

Principal: Mr Kay Sarpong

Brook Academy, Mill Lane, Brockworth, Gloucestershire GL3 4ZN

Tel: 01452 221626 **Email:** info@tba.clf.uk

www.brookacademy.clf.uk



Dear All,

I hope you have managed to get a good break and enjoyed the sunshine as it comes. We are looking forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 28th April with exciting activities in the short term.

Below are the plans and updates for Term 5,

Attendance Competition-Step out of Persistent Absence-One Day at a Time!

We are heading into a short but important half-term, just **19 school days** and it is a great chance for a fresh start. Any attendance percentage below 90% means your child is classed as persistently absent student. Though we are aware of some of the circumstances, there is good news, **if they attend all 19 days, they will no longer be a persistent absentee.** It is a great opportunity to turn things around in a short space of time.

Great attendance builds confidence, keeps students connected and prepares them for future success in school and beyond. **We will be recognising every student who have improved attendance and do all they can to be in for all 19 days.** The biggest reward is knowing they are back on track and getting their learning.

Let's make this happen, one day at a time!

Uniform

With the weather changing, we would like to encourage students to wear appropriate clothing to school. This could be their Polo Top, PE Top and Shorts or Trousers. Please avoid any bicycle shorts or see through leggings. We have in stock new uniforms in many sizes so please call the office if you wish to buy a new uniform.

Swimming-New Group 7A

Class 7A will starting their swimming sessions on the first Monday and the rest of the dates below. Please make sure they attend with their swimming kit for the activity.

- Monday 28th April
- Monday 12th May
- Monday 2nd June
- Monday 16th June
- Monday 30th June



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Assessment/Exams in Term 5

Term 5 will be our Assessment and End of Year Examination season. We have a timetable set to begin this in Week 2. Your child will come home with tier individual timetable. Please make sure you familiarise yourself and support us to send your child to school every day. There will be revision sessions and support in preparation for the assessments and exams. Therefore attendance to school everyday is important in this preparation.

Term 5 Dates for your Diary

Monday 28th April 2025 - Friday 23rd May 2025

Bank Holidays-Monday 5th May 2025 School Closed

Concerns/Social Media

We hope your child has been safe from their communication on social media. However, if you have any concerns about something that has happened during the holidays, please share with us to support.

Football Training

Following the successful set up of the school football team, we will be reviewing the training day to make sure this continues and will make you aware by the end of the first week when training will start again.

Teacher/TA Adverts/Update

Thank you for your support with sharing the adverts. We have 3 new colleagues starting with us in Term 5, 2 Teachers and 1 TA. We also have received strong applications for the other teacher and TA roles and will be interviewing on Friday 2nd May 2025.

Food Bank

Food Bank is open, and we will encourage you to contact us if you need any support. Below is also information from the Local Authority about Food Vouchers.

Title: Free School Meal Holiday Vouchers

As you may be aware, Free School Meals are arranged directly with Gloucestershire County Council. Please find detailed below an email from GCC advising that they are offering a voucher for the May half term to all students entitled to free school meals and providing details regarding eligibility and the application process.

Unfortunately, we are unable to process a claim or application on your behalf, but we did want to bring it to your attention for you to make a claim.



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Email from Gloucester County Council

We would like to make you aware of the holiday Free School Meal (FSM) voucher scheme that Gloucestershire County Council is currently offering to families in Gloucestershire. We hope that you will be able to pass these messages on to families within your schools.

Applications for holiday FSM vouchers for the May Half Term 2025 will be open from midday 29 April until midday on 13 May. Voucher emails will be sent from week commencing 19 May. Please encourage families to check their junk/spam folders during this period as sometimes the vouchers end up there.

If parents have not received their vouchers by 26 May, please encourage them to submit a query via the Microsoft Form [HERE](#)

This May Half Term, Gloucestershire County Council will provide families in receipt of Free School Meals, who sign up to this offer, with vouchers to assist with food costs during the school holidays. The vouchers are funded through grant funding we have received, and they are separate to that of term time free school meals.

The scheme is for children in reception to year 11 who receive Pupil Premium (benefits-related) free school meals and attend a school in Gloucestershire. **We are unable to consider college and sixth form students, nor children who receive infant free school meals (available to all children from reception to year 2) - they are not eligible for this scheme.**

Families who have signed up to the scheme or who are already registered will receive a total of **£15 per child for one week.**

To find out more about the scheme and to apply, parents can visit our [FAQs | Gloucestershire County Council](#)

Families who have signed up previously do not need to re-register for the May Half Term holiday vouchers - they will already have been included. Families that have previously signed up will need to contact us with any changes to their circumstances (e.g. if the number of children eligible increases or decreases). To ensure we reach all those who are eligible, we are encouraging parents that have not previously signed up, to sign up as soon as they can.

Please note we check eligibility for the scheme by cross-referencing with the term-time free school meal register, so please make sure parents are registered beforehand. They can register by visiting the [apply for free school meals](#) page. If your school is one of the five that do not use this method, we will require confirmation from yourselves on the child's eligibility. You can find more information on what schools these are on the link above.

Equity Through Education



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Using vouchers – vouchers need to be used will only be awarded once the parent has registered for the scheme and cannot be backdated. Vouchers are valid for 6 months, although should be used in the holiday period in which they are awarded. If vouchers are not claimed and have expired, they cannot be re-issued. Vouchers not received should be queried via the Microsoft Form [HERE](#) by the end of the holiday period.

For any parents wishing to update details of an existing application, please ask them to submit an update existing details request via the Microsoft Form [HERE](#) so we can update their account, as details are not automatically updated.

I hope all this information is useful for your planning and look forward to welcoming you back to school on Monday.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kay Sarpong'.



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