BOHUNT SCHOOL WORTHING NEWSLETTER 14th September 2026

Headteacher's Message

Dear Families,

What a fantastic first full week we have had!

It has been wonderful to see our students settling so positively into the new academic year. Across the school, we have seen strong routines, purposeful lessons and a real sense of excitement about the year ahead.

A huge well done to our Year 11 students, who completed their Duke of Edinburgh expedition this week. This is a significant achievement and one that requires resilience, teamwork and determination. Thank you also to the members of staff who gave up their time to support the trip and make the experience possible for our students.

Our Year 7 students also had an incredible start to secondary school with their Big Day Out. The feedback from students has been overwhelmingly positive. Students particularly enjoyed den building, teamwork games and red light-green light, and every student we spoke to said that they had made new friends and that the experience had helped them feel more settled at secondary school. Every student also said they would recommend the Big Day Out to next year's Year 7!

It has been a brilliant way for our newest students to build relationships, develop confidence and create some early memories together.

Upcoming dates

14th Sept: Welcome to Yr 11 event.

22nd September: Open Evening (Early closure for students. Students will be dismissed at 12pm)

25th September BET Inset Day: School closed to all students

29th September: Welcome to Yr 10 event + Beyond Bohunt (post 16 event) for Yr 10 + 11 families.

8th October: Year 7 Meet the Tutor

15th October: Welcome to Yr 9 event.

23rd October: Last day of term; normal finish Time

BOHUNT SCHOOL WORTHING

NEWSLETTER

14th September 2026

Headteacher's Message

Listening to Our Students

This year, we are significantly increasing the amount of pupil voice we gather across the school.

We want our students to know that their views matter. Regular pupil voice will help us to understand how students are experiencing school, what is working well, how they are feeling and where there are things we can improve. It will also help us to keep a close eye on student wellbeing and make sure that we are responding to what our young people are telling us.

Last week, we held a number of pupil voice panels. We asked our Year 7 students about how they have settled into secondary school, and we spoke with students in Years 8–11 about their experience of having one break and one lunch.

Year 7. A Really Positive Start

The feedback from Year 7 was particularly encouraging.

Students described their first week with words including "fun", "exciting", "easy" and "interesting". They told us that they have particularly enjoyed their lessons, meeting new people, the Big Day Out and simply getting used to life around the school.

When we asked what had helped them to feel settled, students highlighted:

Their teachers and tutors
Being with friends
Knowing their timetable
Assemblies and morning routines
Summer School
Support from their families
Getting to know their way around the school

Students also spoke positively about the purposeful nature of their lessons. They mentioned seating plans, teachers knowing them, mini whiteboards, supportive teachers and clear routines as things that have helped them to learn.

This is exactly what we want to hear at the beginning of a new academic year: students feeling safe, supported and ready to learn.

Headteacher's Message

One Break and One Lunch

We also wanted to hear honestly from students in Years 8–11 about the new structure of one break and one lunch.
There was a lot of positivity about the change. Students told us that they like having only two lessons in the afternoon (as 2 year groups previously had 3 lessons in the afternoon), that there is less disruption to lessons and that they enjoy being able to spend time with friends across different year groups.

However, as we would expect from meaningful pupil voice, students also identified things that they would like us to improve.
The most common feedback was around space and activities at social times. Students told us that lunch can feel busy and that there is not always enough space for activities such as football.

Importantly, we have listened.
From this week:

- 🏀 The Sports Hall is now fully open at break and lunchtime.
- ⚽ Students will have more opportunities for sport and physical activity- ball game areas have now doubled.
- 🎵 Lunchtime clubs are starting this week – something we have not previously been able to offer in this way.
- We will continue to look at how we can make the use of our spaces work as effectively as possible.
- We will continue to gather student feedback to see whether these changes are making a difference.

Students also suggested more seating, additional places to play and further opportunities for activities. These are all things we will continue to explore.
Listening, Acting, Reviewing.
For us, pupil voice is about listening, acting and then checking whether the changes we make have actually improved things.
We are incredibly pleased with the positivity coming through from our students after the first week. We want our students to feel confident telling us both what they love about school and what they think could be improved.
Thank you to all of our students for such a brilliant start to the year, and thank you to families for your continued support.

We are incredibly excited about the year ahead.