

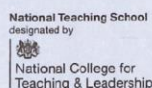
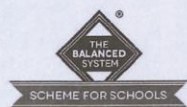
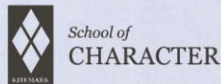
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Headteacher: John Vennart BSc, PGCE

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23rd September 2021
AW/jmc



Dear Parents/Carers

As we all know, year 11 is a really important time for students. It is a time when all of their hard work finally comes to fruition and for them to consider their next steps.

At the end of year 10 your child attended an assembly where I explained what to expect from their careers interview with me in year 11. They were asked to consider their skills and qualities and to research what they might like to do once year 11 has finished. This preparation will make for a far more effective use of time during their upcoming careers interview with me. They will be reminded of this in year 11 too.

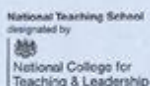
We are aware that parents and carers play a key part in helping our year 11's make their future plans, so I thought it would be helpful for parents to have a better idea of what we talk about in year 11 when it comes to careers information and guidance.

If you'd like to know more about your child's career interview and their options after year 11 please click on the following link Year 11 What to Expect PowerPoint.PPTX . This should answer any questions you have, however please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries I have not covered.

Our plan is for me to meet with your child in a small group session during the period between the 24th of September and the 1st of October. The group will be between 3 to 4 students and will be held in the Tydeman Building. We will let your child know when and where their meeting is nearer the time. During the interview we will be completing an Action Plan. Please find attached a blank copy of this document. Please can you use the attached copy named "Parent Action Plan – Advice Sheet" to help you to complete the blank copy with your child. Your child should then bring the copy they have completed at home along to their careers meeting with me. Please have this completed by the 24th of September and put it into your child's bag so they have it in time for their meeting with me in the coming days.

Applying for post 16 options (College, 6th Form, Apprenticeships) - The Kent Choices website <https://www.kentprospectus.co.uk/> will be your main resource when researching and applying to post 16 options for your child. This is where your child can search and apply for any future provider; 6th form, college, apprenticeships and supported internships. I will be giving year 11 students their log in details in November so they can make their application but you can use the search function on the site now without having to log in. Just be aware that not all providers have uploaded their offer for next year yet. You can search, filter and use the map function to find courses and providers that are most suitable for your child. We would advise that your child makes their application(s) before the end of January 2022. Please be aware that different institutions have different deadlines for applications to be in. Sixth form providers are usually the most stringent here so if you would like to go to a Sixth form, please check with the institution to ensure you know the deadline. It is wise for your child to apply to more than one institution so they have a back-up plan in case they change their mind over the course of the year, or they do not achieve

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the necessary grades to be accepted for their first choice. Please find attached a word document named "Options Choices Information" for further guidance on Post 16 options. Once your child has applied they will be offered an interview by the institution. This can feel daunting for some. Please reassure your child that this will be good practice for the future and please find attached some guidance that will help them to be prepared, this is a word document named "Interview Advice".

Please note – Annual reviews for year 11 will take place in October/November and a member of the careers team will endeavour to attend. It is essential that options selected on your KentChoices application match those intended destinations given to County to ensure consultations are made within the deadline required.

For information about the level 2 qualification that The Malling School 6th form offer, please contact Mrs Helen Cable helen.cable@themallingschool.kent.sch.uk.

Short term goals – Now is the time for you and your child to look into their options for year 12. Help them to understand the different options and talk to them about why each option may or may not suit them as an individual. A few things to consider when having these conversations are; the GCSE results they are likely to get, pursuing subjects they enjoy, travel plans to and from their future provider and do they need to continue a subject at a higher level because of their future goals?

Long term goals - Some students will have a very specific idea of what they would like to do in the future, some will have no idea at all and there will be others who may have an idea of the industry they wish to pursue but not the specific job role. Please let me reassure you that wherever they are on this spectrum is fine. I have included some links below and recommend that your son/daughter takes time to navigate their way around these sites and explore various career paths. It is important for them to look outside the box and discover the variety of jobs out there and not just focus on the ones they already know about. Research will open their eyes to the many opportunities that are available to them.

Helpful information - As you will see, I have included lots of links in this email – Please use them together with your children as you see fit. Some will be more relevant to you than others. I have offered a variety so you can choose which most suit your individual needs. Your child will find all these links and more on the "Careers" section on Teams. I also email all of these links and more to your child's school email address. However I know that this information can sometimes be "lost" amongst all the other material on offer so we have decided to set up a new Malling School Facebook page dedicated to our careers content. It is called "Future You – The Malling School". I will be sharing lots of helpful content here so it would be great if you could follow us and keep updated easily.

You can use the following links to spark conversations with your child about plans for next year and their future.

To research any careers or future pathways of interest why not try the following sites...

www.successatschool.org – Look at the Career Zones and 60 second interviews with people who already do the jobs you are interested in OR simply search the site for what you want to know more about, for example; apprenticeships, university, CV writing. This site is packed full of helpful information.

Careers advice - job profiles, information and resources | National Careers Service – Explore careers and identify what your skills are on this site.

If you fancy a break from reading or would simply prefer to watch and listen to careers information then try the following links...

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For relevant information local to us and for applications to your next steps go to <https://www.kentprospectus.co.uk/>

www.icould.com – icould.com has lots of video clips of people talking about their job and how they got into it – listen and learn about careers! Also, why not take the buzz quiz to get ideas for what industries might suit you, or simply use the site research your current career ideas.

www.careersbox.co.uk – Careersbox is packed full of videos for you to watch. Simply search a job you might want to find out more about and watch a real person talking about how they got into that job and what it's really like. It can be really fun for the whole family to take the Buzz Quiz to find out your results and see any similarities and differences in personality types!

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/careers> - I'm sure many of you will have used the BBC Bitesize website for other subjects but were you aware that they have an exciting careers section too? It's great and covers so many of the important aspects of careers as a subject.

And finally, please don't forget to subscribe to our new Malling School "Future You!" Facebook page where I will be posting lots of updates for year 11 parents and students.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Angela Willis
Careers Adviser
Available Monday, Tuesday, Friday
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