



Hulme Hall Grammar School

Celebrating the individual since 1928

An independent co-educational school accredited by the Independent Schools Council

October 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Year 11 Careers Education Information Advice and Guidance (CEIAG)

I have some homework for you and your son/daughter to complete over the half term holidays! This is a very important time in your child's education, as you will hopefully be talking together and making plans for the next stage of their academic life. 16+ choices need to be made fairly soon and the half term would be a great opportunity for you to complete a lot of the work required.

This term, in school, we have had visiting speakers in from Cheadle and Marple College, The Manchester College and Xaverian College addressing our Year 11s regarding their post 16 options. It is the law now that all young people must continue to do some kind of education or training until they are 18. Pupils have 3 options:

- i. Full time education
- ii. Apprenticeships
- iii. Part-time education or training

We have made pupils aware of the Open Mornings and Open Evenings being held in the area, via the posters and flyers on the Common Room noticeboard. I strongly recommend that you do some online research regarding where to study/train and what course options and levels of entry are available. Please be aware that some Sixth Forms and Colleges have cut off dates for applications to be submitted, so ensure that you are prepared in advance.

The advice and guidance that School offers must be impartial. We can't tell your son/daughter where to apply or what course(s) would suit. It is therefore essential that you visit prospective colleges and apprenticeship providers. Like you would with any school, have a look around, view the past examination results, meet the staff, get a 'feel' for a place. Check that the provider is equipped to meet any individual learning differences that your son/daughter may require support for.

It is important that you are realistic in your choices. Bear in mind your child's GCSE Target Grades (found on your last full Report or PPR) and use these indicators to help you plan what level of study or combination

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of subjects would suit your son/daughter's learning styles and individual skills and qualities. The colleges will help you with this and it is useful to share GCSE predictors/targets with them.

It would be great if you could get your applications sent off by the end of the half term holidays. If the form requires a reference from school, please ensure that you have completed all the relevant sections before sending the application form into school. I complete all references for current and past pupils, so please mark any envelopes for my attention. Once the confidential reference is written, school will take a copy of the form for filing and will post the original off to the college on your behalf. Please note, some college applications can be completed online and the college will take up references later.

Always have a back up plan! Please do not apply to only one college or training/apprenticeship provider. I have already told pupils to make at least 2 or 3 or more applications. Most places will invite applicants in for an interview (often an informal 'chat') and then make a conditional offer. When your son/daughter receives their GCSE results in August 2019 they then have to make a choice. If they meet the conditions of the training/college offers, they can accept their preferred provider and decline the others. If they do not meet the requirements, colleges are equipped for this! They will have a team of staff available for you to speak to on Results Day. They may offer re-sits or offer a place on a different course.

As we have a cohort that travels in from all around greater Manchester, it is really difficult for school to give every pupil detailed individual advice regarding options in your area. I have attached HHGS Leavers' Destinations to give you some indication of the popular college and training providers. I have also included the list of A Levels/BTECs and training and employment that our past pupils have pursued.

Useful websites are:

www.careersadviceforparents.org

www.nathionalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk

Google: Connexions in your area.

Finally, if you have any problems with your 'homework' I am always available! The best way to contact me is to drop me an e mail with your query and I can either reply or give you a call back. Good luck, work hard and please don't leave it until the last minute!

Yours faithfully

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