

## Parent's Forum focus group – Careers/Choices

4<sup>th</sup> May 2016

We discussed the current process for careers, Y9 choices and work experience. Students currently have a limited choice in year 9 to strengthen skills in certain areas such as music, art, computer programming. The parents would like for year 9 students to be able to pick a taster class, once a week, for a half term in subjects not studied at Key stage 3 such as business, Media, Theory P.E etc. This is to help guide the students when making their subject choices. The parents feel it would be more beneficial for the students to do the subjects on a rota basis so they do more than one taster subject to make a more informed choice.

The Parents suggested that it would be a good idea for a further parents evening for Y9. They would like to come in to go through the options and to discuss the process for making options after being issued initial options information. It was felt this should occur early in the academic year to give the parents the information they need to discuss with students before the formal options process begins.

Mr Goodman made the parents aware that as of next term they will be able to access a website called UXPLORE which is a career guidance website for both students and parents to look at the different colleges and career paths.

Parents were informed that work experience will be moving. The Current Y10 students will complete theirs in Y11 but the current Y9 students will complete work experience in Y10. This was considered to be a good move, the careers information activities that run alongside work experience are designed to give the same broad information to all students so that all students are able to make an informed decision.

It was also suggested a careers focused parents evening for the parents to come in and discuss the Y11 post 16 options with the providers. This could help students make a more informed decision.

Mr Goodman will look at how these suggestions can be incorporated for next year.