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# News, Events and Updates at Brompton Academy

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## UKAT Sixth Form Virtual Options Event

On Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> November, the UKAT Sixth Form invited students to our very first Virtual Options Event. We had over 370 people register for the event, which included external Year 11 students, together with Year 11 students from Brompton Academy and Chatham Grammar. The introduction video was streamed live on our social media channels at 6pm and has since reached over 880 views! Participants can access 360 virtual tours of both Brompton Academy and Chatham Grammar, along with information on subjects, student life, student destination and Higher Education. Students could also easily apply to the UKAT Sixth Form online.

If you missed our live event - please click the following link to tour our amazing facilities and access all the information needed to apply for our increasingly popular Sixth Form: <https://www.ukatevents.org.uk/ukat-sixth-form/welcome/>.



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## Special Thanks to Students

*Thank  
You!*

Miss Price would like to send an extended thanks to all of the students that took part in the production of the films for the Academy's Virtual Open Event and the Sixth Form Options Event. You are all a credit to the Academy and should be very proud of yourself.

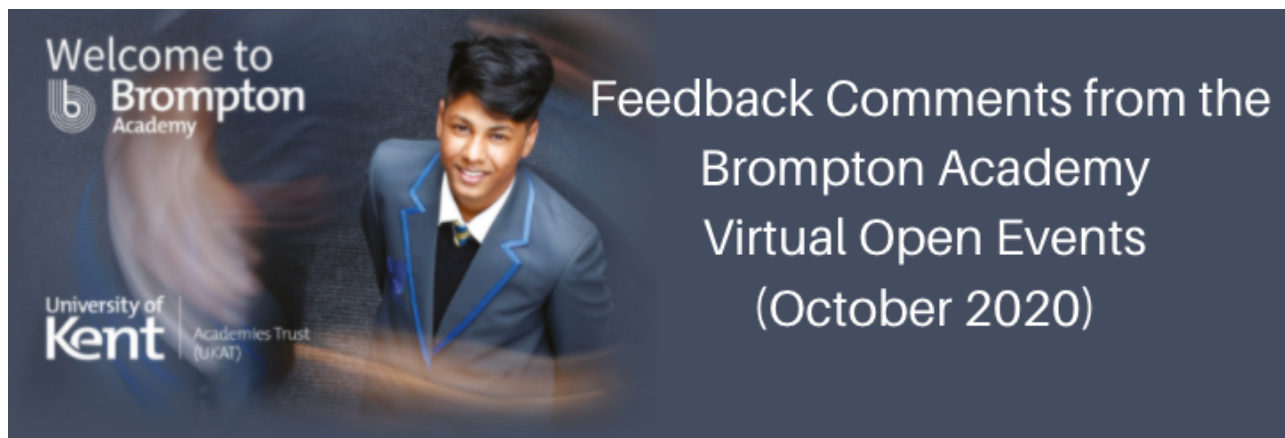
### **BA Virtual Open Event**

Oliver, Caitlin, Connie, Shirya, Ronnie, Theo, Nicole, Max, Ashleen, Beckam, Sarah, Kyla, Yukta, Jessica, James, Alfie, Abigail, Adishree and Aaysha.

### **UKAT Sixth Form Options Event**

Lucy, Gabby and Nana Kwasi.

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“I really liked looking around the Academy, and seeing all the opportunities that you provide to students. If I could, I’d come back to school myself! The facilities and equipment are amazing. My son thoroughly enjoyed the event too. He was very excited at the prospect of this being his new school.”

“Just amazing, the best out of every school we watched. So much effort put in. My son was so set on another school and your event changed his mind within 10 minutes. Thank you so much in what has been a difficult choice with not being able to physically visit.”

“The tour and videos were outstanding, it felt like you were watching an advert. Definitely way ahead of other schools.”

“I felt the virtual event was very informative, and being able to get a detailed report from both students and staff made the experience more enjoyable. The website was easy to use, and the pictures and videos were very good quality.”

“We were unsure what to expect from a virtual event, but within seconds of watching the first video, it felt like we were there! My daughter was so excited that we had to apply there and then.”

“We were pleasantly surprised to see such a wonderful range of extra curricular activities and facilities that the Academy had to offer students.”

“The information in the virtual tour was clear and really helpful.”

## Young Carers SLT Hamper

Every year we invite staff to purchase raffle tickets for £1 and they have the chance of winning a super luxury food hamper full of Christmas goodies. The gorgeous food items are donated by our Strategic Leadership Team (SLT) at the Academy. Who will be the winner this year? All monies raised go towards trips and events for our Young Carers at Brompton Academy.



