KS4 POST 16 INFORMATION

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing at the start of this academic year to provide you with some information regarding the school’s careers provision and the support and guidance that will be available to your son/daughter in Year 11.

As part of the school’s provision students have access to careers advice and support through the school’s partnership with the Connexions service. Students receive an individual interview from a Connexions advisor where they will have the opportunity to discuss and plan for further study and careers. In most cases students will receive this interview during Key Stage 4, however in particular circumstances this interview may take place lower down the school if it is beneficial for the student. In individual cases further interviews are required and all students are also provided with opportunities to request earlier/additional interviews. The school also works collaboratively with the Connexions service to provide valuable focussed careers sessions on topics ranging from apprenticeship awareness to student finance.

Students are also involved in a designated Careers Week every year (from Year 8) as they move up through the school. The focus of the week is specific to each year group and is appropriate to their age e.g. ‘College Application’ week for Y11. Information is also provided to students through Immersion days, external visits, assemblies, form notices, careers posters and the VLE. Within this particular aspect of the school’s careers provision students have access to ‘Cascaid’ This is an online career package that allows students to explore further and higher education, career options and subject requirements. This supports students in making informed decisions at every stage of their progression through school. Access to Cascaid is also available to students at home and instructions are provided on the school VLE along with further careers information, such as links to useful websites and contacts like the National Careers Service. Students also have access to a personal Careers Record. In this record students keep notes and useful information together as they progress through the school.

Further careers support and guidance is provided through the Careers, Well-Being and Life Issues (CWL) programme that forms part of the school curriculum. Throughout both key stages students explore a variety of topics with designated elements of the programme being focussed specifically on careers. This focus is through the content that these topics cover, such as writing a CV and through the development of valuable, transferrable careers skills. Immersion Day activities also support this programme as do College visits and guest speakers.

As parents/carers you can support your son/daughter by using the VLE links and resources to help them explore further education and careers at home. Taking your son/daughter to College open days at Key Stage 4 is also valuable as is using the National Careers Service to investigate options and gather useful information. As further support a post 16 options booklet is also provided with this letter. The booklet contains information on pathways, entry requirements, deadlines and application tips. A Year 11 Post 16 support session for students and parents has also been organised for 26th September (6:00 – 7:00pm). Staff and a Connexions advisor will be available to answer questions and offer support with post 16 applications. The session will be a drop in session so please arrive at a time that is convenient for you. Attendance at the session is not a requirement. In addition support is also available throughout the academic year by contacting the school (phone, email, visit).

Please note that the drop in session will be the same time as the Y10 GCSE evening. The Y10 GCSE evening will be in the Hall and the Y11 Post 16 drop in session will be in Room 19.

Please can you indicate whether you would like to attend the drop in session by completing the reply slip below and returning it via your son/daughter to the Main Office at school.

Kind Regards

Mr A. Rashud
Assistant Headteacher
POST 16 OPTIONS SUPPORT SESSION

Please complete the reply slip below if you intend to attend the support session.

I/we will be attending the POST 16 OPTIONS SUPPORT SESSION (26th September (6:00 – 7:00pm).

Name of son/daughter____________________________________________________ Form ____________

Signature _______________________________________________________________

Please return this reply slip to the Main Office by Monday 25th September 2017.