

Bishop Wordsworth's School

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22 January 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians

Year 12 – Post 18 Options

In order to prepare Sixth Form students and help them to make informed decisions about their future, we would like to notify you of a series of forthcoming events for both you and your son.

• Tuesday 21 January 9.05am Higher Education talk for students

• Wednesday 29 January 7pm Higher Education talk for parents

This will provide parents with details of the Higher Education Applications Procedure and an update on the current situation. As a student specific talk has been held as part of the Year 12 Preparation Package, this talk is aimed at parents only. This event will take place in the Sixth Form Centre.*

• Thursday 13 February 7pm - 8.30pm Applying to Oxford and Cambridge Universities

Students and parents are invited to attend a talk given by Dr Andrew Bell, University College, Oxford. There will be an opportunity to ask questions after the presentation. Dr Bell is Senior Tutor and has worked at both Universities. This event will take place in the Sports Hall and is also open to a number of local schools.*

• Friday 14 February 8.40am – 3.00pm 'Your Choice-Your Future' HE and Careers Event

With over 35,000 courses offered by over 320 Higher Education institutions, making decisions about the future can be daunting. This day will consist of a series of workshops and presentations tailored to the needs of our students in Year 12 with a centrepiece exhibition in our Sports Hall. A very 'hands-on' approach will help Year 12s begin their university research in a pro-active way. Those wanting to move in other directions are well catered for too, with information about Apprenticeships, gap years and employment opportunities.

We are holding the Conference on an INSET day to minimise lesson disruption. Please therefore ensure your son is available. He will be provided with breakfast and refreshments will be on sale. Your son should wear his normal uniform.

Parents are also welcome to attend the Higher Education exhibition between 2.15pm – 3.00pm.*

* Regrettably there is no on-site parking available for these events.

• Wednesday 1 April 6.45am – 6.00pm 'University Experience' Making the most of an open day

A visit to a leading Russell Group university open day when students will have an opportunity to witness first-hand what Higher Education has to offer and what careers can follow. The day will be preceded by a briefing session in school and students will learn how to make the most of a University Open Day. Students will be expected to attend at least one subject specific talk. The emphasis on this day is not so much on the pros and cons of studying at the specific institution but on how to make effective choices of both courses and institutions once the UCAS process is underway in September.

• Wednesday 10 June 1pm – 3.50pm 'Business 2 Bishop's' Apprenticeships event

There is a charge of £22.00 to cover the costs of both providing talks to your son at the HE event and for 'University Experience' day. **The deadline for payment is 31 January.**

PAYMENTS:

To pay please access WisePay through your sons Insight account and select <u>'WisePay</u> <u>Finance Portal'</u> the item can be found under the <u>Trips and Visit Tab</u>. If you have any issues accessing WisePay please email <u>trips@bws.wilts.sch.uk</u>, Parents/Guardians who may find it difficult to meet the deadline for payment should contact the Finance Office on 01722 333851 Option 3 (Finance).

Your son will be covered by the school's insurance during the university trip; a copy of which is available on the school website. Please ensure that we have current emergency contact details and details of any medical conditions and that your son takes all necessary medication with him on this trip. These details can now be checked through the Insight Parent Portal, otherwise please contact Mrs Sarah Hayward <u>sah@bws.wilts.sch.uk</u> to update your son's information.

If you would like any further details please do contact us at <u>saa@bws.wilts.sch.uk</u> or <u>zhl@bws.wilts.sch.uk</u>

Yours faithfully

Z H Lambard Head of Sixth Form

S. A. Annota

S A Armstrong (Mrs) Careers Leader and UCAS Manager

As well as making electronic payment, please complete the form below to confirm your son's place at these forthcoming events. Your son should return the form to Mrs Stoneham in the Sixth Form Office by 31 January.

Student's Name:

I confirm my son's attendance at the forthcoming HE and Careers Preparation Events. (Please ensure you also make electronic payment by 31st January.)

Signed:

Please ask your son to return this slip to the Sixth Form Office by 31 January 2020