## Christmas Jumper Competition



We were overwhelmed with entries for the Christmas Jumper competition. Students from all year groups submitted entries, showcasing their creative festive designs.

Congratulations to our winner, Max in Year 7 who will receive an Amazon voucher to enable him to purchase an Echo Dot!

The winning entry was chosen by Assistant Principal, Mr Greenwood.

## Christmas Displays Bring Festive Cheer to the Academy

The Site Team's annual Christmas display has yet again lit up the Academy's courtyard. The impressive Ginger Bread House brings us all a well deserved bit of sparkle. Many thanks to the Site Team for creating such an impressive display.



Special thanks to Miss Mann for decorating the fabulous Christmas trees in the Academy main entrance and Refectory. The amazing smell of the real trees really do bring festive cheer to the Academy.

Did you know that one acre of Christmas trees provides enough oxygen for 18 people every day. They are environmentally friendly and recyclable.



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## Autumn in the Library - We're Trying New Things!

Autumn 2020 has meant changes to the Brompton Academy Library. This opportunity has been seized and we are trying new things!

### Welcome Quiz

Our new students were welcomed with our traditional Newbie Quiz in a completely paper free way! Entries answering questions about favourite childhood stories were fabulous with high scores and five winners! All winners received a goodie bag!



## Brompton Academy Book Butler

Students are placing online requests for bespoke book deliveries. Students can request a particular book, opt for fiction genre or non-fiction categories to receive a personally selected book for them in a hygienic Book Butler bag. Returned books are quarantined and cleaned before being loaned again. and look forward to supporting students in the courageous task of speaking in public.

## Reading Together

As we adapt to being back in formal learning, we are taking this opportunity to share some amazing fiction with Year 7.

- Now is the Time for Running by Michael Williams - a challenging story for family and life in Zimbabwe and South Africa.
- The Day I was Erased by Lisa Thompson - a fun and lively story about family dynamics and personal responsibility.

Each novel is refining comprehension and inference skills whilst developing intriguing discussions.



## Magazine Review Group

Two innovative magazines for primary aged children: Cocoa Girl and Cocoa Boy were launched this summer. A small group of students are forming a review group to report back on the magazines and explore possibilities for magazines for secondary age students.

## Twelve Books of Christmas

Students are having fun with our Twelve Books of Christmas competition identifying Christmas classics and contemporary gems from the book covers and clues. Winners will receive a super sack of festive goodies!



## Duke of Edinburgh's Award

The DofE programme has continued to thrive at UKAT with another record-breaking year for registrations across the trust.

In November, our DofE students in Years 9 and 10 had their first online training session to help get them started with their Award. Over 100 students have signed up for the Bronze Award and 46 for the Silver Award. We are really looking forward to seeing all of the amazing activities that they will be getting involved in.

Students should now have received their DofE welcome packs. It is amazing to see that some of our students have already started their Award and are submitting their evidence to their eDofE account.



With the #DofEWithADifference programme now in full swing students have a lot more flexibility with their programme, and there is a real positive energy about learning new skills, getting fitter and coming up with new ways to complete their volunteering section under different conditions.

For further information about this amazing Award, please visit the DofE and the Academy websites by clicking the following links:

<https://www.bromptonacademy.org.uk/duke-of-edinburgh-award>

<https://www.dofe.org/>

## A Fond Farewell from the DofE Manager

After eight years helping to run the DofE programme, first at Brompton Academy and then across UKAT, I am moving on to a new role within the Trust.

I have loved working with all of the DofE students, staff and volunteers over the years and have many, many happy memories, too many to share. My time has been made more enjoyable working with a great team, and seeing students change from shy and guarded individuals to confident and independent young people, and knowing that I helped in some small way.

It has been an absolute pleasure, and so much fun seeing the students achieve their Awards, and helping them through their DofE journey.



I would like to say a huge thank you, particularly to all of the staff and volunteers who give up their time to help run such a successful programme across UKAT. A special thank you to Mr Webster, who has worked tirelessly alongside me to make UKAT DofE the amazing success that it is. Mr Whitehead for his expedition knowledge, and of course to the legendary Mr Wyatt who has been a parent volunteer for five years.

Lastly, thanks must also go to the DofE South East Team, especially Alex and now James Bader, who have helped me along my 'DofE journey', and have given our students some fantastic

opportunities. One of the highlights was meeting HRH The Earl of Wessex and watching students, showcasing the skills they have learnt through DofE, and also speaking and singing in front of dignitaries at a prestigious dinner held at Hever Castle.

