

13 January 2023

Dear all Parents & Carers

I hope this email finds you all well.

For Parents & Carers of Year 9 students, thank you so much for your attendance to this week's Options Evening - we really appreciate your support. I hope that really positive and constructive discussions are happening at home regarding the options that your child is going to select. Once your child has made their choices, please submit these by using the link below:

<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=WnSRoNi3ek2yphNZBT1FEGZpkwLSg81FtjqUP6VmR-ZUNTdHT1JVTzhJNTJUWVZSNTZSNk9YMTZLWS4u>

Please note, you still have until 1st March to complete this. There is no rush to complete this immediately, and allocations of options are not completed on a first come first serve basis. If your child has any further questions about any of the subjects, they should use this time to speak to the teachers who deliver within that subject. Their Form Tutor can point them in the right direction if they do not know who to speak to.

I would like to mention uniform also please. Uniform recently has been excellent, and I am really thankful for all your support in ensuring that uniform is correct, and students wear this with pride, as this gives us real identity as a school community. As ever, we have a particular uniform standard - like every school does, and our standards are made very clear on our website and through conversation with the staff. One specific element which I am asking for your support with please is nose studs. Our agreed standard and stance with this is that students are not permitted to wear them. If students have a nose piercing, they are permitted to wear a clear retainer (which we will happily provide), or they can choose to remove the stud itself. We believe this to be very fair, and we always use our Student Council to discuss and amend uniform policy where appropriate. Thank you for your anticipated support with this.

I would like to congratulate Year 10 on their efforts with their first sitting of PPE (mock) exams over the last week and a half. I am sure they will have benefited from sitting a set of these relatively early into the academic year. Research clearly states that being used the examination environment well in advance of the actual exams, supports students with developing resilience during these periods. A big well done to the Year 11s who had actual vocational modular exams this week as well - I am sure all your hard work will have paid off. A reminder that the second, and last, sitting of PPE exams for Year 11 starts the week beginning 6th February.

As ever, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at the Academy, or via your child's Year Team.

Kind Regards

Mr B Pearce
Principal