

Dear parent/carer

## **Year 9 Parents' Evening**

We are pleased to invite you to the Year 9 parents' evening on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2025, which will be held in our Lancaster building. During this event, you will have the opportunity to discuss your child's progress with subject staff. The head of learning and Year 9 guidance leader will also be in attendance.

There will be a 30-minute presentation from the leadership team at 4.30pm and 5.30pm. Please do attend one of these presentations and ensure adequate time is left to attend this when booking your teacher appointments. These sessions will guide you through the core principles of the teaching and learning curriculum for Year 9 and will include essential information on how you can support your child at home with their learning. They will also explain the UHS culture, providing you with detailed information on the schools' expectations for behaviour and attitudes to learning.

Meeting slots will be 5-minutes long and available from 5pm and run until 7.30pm. Should you have longer topics for discussion, we would ask that these are arranged for a later date so to ensure that appointment slots on the night do not overrun. Each family can book up to 8 appointments with subject staff, should other appointments become available they will be opened for booking. Where possible, you are advised to make appointments with the subject areas that your child wishes to study as part of their GCSEs, which will start in Year 10.

We will be using our online booking system for parents to book their own teacher appointments. To start booking, you will need to create an account on the following website: <a href="https://uhsbooking.parentseveningsystem.co.uk">https://uhsbooking.parentseveningsystem.co.uk</a>.

Appointment slots will go live at 8.30am on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March and close at 4pm on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

We have included a 'how to guide' with this letter, which explains exactly how the system works and how you can make appointments. If you experience any difficulties, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Since it is vital that problems relating to subjects or homework are fully resolved as soon as possible, please bring your child with you, so that they can benefit from the evening's discussions. This is an important school function and therefore all students attending the evening with their parents must be wearing their full school uniform.

POSITIVE • RESPECTFUL • OPEN MINDED • UNIQUE • DETERMINED

## **Y9 Options**

Year 9 students have been preparing to make their GCSE option choices, with the below events arranged to help guide them:

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February – Year 9 careers assembly: *An Introduction to Year 10 Curriculum;* Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February – Year 9 assembly: *Building your Year 10 Curriculum (options);* Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March – GCSE curriculum information available via the school website; Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March – Options (expression of interest) form available to complete online; Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March – GCSE and vocational taster sessions Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March – Careers fair;

**Monday 31**<sup>st</sup> **March** – Return deadline for the completed options (expression of interest) form.

On the afternoon of the Monday  $17^{th}$  March, students will be given the opportunity to sample lessons in some of the new subjects open to them. This will give them the chance to ask questions and will encourage them to conduct further research into their potential choices.

All information for Year 9 options will be available on the website from Monday  $3^{rd}$  March. This will include the options booklet, subject leaflets and videos, wider careers guidance and a video on how to complete the options form. The expression of interest for options subjects will then be emailed to you on Friday  $7^{th}$  March.

Finally, we would like to inform you that unfortunately, we are no longer able to provide onsite parking for any school events. This is due to the new layout and features of the school playground. If you hold a disabled parking permit, you are welcome to use our staff carpark for school events. Please email <a href="mailto:parents@uhs.org.uk">parents@uhs.org.uk</a> with your registration plate and the event you are attending, so that we can log this on our system.

We look forward to meeting you at the event and working with you throughout the year to ensure the students attain the success that they deserve. If you have any queries regarding the evening, please feel free to contact your child's form tutor.

Yours sincerely

R Scaife Assistant Principal J Humpleby Head of Learning - Year 9