

28th January 2022

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Following year 9 parents and carers evening on **2nd February** (4pm – 6pm), we will be helping students prepare to make their option choices for key stage 4. Having the parents evening prior to choosing options should help students make decisions.

If you are a parent or carer of a student in year 9 with a special educational need (SEN), please take the opportunity during this evening next week to review the support we have put in place with your child's form tutor. Mrs Storr and Ms Henry will also be available during the evening too.

Students will take part in an options assembly during the week beginning 7th February to outline what to expect during the process.

In the first week after half term, students will take part in options week from the 21st February. They will be given their options booklets, option forms to complete and have a lesson delivered in conjunction with Higher Education Progression Partnership South Yorkshire (Heppsy) organised by our in-school Careers Adviser, Mrs J. Skalli. **Our options evening during this week will take place on 24th February (4pm – 6pm)** will also give you an opportunity to understand the options process and how we are guiding students. Longley College will also be present during the evening to help you consider future pathways too.

Options forms are due in on the **3rd March**.

The updated options booklet will also be uploaded to the school website for your easy reference.

Following student choices, there is an additional opportunity to have a meeting in school where you feel further support might be needed around options. Please ensure you request this at the bottom of the options form so we can follow up and arrange this with you.

Once we have ensured that courses can run based on student numbers and staffing, we will write to confirm students option choices to allow you to check and get back to us with any issues before the summer break. Students will also have an opportunity to take part in KS4 taster lessons, especially helpful if it is a new course they haven't studied in depth yet, such as computer science or engineering.

We believe that good attendance is the most significant factor in determining whether a pupil is able to make successful choices and plan for their future. Whether this is speaking to subject leaders, subject teachers or our range of support staff about their future career choices and options. Our goal is to ensure Y9 students have all the information they require to make those choices. Good attendance is central to this. We appreciate your support and If you or they need any additional support with attendance, please contact the Y9 Progress Team john.hallam@pwa.e-act.org.uk and abbie.armitage@pwa.e-act.org.uk

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If you do still have queries or concerns, please get in touch at sarah.windle@pwa.e-act.org.uk or on the above school number. The option booklet also contains curriculum leader's emails if you prefer to ask about something which is more subject specific.

Many thanks in advance for your support as always.



Mrs S K Windle
Deputy Headteacher

