

RCL/KDE

14th June 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: Plume College Taster Days (Monday 1st and Tuesday 2nd July 2019)

Please accept this letter as an invitation to the College Taster Days on both Monday 1st July and Tuesday 2nd July 2019. This is an important opportunity for students to get a 'taste' of College life, and of the subjects they will be studying next year. Students will be given their registration documentation and asked to submit this completed paperwork on Tuesday 2nd July 2019. We are hopeful that access to a 1:1 Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) meeting and submission of the registration documentation will improve the overall efficiency of the enrolment process for students on Thursday 22nd August 2019.

At the end of these two days, students should be in a position to make an informed choice about their specific study programme which will be finalised in August 2019 upon enrolment at the College. The programme is as follows:

Monday 1st July
(8.30 am– 3.10 pm)

Year 11 Taster Day (1) Plume College

From 8.30 am students must sign in at the Stage Hall Entrance
Welcome Briefing in the **Stage Hall** commencing at **8.40 am**.
Photographs for ID/Swipe system (compulsory) in ICT office

Tuesday 2nd July
(8.40 am– 3.10 pm)

Year 11 Taster Day (2) Plume College

From 8.40 am please sign in outside Mrs Clarks Office
Photographs for ID/Swipe system (compulsory) in ICT office

Monday 1st July
(6.30 pm-7.30 pm)

Year 11 Parents/Carer - Plume College Transition Briefing

Welcome briefing in the **Stage Hall** commencing at **6.30 pm**
Students are most welcome to attend with their parents/carers

All subjects will set compulsory Year 11 into Year 12 transitional work over the Summer. This can be located on the Plume College website from Monday 1st July 2019 and will be outlined during the taster lessons.

Students must dress appropriately and adhere to our College Dress Code. Students are expected to wear clean, safe and functional clothing which is always appropriate for a learning environment (i.e. no casual, leisure or beach clothing, ripped jeans or strappy or crop tops). Students are expected to bring basic equipment with them so they can participate in the lessons. Students may wish to bring some money so they can purchase food from the Coffee Shop. The days will run from 8.40 am to 3.10 pm. Students are expected to remain on site at all times during the day. Should students need to leave the premises they must sign out outside the College Head of Year Office. It is assumed that students will be attending this invaluable opportunity to preview the subjects and learning environment they will be enjoying next year. However, if for whatever reason they will be unable to attend these days or have any specific questions about these taster days, please contact Mrs Demes in the College Office on 01621 879830.

As an Academy we strongly recommend that our students regularly engage in high quality impartial career information, advice and guidance (CIAG). With this in mind, we strongly recommend that students attend one of the sessions with Mrs Brazier from Directions, to carefully consider how their post-16 options will directly inform their post-18 pathways. It is vital to ensure that students are in a position to make an informed decision about their prospective career pathways. Mrs Clark, Assistant Vice Principal and Mr Barton, Head of Year 12 and Year 13 will also be available to discuss specific questioning relating to individual study programmes in order to ensure A Level and Level 3 BTEC option choices compliment each other and are in line with future aspirations. Please can we ask that you encourage your son/daughter to take full advantage of the IAG available to them during the Taster Days. Furthermore, students are able to book appointments with Directions and / or Mrs Clark or Mr Barton on an alternative day by liaising with Mrs Demes in the College Office.

The Universities Minister Chris Skidmore has launched two apps which empower students to make better choices about their future career pathways, and where and what to study at university.

1. **ThinkUni**, offers students a 'personalised digital assistant' bringing together data on universities, courses and financial outcomes that are easy to explore and compare. Please see www.thinkuni.org for more details.
2. **TheWayUp!**, is a game for students to simulate different graduate career paths to help them make better choices about their future. It also aims to help students form set aspirational educational and career goals to increase their chances of achieving them. Please see www.thewayup.co.uk for more details.

All students both internal and external can enrol for Plume College on Thursday 22nd August 2019 during the following times; session 1 College Enrolment (11.00 am - 12.30 pm, surnames A-E and F-K) and session 2 College Enrolment (1.00 pm - 2.30 pm, surnames L-P and R-Z).

Since the introduction of linear A levels, it is vital for their future success, that students have the correct academic prior attainment to support learning at a higher level. Where students have not met subject entry requirements, staff will be on-hand to discuss alternative option choices. We recommend students discuss their post-16 options with staff on Thursday 22nd August and then go away to reconsider their options before returning to College for a follow-up appointment on Wednesday 28th August 2019. It is vital that a student is enrolled onto the correct course based on their GCSE prior attainment and they have time to research available options before a final decision is made. Should students foresee any issues with either collecting examination results and/or enrolling for Plume College, they are advised to contact Mrs Demes in the College Office.

We look forward to welcoming students on Monday 1st July 2019 and Tuesday 2nd July 2019. If you have any further questions about the information above, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs R Clark
Assistant Vice Principal



Mr C Barton
Head of Year 12 and Year 13