



9 September 2019

Dear Parents

This year all 5th Form students will have important decisions to make about their futures. We will be encouraging them to think carefully about their options this term so that they can make well-informed, realistic decisions in the spring term.

School has arranged for all 5th Form students to meet with a professional Careers Adviser, Mr Pete Soroczan, who will provide impartial careers guidance, advice and information on a range of academic courses, careers and opportunities. In a presentation given by Mr Soroczan today, students learned about the purpose and format of the interviews, so that they will know what to expect and can prepare themselves for this opportunity.

He will help your son or daughter to:

- consider all their options including sixth form, college, apprenticeships, traineeships and university
- consider suitable qualifications which can be NVQs and other work based qualifications, BTECs, A levels, Applied A levels, Foundation Degrees, HNDs and Degrees
- understand the entry requirements for courses and apprenticeships
- work out what they want to do if they aren't yet sure
- have the confidence to achieve their goals in life
- take control of their future plans and turn their ideas into reality
- understand that ideas can change and develop as they get older, gain more qualifications and experience

In their appointment with the Careers Adviser, students will be supported to make a decision for themselves and to create a realistic plan of action relating to their career ideas. We recognise that parents are keen to be involved in this process and the attached Careers Information Sheet is intended as a resource for both 5th Form students and their parents to refer to at home.

The programme of careers appointments will take place over the Autumn term and every student will be allocated an individual 40 minute interview which parents are also very welcome to attend. Please return the attached slip if you would like to be present and you will be advised of a date and time for you to accompany your son or daughter.

I will also be working with form groups during tutorial time to ensure that students understand how to research the courses and careers options available to them, using our excellent on-line resources to explore career areas. Students will also learn how to make informed career decisions in relation to labour market information and will also follow a programme of tutorials focusing on career areas related to subject study and options.

There will be a further opportunity for research of subject choice, at the A level Fair in December, when students will be able to ask 6th Form students what it is like to study particular A levels at RGS.

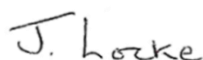
Finally, and specifically for 5th Form students, they will be participating in an Exploring Pathways and Apprenticeships event on 7th February, when they will get the opportunity to learn about the different career and study routes available.

Students are encouraged to visit the Careers Department and to use the lunchtime 'drop-ins' to chat about options and career plans, in addition to browsing the many resources which we have available. Students can of course also contact an external careers adviser through the National Careers Service, for which there is a link on our website: <http://www.ripongrammar.co.uk/academic/careers>

We also hope that you will be able to attend the Careers and HE Evening on 4th March, when representatives from around 60 organisations and universities will be present and able to offer careers information and guidance.

Should there be any concerns about achieving the requirements for entry to Ripon Grammar School 6th Form, it is very important for students to have a suitable back-up plan in place. In order to keep their options open students can apply to more than one school or college and decide where to take up a place once the GCSE results are known. Parents are welcome to contact me for information or advice about this or any other career issues or to visit the Careers stand at the forthcoming **Parents' Evening on Tuesday 12th November** and at the **6th Form Open Evening on Monday 20th January 2019 at 6:30pm.**

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Jill Locke

Head of Careers

lockej@ripongrammar.com

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I would like to attend the appointment with the independent Careers Adviser, Mr Pete Soroczan with my son / daughter.

Student name:

Form:

Please return slip to Mrs Kinread.