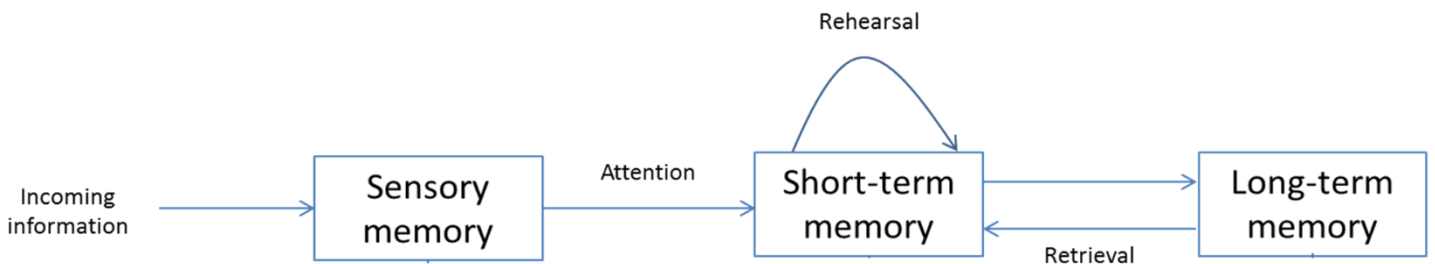
What



When we are trying to remember lots of information and connections between pieces of information, large chunks / paragraphs of text aren't very useful.

The image above shows some examples of 'graphic organisers' students can use when creating their own revision notes. Condensing information from revision guides, knowledge organisers, class notes, etc. using these formats is a great place to start.

How



Firstly, we must give our full attention in order for information to move into our short-term memory. Next, we need to rehearse this information in order to move it into our long-term memory. Finally, we need to retrieve this information in order to strengthen the memory even further.

R C R
Retrieve Check Repeat

Or, better known as...



- Re-read notes
- Highlighting notes
- Summarising notes
- Quizzes
- Flashcards
- Creating mnemonics

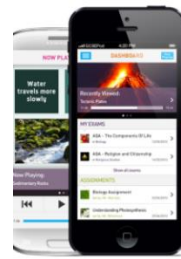
The strategies in red are not effective.

The strategies in green are effective when we use them right!

DON'T FORGET GCSE POD

More about that in our next edition

All our students have access to GCSE Pod! Find out more here: <https://www.gcsepod.com/>



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TEACHER COMMENTS

We wanted to share some wonderful comments from our teachers about our Year 11 students... enjoy!

On Monday our department moderated the speaking work completed by Year 11. We went through the task in our online sessions and then students needed to record and submit their spoken task.

Wow. Just wow. The level of effort that has gone into the pieces is incredible. Recording in difficult home circumstances and often working with many distractions, they have smashed it. The efforts to which many of them have gone to sound authentic is mind blowing.

Our Year 11's are doing themselves proud. 😊 Team MFL

My Year 11 RE group have been exceptional through lockdown and should feel extremely proud of what they have achieved.

Miss Towler

A stunning return from Year 11. You have reminded us all what a remarkable group of young people you are. Well done - and thank you.

Mrs Wade

A massive well done to Year 11 on a fantastic return to school. We've smashed the school attendance target of 97% for the Year group. Come on Year 11 we've got this!!

Mrs Bhandara

11aCC1 - you are an absolutely amazing bunch. Thank you for all the hard work you put into our live lessons through lockdown, I'm so so proud of you all. Now that we are back at school we are going to continue working together as a team and achieve even bigger things than we already have. Miss Iqbal.

11xEn7, I'm so glad that you're back! Your contributions in class this week have been wonderful and you've even taught me some things about 'Romeo and Juliet' that I'd never considered before. Keep this up!

Mrs Waddington

Welcome back Year 11! It's been so lovely to see your faces again and do some physical activity – even if it has been done in hurricanes!

Miss Lancashire

Wow! Year 11 we have missed you all so much and are so glad to have you back in the building – you really bring the place alive! Don't forget to speak to us if you need anything at all – we are here for you. Thank you for making us proud!

Miss Sullivan

You have tried really hard and coped so well with this tricky situation! Well done everyone...I miss blooket though 😊

Mrs Hart

11y5, oh how I have missed your faces! I am glad we are all back together and I am looking forward to us working as a team again!

Miss Mitchell

11dIT1 – Thank you for being amazing through lockdown I thoroughly enjoyed teaching you! I'm really proud of each and every one of you! Now that we are back at school we are going to continue working together as a team and achieve even greater things.

Miss Iqbal.



It was super great to see ALL of my Y11 Geography class on Tuesday. We had a full house which was lovely. I have been so impressed with each and every one of you over the last 12 months and I am looking forward to supporting you through these final few weeks. I will be with you every step of the way and I promise to help you achieve your full potential. I am on your side so please do not worry! Keep up the amazing work because it will all be worth it in the end.

With best wishes from Mrs Lee

It is wonderful to be back teaching my favourite ever class 11y1 face to face!

Miss Murphy

It has been an absolute pleasure welcoming back my Year 11 GCSE Music group, loads of smiles and great conversations with them, it definitely put a smile on my face knowing that I get to work with such great young people who are totally focused in their work, and yet still have that element of fun that we all need!

Mr Stimpson

Year 11 have been very engaged with their Careers appointments with Liz Palmer, both in school and from home. They have had some really grown-up conversations about their Post 16 options, showing mature and positive attitudes.

Mrs Wilson

It has been so nice to see how you have supported each other upon your return to school – don't forget my door is always open!

Miss Heaton

11yen7 – My joys to teach! Welcome back! You all know how much I cry over the wonderful work you produce but now, more than ever, I am so proud of your work ethic and commitment to learning.

Miss Redmond :)

It's been lovely to see you back in school and of course more than ever to see my wonderful tutees and btec students! You guys are going to achieve amazing things!

Miss Holmes

OUR KEY MESSAGE TO YEAR 11 AND THEIR FAMILIES AT THIS TIME

It is easy to think about 'missed learning' and 'catch-up' but that is certainly not the job of our students to think about, or even the job of our students' families. As Mr Wade has said in his welcome note, we need our students here, on time, and we need them to work hard – the rest is down to us.

We have been working hard behind the scenes to amend the timelines and strategies we had in place to support Year 11 based on the new circumstances that we find ourselves in. Our students need not worry about catching up – we will ensure that they shine!

Our focus as a school, along with ensuring our students are supported with their learning and progress over the coming weeks, is to also support their reintegration back to school. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with us – we are here to help.



WE'RE ALL IN THIS
TOGETHER



enjoylearnsucceed

Beckfoot School

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