

7 January 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

Year 8 into 9 Guided Pathways

On **Thursday 13 January 2022, 5:00pm – 6:30pm**, we are holding two **Information and Guidance Online** events for parents and students to attend to find out more about the subjects they will be able to choose from as they move into Year 9. During this evening we will outline the transition from key stage 3 to key stage 4 for you and your child, as well as explain the options that are available to them at this point in their education.

The events will be conducted through Google Meet which will allow you to ask questions through the message facility. There will be two sessions running to allow you to fit this event in with your day.

Session 1 will run from **5.00pm to 5.30pm**, and Session 2 from **6.00pm to 6.30pm**. In order to access the meeting link please chose a time and type the following link (in bold) into your internet browser at the time and date of the session on 13 January 2022: -

Session 1 – Start 5.00pm: **meet.google.com/mms-ccad-yjx**

Session 2 – Start 6.00pm: **meet.google.com/kuz-vhot-yvf**

You may also follow the link to a google form and input your email address and which session you will be attending. From here we can invite you to the session directly online, this will also confirm your attendance, <https://forms.gle/biXsjWLLsTgao5Cf9>

At Outwood Grange Academies Trust we firmly believe that all children, irrespective of their starting point, are entitled to a broad and balanced curriculum which will enable them to succeed both whilst at the academy and beyond. It is our intent that the experiences we provide our students through our wider educational offer, and specifically our curriculum offer, drives our Trust vision Students First: raising standards and transforming lives. To that end, at Outwood Academy Acklam we are delighted to offer an innovative curriculum, which enables all students within our academy to fulfil their potential and develop the all-important knowledge, skills and qualities which will serve them well in later life.

Students as they move from Year 8 into Year 9 at Outwood Academy Acklam, have their first main point of choice within their 5 year educational journey with us. The use of Year 9 in this way is one of the hallmarks of our curriculum. This, along with the permanent, supernumerary subject specialist directors of English, maths, science, humanities, modern foreign languages, computer science and the arts, who work across all of our academies, are key to helping the teachers within each academy to add the maximum value that we can, to your child's education. In addition to these important subject specialists, we also deploy specialists in Special Educational

Outwood Grange Academies Trust, a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales with company number 06995649.

Registered office address: Potovens Lane, Outwood, Wakefield, West Yorkshire WF1 2PF.

VAT number: 158 2720 04. Outwood Grange Academies Trust is an exempt charity.

A list of Directors' names is open to inspection at our registered office.

Needs & Disabilities and Attendance; regular attendance, especially throughout Years 9-11, is critical to your child's success.

There are a number of opportunities over the next few years for students to personalise their curriculum pathway, the main ones being:

- Choice of Creative Experience subjects – **chosen in January of Year 8**, to start in Year 9
- Choice of Health and wellbeing course – **chosen in January of Year 8**, to start in Year 9
- Choice of main Guided Pathway qualifications – **chosen in January of Year 9**, to start in Year 10
- Choice of one further Guided Pathway course for most students – **chosen in January of Year 10**, to start in Year 11 (information about this will be shared in Year 9 and again in Year 10)

These elements are a further feature of our flexible Guided Pathways curriculum for Years 9-11; which, alongside a core entitlement, make up the broad and balanced range of subjects on offer.

Students will be provided with copy of the guided pathway choices booklet during the day on Thursday.

Choices will be made on an electronic form that will be shared with you on Friday 15 January 2022.

Should you not be able to make the allotted times please could you contact me at j.rhodes@acklam.outwood.com to discuss alternative arrangements.

The final deadline for choices is Saturday 29 January 2022.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully



Jason Rhodes
Vice Principal (Deep Experience)