



Blackfen School for Girls

Raising aspirations - releasing potential

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2nd February 2022

Dear Parents/Carers and Year 9 students,

Key Stage 4 course selection process Year 9 Information Evening: Thursday 10th February 2022

It is a pleasure to invite you to the **Year 9 Information Evening on 10th February 2022**, which is the first of the Spring term events in the Key Stage 4 course selection process. As government restrictions around Covid have now been lifted, we are delighted to advise that this event will now take place in school.

The Year 9 Information Evening is split into two sessions: Session 1 at 5.30pm and Session 2 at 6.30pm. If your child is in Green Community, Blue Community and Red Tutor Group 1 – 4, then you and they should attend Session 1 at 5.30pm. If your child is in Yellow Community, Purple Community and Red Tutor Group 5 – 9, then you and they should attend Session 2 at 6.30pm.

Each session begins with a brief presentation in the Performance Space by Mr Brown and other School Leaders about the next steps in the process for selecting Key Stage 4 courses for study in Year 10 and Year 11. Thereafter, parents, carers and students will be able to visit different subject stalls and meet subject teachers who will provide information about the GCSE and BTEC courses on offer.

The Headteacher's presentation will be available to view in the Year 9 Microsoft 'Teams' folder, which your child can access via their phone, laptop, PC or other digital device. A Subject Leader film will also be hosted on the school website providing individual talks about each GCSE and BTEC course. Links to these digital resources will be sent via email to parents and carers shortly.



Other key events

Year 9 Parents Evenings

The Year 9 *remote* Parents Evenings take place from 4pm to 6.30pm on **Thursday 24th February 2022** for students in Blue Community, Red Community and Green Community Tutor Groups 1 – 4 and on **Thursday 3rd March 2022** for students in Yellow Community, Purple Community and Green Community Tutor Groups 5 – 9.

The Year 9 Parents Evenings are an important event in the Key Stage 4 course selection process and we are expecting all parents/carers and students to attend these meetings remotely. Appointments with teachers will last for 10 minutes via the 'SchoolCloud' platform. Further guidance on accessing the 'SchoolCloud' booking system will be issued in a separate letter but bookings open on Thursday 10th February for both Parents Evenings.

Wednesday 9th March 2022: Submission of on-line Key Stage 4 course selection form

It is the responsibility of parents/carers to ensure that their child has chosen their courses as explained by the school and that the online course selection form is completed correctly. After Wednesday 9th March, no changes can be made to Year 9 students' selection of Key Stage 4 courses.

Wednesday 14th March 2022: Student interviews with a member of the Leadership Team

There are many meetings with students which go on 'behind the scenes' to support their selection of Key Stage 4 courses. These short student interviews with school leaders recognise the work and effort made by Year 9 students and their families throughout the course selection process and provide a final double-check of the academic pathway that has been selected.

I hope that this information is helpful. I look forward to meeting you at the Year 9 Information Evening and addressing any queries you might have about the Key Stage 4 course selection process.

Yours faithfully,



Miss F Minnis
Deputy Head Teacher