

January 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

I am delighted to write to you to outline the Pathways process which will take place this half term for all year 9 students. It will be a very exciting time for your child and I look forward to your support in guiding our students through some very important decisions for their future.

The **year 9 Consultation Evening** will take place on **Thursday 19 January 2017** from 4pm-7pm and you will have already received a letter to confirm your attendance on this evening. This will give you the chance to discuss your child's progress with individual teachers and will allow you to begin thinking about choices for years 10 and 11 and beyond. At this evening you will also be able to pick up the latest copy of our Pathways booklet which outlines all the courses on offer in Key Stage 4 and the assessment criteria for those courses.

On **Thursday 26 January 2017** there will be a **Pathways Evening** where you will find out more about the Pathways process and have the opportunity to ask questions about the courses your child is interested in. There will be presentations throughout the evening and we urge both you and your child to come along. Your child's personal tutor will also be there and you will have the opportunity to speak to them about suitability for courses. They will also have more information regarding the specifics of the different courses.

The tutor programme and assembly rota for the start of this term has been designed to give year 9s a wealth of information about the courses on offer and the courses which will lead to their chosen career pathway. In addition to this all students will be interviewed by a member of the Senior Leadership Team, Mrs Wainwright and me between Wednesday 18 January 2017 and Wednesday 25 January 2017, during school time so that they can be given individual advice and guidance. At this interview students will be given their Pathways form to bring home to discuss with you. This form should be completed and signed and then returned to personal tutors before **Monday 30 January 2017**. It is essential that this is returned on time as this will allow us to begin allocating students to courses. At the beginning of February we will write to you to confirm we have had the form and in due course we will then be able to confirm the courses your child will study.

There will be a further letter at the end of next week to let you know the times of the presentations for the Pathways evening and your child's individual interview with a member of the Senior Leadership Team. All of the above information can also be found on the website.

As you can appreciate from all of the above information this is a key time in your child's education and, as a school, we are here to support the process in every way possible. As ever I can be contacted by phone or email (j.lee@heanorgate.derbyshire.sch.uk) to answer any queries you may have.

I look forward to seeing you at both the Consultation Evening and the Pathways Evening.

Yours sincerely



Jennifer Lee
Achievement Leader – Year 9