



HIGHFIELDS SCHOOL

Headteacher: G Tate BA (Hons)

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Dear Parent/Carer

As I am sure you are aware, this is such an important year for your child as they will soon be faced with making some significant decisions regarding their future. Upon completion of their programme of study in Year 11, there are a range of options to choose from, for example, studying A-Level subjects, choosing college courses or applying for an apprenticeship. It is, therefore, vital that your child is as well-informed as possible to ensure that they make the choice that is right for them.

With this in mind, a **Staying in Learning Day** will take place on **Wednesday 29 November**. Year 11 students will enjoy a range of activities and workshops focused on helping them make the right choice, instead of following their normal timetable on this day. There will be taster lessons taught by specialist teaching staff for each of the courses we offer in Sixth Form. Representatives from some of our local colleges will also deliver workshops on-site to students who may be considering courses which we do not offer Post-16. Students will be able to attend four taster lessons or workshops throughout the day, along with a presentation from our Head of Sixth Form, Mr Pycroft or a college representative.

Your child should arrive in school **promptly at 8.45am** wearing school uniform or smart business wear - trousers/skirt, shirt/blouse, tie, jacket/business style cardigan and smart shoes. Students will remain in school until the slightly later time of **3pm**.

I would also like to invite you and your child to attend the **Sixth Form Open Evening** which is being held on Wednesday 15 November from 5:30pm – 8:00pm.

The evening will give you the opportunity to find out more about our Sixth Form and the application process. Staff will be available to discuss their subject and how this is studied, course content, entry requirements and career paths. Many of our current Sixth Form students will be on hand to discuss their progress and experiences in the Sixth Form.

Representatives from several universities will also be present to offer advice and guidance on Post-16 subject combinations, enabling you and your child to start discussing their Post-18 options. Full details of this event will be shared after half-term.



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To further support your child in making choices about their future, they will be introduced this week to an online platform called 'Unifrog'. This is a website designed for school-aged students to explore future careers and suitable pathways. Your child's research from Unifrog will be added to their Staying in Learning Journey booklet which they will be able to bring home following Staying in Learning Day.

As ever, if you have any questions about any of the above, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely

Mr D Treble

Assistant Headteacher

Head of Upper School