

Ref: PH/MST Options

12<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear parent/carer,

I have received a few communications around concerns leading up to options for Year 9 and I wanted to write to you to inform you of our next steps.

On Step Up day 3 (22<sup>nd</sup> January 2021) Y9 students worked on careers lessons to start to get them thinking about possible career ideas. The lessons covered can be found on the following website link:

<https://www.huntcliff.n-lincs.sch.uk/pshe/step-up-days/>

Additionally, students will receive six further lessons around 'Progression'. These include:

1. All about Qualifications - GCSE, post 16, post 18 and the 6 key routes they can take.
2. Meet the Colleges – presentations from all local post 16 colleges who explain what they offer.
3. Apprenticeships – understanding this as a potential route.
4. University – we look at the 5 available locally.
5. Employability Skills – we look at the skills builder – listening, speaking, problem solving, creativity, staying positive, aiming high, leadership and teamwork.
6. A day in the life of.... looks at various case studies around different jobs.

Students have also been asked to complete the initial survey around options we may offer at school and any they might like us to look into. If your child has not completed it then the link is here:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Msls1susrkOtPCpq2f5OEwC--57UntFNIVwVlKv7AWFUQ1VYM1hWN0g3MUxVODBLWEZRNI2NFE2QS4u>

Students have also been advised to complete the skills assessment which is available on the national careers service website. This looks at their personality type and recommends suggested jobs on the basis of the information entered. It can be helpful for those who really do not know what they might like to do at the moment.

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/skills-assessment>

Students can have the link to their results emailed to them so they have record of their results.

Upon completion of this, students can take a skills health check. This will help them assess their personal and work-based skills. Each takes 10-15 minutes to complete.

**Personal skills are broken into four areas:** Skills, Interests, Personal Style and Motivation

**Work-based skills are broken into six areas:** Working with numbers, verbal reasoning, checking information, solving mechanical problems, working with shapes and solving abstract problems

Students are able to complete some of these assessments to help them determine their perfect job.

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/skills-assessment/skills-health-check/your-assessments>

As students complete more assessments it will update the information on their health check.

When school re-opens, there will be further activities offered in school. We have made the decision to push options evening and reports back in order to give students time for discussions and to make their choices. The options booklet contains lots of tips and advice around options as does our informative options evening. Additionally, Step Up Day 4 will give students the opportunity to try lessons in the subjects that may fall into our option choices so they can experience a real lesson. This will enable them to find out more about the courses on offer.

There are displays around subjects which relate to careers in every area of the school covering every subject and most classrooms have a display around careers. The careers office is open daily every break and lunch and there are valuable pointers on our school website under 'careers'.

There is also a fabulous website for parents and carers: <https://www.parentalguidance.org.uk/>

This contains information around making choices, apprenticeships and training, gaining skills and experience and many more useful articles.

I hope this helps to reassure students and yourselves about the options process.

Should you require any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

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