I am pleased to announce that Mr Webster at Brompton Academy and Miss Newington at Chatham Grammar will now take over as the DofE Manager's at their respective Academies. I wish them the very best with their new roles, and I really hope that we can move forward with expeditions and celebrate everyone's achievements in person next year.

Very best wishes, Julia Culham.



## PE Raffle Results

During Term 1, 180 students were entered into the termly PE raffle. Nominees were put forward for their efforts in Core PE and BTEC lessons. Congratulations to all students who were nominated and to our winners. Keep up the good work to be entered into the Term 2 raffle!

**PE RAFFLE -  
CONGRATULATIONS  
TO ALL OF OUR  
WINNERS**



**3RD PLACE**

**Rebecca - Year 10  
Prize: Nike Bag**



**1ST PLACE**

**Liam - Year 11  
Prize: Nike T-shirt**

**4TH PLACE**

**Alfie - Year 7  
Prize: Nike Water Bottle**



**2ND PLACE**

**Chris - Year 10  
Prize: JD Sport Voucher**



**5TH PLACE**

**Liam - Year 9  
Prize: Haribos**



## Jeté-ing Our Way to Christmas!

The Academy's Performing Arts department is in full swing this term and isn't intending to slow down anytime soon.

The Performing Arts department continue to be extremely impressed with the commitment and enthusiasm from all students, and are grateful for all the amazing work that is being produced through this ever changing and uncertain time.

Students are continuing to work extremely hard in all their lessons, despite still having the restriction of no practical lessons, periods of home learning and online lessons. As a team we commend the resilience of all of our students; from Phase One through to Sixth Form.

Phase One have been looking at key skills in both Dance and Drama, through practical exploration of dance pieces and scripts, as well as, extended writing tasks and self-assessments.

Year 10 BTEC (both PA and Dance) have now officially started their first formally assessed component. They have begun an in-depth research project focussing on specific performances and practitioners, including: Matthew Bourne, Wicked, A Linha Curva and Hamilton.

The PA department would like to wish class 11E PA good luck in their Component 2 practical exam on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December. Students have been working hard in rehearsals in preparation for their assessed duologues from the play 'Blood Brothers' written by Willy Russell.

The UKAT Performing Arts Sixth Formers are also working super hard, navigating their way through multiple BTEC units and challenging technique classes and learning repertoire.

## A Pirouette a Day Keeps the Doctor Away!

We also would like to give some shoutouts to our amazing team members....

Firstly, Miss Mulvihill, who over the summer was accepted onto the prestigious Matthew Bourne Overture training programme.

Overture is an annual professional development programme for dance artists and dance teachers from a variety of genres who have been working in community or education settings for less than five years. Miss Mulvihill was handpicked for her work that spans both urban and rural settings, representing the diversity of contemporary England.



The PA department would also like to congratulate Miss Hough



on completing her first term at the Academy, and seamlessly fitting in with the rest of the team. Miss Hough is currently training with KMT and completing her PGCE with Leeds Beckett University. Miss Hough has jumped straight in and has taken on lots of responsibility, she is teaching a range of classes from Phase One through to Sixth Form in a variety of disciplines.

The Performing Arts team are looking forward to a well-earned break over Christmas, but make no mistake, we will be back in January more energised and with even bigger springs in our steps.

We would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

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## Phase One - Elements of Music

This term, students in Phase 1 have been looking at the Elements of Music through composition on GarageBand. We have also explored music from around the world: Samba from Brazil, Djembe Drumming from West Africa and Reggae from Jamaica. We have discovered the descriptive Programme Music, Music for Film and explored genres such as Electronic Dance Music, Motown, Soul and Modern Pop.



In the approach to the Christmas holidays, Year 7 and 8 students have been looking at and performing a Makaton version of *Winter Wonderland* in lieu of being able to perform in a Christmas Concert this year.

We are hoping to put on a concert to show off the amazing musicians that we have here at Brompton Academy, once the current situation dissipates. However, until

then, keep an eye out for our Countdown to Christmas videos on the Academy social media pages, which features our talented Level 3 [Sixth Form] students!

## New Level 2 (GCSE) Pathway

We are very excited to offer a new pathway to our Level 2 qualification. Students can now choose to focus on performance or production! Students are invited to speak to their music teacher to find out further information.



# BA Music

## GCSE Option Pathways



### MUSIC PRODUCTION




If you choose the production pathway you will harness your music production and composition skills on the computer. You will learn about different styles of music, how they use music technology in songs and the development of the recording industry and intermediate level techniques in remixing, production and sampling.





