

NC/ME

13 February 2013

Dear Parent/Carer

Options Process for Year 8 Students

As you may already be aware, your child will soon be asked to select some of the subjects that they will study in Key Stage 4. All Year 8 students have been engaged in a number of activities, during the course of this half term, that have been designed to prepare them to make these choices. They are just finishing a PHSCE module about "Careers Choices", have registered with and begun to use U-Explore - an online careers guidance tool which helps students to investigate different careers choices, have completed a skills audit and have had the opportunity to discuss their options with their Form Tutor or other member of staff.

Last week students were issued with their individualised Options Booklet. This contains information about all of the options subjects, as well as the core subjects that are compulsory for all students (English, Maths, Science, R.E. and P.E.). Students have been asked to take this booklet home so that you can have a look through and discuss the different options with your child over the half term holiday. Some students will study Triple Science, whilst some will have the opportunity to study towards the English Baccalaureate. All of this information is contained in the Options Booklet. You can also find this information on our website: www.ashhillacademy.org.uk

Options Evening - 27th February 6 – 8pm

The next stage in the options process is our Options Evening which will take place on Wednesday 27th February from 6pm to 8pm. This will be an opportunity for both students and parents/carers to find out more about the options process and to speak to subject teachers about each of the subjects on offer.

The evening will have two elements:

- A presentation in the auditorium
- Time to look around the subject displays and speak to teachers and students

Due to the large number of people who are expecting to attend, the presentation in the auditorium will take place twice:

- 6:00pm for students in forms SFO, KHA and JWR
- 6:30pm for students in forms TWA and CKE

Options interviews - week beginning 4th March

Each student will be allocated a ten minute interview with a senior member of staff in order to make their final choice of options subjects; parents and carers are welcome to attend these interviews. Appointment times will be given to students at the Options Evening, but if you would like to attend your child's interview and the allocated time is inconvenient, please contact me and I will endeavour to find an alternative time for you.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about the options process.

Yours faithfully,



N Cairns
Assistant Principal