

18th December 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Year 10/11 Pathway Evening: Thursday, 9th January 2025

As you may know, your daughter/son will shortly have the opportunity to choose a study pathway for Years 10 and 11 which will begin in September 2025. In order to help with this process, we are pleased to be able to invite you to a meeting to find out more.

The evening runs in two parts: 1) From 5.15pm, a number of subject teams will be present, especially the subjects which may be new to students or for whom we have regular questions from parents/carers and students e.g. Science, Arts/Media subjects, PE, Technology, Computing and Languages. 2) The main presentation to parents/carers will run from 6.30pm in the Main Hall and will last for around 30 minutes. This will include an explanation of our Pathways process and the courses that are available. Students will hear most of this information also in an assembly during the school day on Wednesday 8th January 2025, so there is no need for students to attend on the Thursday evening.

To further support the decision-making process:

- 1) Attached with this letter is a full electronic booklet giving details of all courses and our Pathways process.
- 2) Students will have a special assembly (on 8th January) to formally begin the process of selecting preferred subjects. (Students therefore don't need to attend the evening event on 9th January, 2025).
- 3) Between 6th and 24th January 2025, Year 9 students will have special lessons to explain more about the process and the differences you may experience in subjects at KS3 and KS4 and how a course can progress into P16. At this time, we will also ensure that students find out about courses which will be newly available to them in September 2025.
- 4) You will be able to attend an online Parents' Evening on Thursday 30th January, between 3.30pm and 7.30pm, to get feedback on your child's progress. More on this to follow.
- 5) See our website for all Pathways information here: <https://year9.sbllearning.org.uk/>
- 6) All subject choices will need to be finalised by Tuesday 18th February, 2025.

We know that parents are very ambitious for their children's future and we are pleased to say that our suite of courses provide the potential for an excellent pathway into the workplace or into Higher Education. The courses on offer at SBL very much lead to Post 16 (Sixth Form) study after Year 11 with an excellent range of courses for students who want to study at A-Level (Level 3) standard as well as for GCSE (Level 2) options. We look forward to explaining this more fully when we meet you on **Thursday, 9th January 2025**.

We hope that you and your family have a very pleasant break and an excellent 2025, and we look forward to seeing you at our forthcoming Year 9 events.

Yours faithfully,



Mr S A White, Deputy Headteacher