



# Beal High School

Beal High School

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January 2017

## TO PARENTS/CARERS OF YEAR 9 STUDENTS

Dear Parents/Carers

### Re: Progression to Key Stage 4 - Year 9 Options 2017

At the Year 9 Partnership Evening in October 2016 we advised you that we would be reviewing and revising our KS4 Curriculum in line with the latest requirements for Curriculum and Qualifications change. We are pleased to say that we have designed our new curriculum in response to these changes whilst maintaining an offer which supports the potential of all students. We are excited about our KS4 curriculum offer for September 2017. It builds on experience in KS3 and our ethos of high aspiration and inclusive learning; preparing all students for their future lives with a broad, challenging set of options. We have taken a measured approach to the courses on offer and students can choose from meaningful applied courses as well as those which qualify for the English Baccalaureate. Many successful students combine the two.

To prepare your child for the decisions ahead, we offer a comprehensive information, advice and guidance programme (IAG) to all students in Year 9 and their parents/carers. This programme is paramount to the students' eventual success and we invest a great deal of time to ensure that each and every student embarks upon courses on which he or she can be successful. We understand that options are exciting but daunting and there is a team of experts to help and guide. This team includes: subject specialists, form tutors, the Director of Achievement and Progress, the Upper School Team and the Senior Leadership Team.

In order to keep you informed of all the events in Year 9 that are related to progression beyond KS3, we enclose with this letter a timetable of events for Progression. This timetable lists all the events that take place throughout the year regarding progress in Year 9 and progression to Year 10. Please keep this safe, it is important. Please note that the Progression Evening will take place on the KS3 (lower school site) and parking is limited. Please do not park on the upper site car park.

As parents/carers you are very welcome to accompany your child to their IAG appointments. If you have any questions about the advice and guidance your child receives, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

Ms Y Andress  
Assistant Principal KS4

Ms A Stylianou  
Director of Achievement & Progress Year 9



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## KEY STAGE 3 – 4 PROGRESSION 2016/17

### Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) Programme

Below is a list of the advice and guidance to Year 9 students, along with key dates regarding Year 9 students' progression to KS4 education at Beal High School.

All Year 9 students will receive information about choices and progression routes during assemblies, PSHE, careers advice sessions and during guidance sessions with the Year Team and members of the Leadership Team. This will include information on the various pathways we offer, including the traditional GCSE and BTEC routes, vocational and apprenticeship qualifications as well as the occupational qualifications we are offering from September 2017 via the Beacon Business Innovation Hub (BBIH).

<b>Event/Advice and Guidance</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Relevant to:</b>
<b>Assemblies from Heads of Department &amp; Leadership Team:</b>  <i>Independent and impartial advice and information on content of Subjects/Options on offer at Beal as well as best choices for Career pathways and University.</i>	September 2016 – February 2017	Year 9 Students
<b>Students to work on Progress Files:</b>  <i>Year 9 students will write a personal statement describing their skills and interests. As well as this, students should collect any evidence of good work and attendance to extra-curricular activities e.g. certificates, Year 9 Progress Report etc.</i>  <i>This process provides support in writing CVs and University Personal statements in the future. Every student will be expected to bring their Progress files to their IAG interviews with a member of Leadership team in February 2017.</i>	October 2016 – January 2017. During Tutor time.	Year 9 Students
<b>Progress Reports issued</b> <i>Sent home with pupils.</i>	January 2017	Year 9 Students and Parents
<b>Year 9 Parents' Evening</b> <i>This will provide more detailed information about your child's progress and achievement; supporting appropriate choices for further study.</i>	Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> January 2017 3.30 – 6.30 pm	Year 9 Students and Parents
<b>Options Information available on school website</b>	February 2017	Year 9 Students and Parents
<b>KS4 Progression Team and Upper School Student Directors visit Year 9 PSHE lessons and Tutor time for Q&amp;A sessions and information on the different subjects and pathways on offer in KS4.</b>	February/March 2017	Year 9 Students
<b>Key Stage 3 – 4 Progression Evening</b>		

<p><i>This event is an opportunity for parents to meet with teachers, and students, from core and option subjects in order to learn more about content, assessment and progression.</i></p> <p><i>The evening will include talks in the school hall by the Principal, Ms Wilmot, and the Key Stage 4 team at 5pm and 6.30pm</i></p>	<p><b>Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2017, 4pm – 6.30pm</b></p>	<p><b>Parents and Students</b></p>
<p>Activation of interactive online Options Form (link available from Beal High School website)  <i>Students should bring a copy of this with them to their IAG sessions along with their Progress Files.</i></p>	<p><b>Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2017</b></p>	
<p><b>Information, Advice and Guidance Sessions (IAG)</b>  <i>Ten minute sessions held during the school day.</i></p>	<p><b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March – Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2017</b></p>	<p><b>Year 9 Students.</b>  <b>Parents are welcome to attend (<i>Date and time of these to be advised by letter to students</i>).</b></p>
<p><b>Deadline for return of Options Form to form tutor</b>  ➤ <i>A completed Options form, signed by BOTH a parent and the member of School Leadership Team or Year 9 Team handed in to the Tutor by this date.</i></p>	<p><b>Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2017</b></p>	
<p><b>Timetable blocks set based on student preferences</b></p>	<p><b>April/May 2017</b></p>	<p><b>N/A</b></p>
<p><b>Additional Advice &amp; Guidance meetings for students requiring further support and course changes held with Key Stage 4 Leadership team</b></p>	<p><b>May 2017</b></p>	<p><b>Invitation letters sent to those Students concerned.</b></p>

More information on these choices will be available in the Key Stage 4 Prospectus (available from February 2017).

At the Progression Evening which will be held in the Lower School, each subject will have a display stand and subject teachers will be on hand to discuss the course content and qualification with students and parents. We strongly advise all students and parents/carers to attend and we look forward to seeing you there.