26 March 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Attendance at BCA – Arbor Replacing Study Bugs

Thank you for your support with attendance this year.

Attendance at BCA has improved significantly this year, so a huge thank you to parents for getting your children into school on time each and every day. Research released by the DFE: ***Why school attendance matters, and what we're doing to improve it*** has proved beyond doubt that attendance directly links to how well students perform in exams and then their future earnings.

As you will be aware, we have now moved to a system called Arbor. You have received information about how to log on to Arbor to find out information about the school and your child, please see the link below to this information:

After the Easter holidays we will also be using **Arbo**r for all our attendance systems, this **will replace Study Bugs which will no longer be available for our parents to use**. Parents will need to download the Arbor Parent App (BCA Arbor Parent App.pdf) to access the following:

- **Check your child's attendance**
- **Receive absence alerts**
- **Record same day absence** (for any extended or future absences, please contact school)

If your child is absent from school and we are not aware of the reason an alert will be sent via the Arbor Parent App. You will then need to log the absence via the parent portal as detailed below providing the reason for the absence to ensure this is coded appropriately on your child's register.

Bridgwater College Academy, Parkway, Bridgwater Somerset TA6 4QY
Telephone: (01278) 727327 **Email:** office@bridgwatercollegeacademy.org **Web:** www.bridgwatercollegeacademy.org

You can access help here to do this: Logging absences on the Parent Portal and Arbor App – Arbor Help Centre

If you need any support with school attendance, you can contact the attendance team by emailing attendance@bridgwatercollegeacademy.org

Yours faithfully

Nicola Hilton

Senior Deputy Head/Attendance Champion