



Blackfen School for Girls

Raising aspirations - releasing potential

Headteacher Matthew Brown BA(Hons) DMS(Ed)

Blackfen School for Girls,
Blackfen Road,
Sidcup, Kent.
DA15 9NU
T: 020 8303 1887

E: admin@blackfen.bexley.sch.uk
www.blackfenschoolforgirls.co.uk

Dear Parents/Carers and Year 9 students,

16th January 2024

Key Stage 4 course selection process Year 9 Information Evening: Thursday 8th February 2024

It is a pleasure to invite you to the **Year 9 Information Evening on Thursday 8th February 2024**, which is the first of the Spring term events in the Key Stage 4 course selection process.

The Year 9 Information Evening is split into two sessions:

Session 1: 5.00pm – 6.00pm

All Green & Red Communities + Blue Community Tutor Groups 1 – 4.

Session 2 at 6.00pm – 7.00pm

All Yellow & Purple Communities + Blue Community Tutor Groups 5 - 9.

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 meet Subject Leaders 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 young person 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 GCSE and BTEC courses. Links to these digital resources will be sent via email to parents and carers.

Representatives from 'Easy4u education' - part of "Class Technology Solutions" family (the organisation which provides the school's IT support) - will also be available to meet parents, carers and students. 'Easy4u' is offering Blackfen families a selection of laptops that are suitable for use at home and available for loan or purchase. Miss Hoad will be writing to you shortly to provide further information about this new offer, which we hope will support students' education as they move into Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 learning and study.

Other key events this term:

Year 9 Parents Evenings

The Year 9 Parents Evenings take place from 4.00pm to 6.30pm.

Thursday 22nd February 2024 for All Green & Red Communities + Blue Community Tutor Groups 1 – 4.



Thursday 29th February 2024 for All Yellow & Purple Communities + Blue Community Tutor Groups 5 – 9.

Appointments are made online but meetings take place in school. This allows you to choose your own appointment times with teachers. You will receive an email confirming your appointments. 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. Appointments with teachers will last for 10 minutes. Further guidance on accessing the 'SchoolCloud' booking system will be issued in a separate letter but bookings open on **Thursday 8th February 2024** for both Parents Evenings.

Tuesday 5th March 2024: Blackfen Careers Fair

We strongly recommend that you and your family attend the Careers Fair if possible – not to choose a career, at this stage – but to understand the vast range of employment options that are available and why selecting a broad and balanced range of qualifications to study in Year 10 and Year 11 is important.

Wednesday 6th March 2024: Submission of on-line Key Stage 4 course selection form

It is the responsibility of parents/carers to ensure that their young person has chosen their courses as explained by the school and that the online course selection form is completed correctly. **After Wednesday 6th March 2024, no changes can be made to Year 9 students' selection of Key Stage 4 courses.**

Wednesday 13th March 2024: 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 particular 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 and look forward to meeting you and your young person at the Year 9 Information Evening.

Yours faithfully,



Miss F Minnis
Deputy Head Teacher