



ROSSETT SCHOOL
A Specialist Mathematics & Computing College

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Dear Parent/Guardian

Year 9 courses beginning June 2012 - Calendar of Events

This half term is an important period in your child's preparation for beginning courses in Year 9. It is a time when Year 9 course information will have been explained to both you and your child through a series of events. The booklet '*Information Booklet for Year 9 Courses Beginning in June 2012*', currently on the school website, or available as a hard copy on request, is just one part of this process.

The calendar of recent and forthcoming Year 9 events is:

- Wednesday 11 January Talk to students on the full Year 9/10/11 curriculum
- Wednesday 18 January Talk to students on BTEC courses being offered
- Friday 20 January Information Booklet available on website
- Monday 23 January Pathway notification letter, an Invitation letter for both Forthcoming parents' evenings (this letter) to parents. Information booklet (hard copies) available

- Wednesday 25 January Talk to students about pathways E/B new courses and pathway C course structure
- Thursday 26 January Year 8 parents' evening
- Thursday 2 February Course information evening for Year 8
- w/b Monday 6 February Year 9 course application forms to be completed on-line in school
- Friday 10 February Half Term begins – final day for application forms to be completed

The Information Booklet provides a considerable amount of course information for you and your child to read. This alone will not be enough. We are confident however that the combination of events described above will make clear to you and your child all aspects of the Year 9/10/11 curriculum, before decisions need to be made.

Which course will best suit my child?

The most important underlying aim for all students must be to achieve at least five GCSE [or equivalent] A*-C grades. Many will reach much higher levels of attainment. This is a qualification threshold which sixth forms, colleges, universities and many employers expect of applicants in order for them to progress to the next stage of their education and careers. Next year, your child will be studying one of the three pathways E, B or C which are explained in the Information Booklet. We feel it is important to advise both you as parents, and your child, which pathway we believe will give him/her the best chance to achieve at least five GCSE A*-C grades and, in many cases, to maximise his/ her potential well beyond that threshold.

We are therefore advising that your child follows the Pathway indicated in the letter that you have received in order to achieve the best possible GCSE [or equivalent] grades. Our advice is based on national information about how students perform at GCSE together with your child's attainment grades at the end of Key Stage 2 and throughout Year 7 and Year 8

Year 8 Parents' Evening: Thursday 26 January

An opportunity to discuss the progress being made by your child in all subjects. This will then advise your decision making around options choices. Your child should be making appointments for your consultations.

Information Evening about Year 9 Courses: Thursday 2 February

7.00-7.45: Presentation about the three pathways in the Main Hall

7.45-9.00: Informal discussions with subject staff, and individual course information, in the Sixth Form centre. Senior staff available all evening.

We feel this is an opportunity not to be missed and we look forward to explaining the exciting range of pathways which will help to maximise the achievements of all students at Rossett School.

Yours sincerely



P Hunter
Headteacher