### MUSIC PERFORMANCE



If you choose the performance pathway you will undertake study of music rehearsal and performance skills on a chosen instrument/voice. You will develop your music theory knowledge and learn about different styles of music through the time. You will work towards group and solo performances and take part in concerts.



**RSL LEVEL 2 CERTIFICATE FOR MUSIC PRACTITIONERS  
PERFORMANCE OR PRODUCTION (Equivalent to one GCSE)**

Both pathways are geared towards helping you develop your own unique musical style, build your music techniques and allow progression onto our Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma for Music Practitioners course. Throughout the course you will gain hands on experience in performance and production, how music styles have developed overtime and careers within the music industry.

You will work on a verity of individual and collaborative projects as part of your coursework. You will complete both practical and theoretical assignments including opportunities to showcase your work at regular BA Music events.

## Associates of Brompton Academy

The Brompton Academy Associates met via Zoom on the 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020. Although the Associates are not able to hold any events just yet, they have still been supporting our students wherever they can. One new exciting venture this year is a partnership project with Medway Sunlight Rotary, and the BA Associates which will result in our Young Carers receiving an £20 Amazon voucher and a chocolate selection box – what a lovely gesture for our young people!

Brompton Academy was contacted by Variety – The Children’s Charity, with a fundraising appeal following the impacts of COVID-19. Like so many others, Variety, the Children’s Charity, unfortunately has not been exempt from the catastrophic impact of Coronavirus. With a drastic shortfall in fundraising but soaring demands for children’s services, Children’s Charity have been faced with an unprecedented dilemma - £1.1 million of outstanding applications, with little income anticipated for 2020.

In response to this the Associates have donated £200 to the Children’s Charity – who previously funded Brompton Academy for some fabulous sensory equipment for our Eliot centre.

The Brompton Academy Associates meet once a term (currently via Zoom), and their next meeting is due to take place on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January at 6pm. No matter how limited your time, we appreciate any help, and we are always looking for motivated and friendly parents/carers to join the Associates of Brompton Academy. If you are interested, please email [joprice@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk](mailto:joprice@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk) for more information.

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## Warm Welcome to New Members of Staff

We are pleased to introduce new members of staff that have joined the Academy during Terms 1 and 2.

**Directory of ICT Strategy, System and Services** - Mr Wijayarathne has worked in the technology industry for over 25 years, and looks forward to sharing his skillset and experience across both the UKAT Academies.

**Interim Assistant Principal** - Mr Daly will be joining us from Strood Academy, and we look forward to welcoming him to the Academy in January.

*Welcome*

**Pastoral Manager** - Mr Rayner who was previously a policeman for 31 years, has joined us from Rowans Alternative Provision and is currently working alongside other members of the Pastoral Team getting know our students.

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## Understanding and Supporting Your Teenager

At the beginning of Term 2 we invited parents and carers to attend an online workshop with The Behaviour Detective. The two-hour interactive Understanding and Supporting Your Teenager Workshop allowed parents and carers the opportunity to discuss behaviours and why a teenager may behave in a certain way.

100% of participants would recommend the virtual workshop to other parents/carers.

“The workshop was very interesting and informative. Thank you for arranging it.”

“I found the strategies given were the most valuable to me and my family.”

“It was interesting to learn about how teenagers think.”



The Behaviour  
Detective



## Careers Logo Competition

Congratulations to Silas a Year 8 student who has won the Careers Logo competition. Silas' creative logo will be included on all careers notices. Well done Silas!

## Children Eat Free at Asda Throughout December



Asda supermarket cafés are offering children under the age of 16 a meal completely free of any charge when accompanied by an adult. There are no minimum spend requirements or restrictions on the number of children in a family or group that can take advantage of this offer.

Asda cafés located in the areas with Tier 3 COVID restrictions will still provide this offer to local children via a takeaway service. The offer will run from December 1st to 31st December except Christmas Day when stores are closed.

To find out more, please click [HERE](#).

## University of Kent Academies Trust **Counselling Service**

FREE Talk Therapy for Adults  
**Tuesday's and Thursday's,**  
**5pm - 9pm**

During these uncertain times, you may find yourself feeling anxious or stressed. The dedicated team of volunteer Counsellors in training, are able to offer you confidential and non-judgemental support.

Counselling offers opportunities to look at other ways to manage difficult situations.

For further information or to book, please email:

[Counsellors@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk](mailto:Counsellors@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk)

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