



Re-founded 1555

# Ripon Grammar School

*Engineering Specialism within a Grammar School*



6 January 2017

To Parents of Lower Sixth Students

Dear Parents

## Lower 6<sup>th</sup> Careers Programme

I am writing to update you on the lower sixth careers programme which is intended to help prepare students for their futures.

During the autumn term students were introduced to the process of career planning through which they can develop the knowledge, skills and experience to work towards a career path related to their individual interests and talents. They have also received guidance on how to put together a winning CV and participated in practice interviews with external interviewers. In the coming months there will be further opportunities to attend talks from external speakers as well as tutorials and classroom activities covering the full range of post 18 options.

During the remainder of their time in the sixth form it is important that students also undertake their own research into careers and courses and make the most of the support and resources available to them so that they are in a position to make the very best choices regarding their post 18 options. Opportunities are planned throughout the year to support the students in their research and I would particularly like to draw your attention to the following:

- **Careers Appointments.** Students are encouraged to arrange an individual careers guidance appointment to discuss their current career ideas or to help them explore a variety of options which they may like to consider before making any decisions about their future career path. They can also have follow up appointments or on-going contact via email. Parents are welcome to attend appointments or to contact me on [wilsonf@ripongrammar.co.uk](mailto:wilsonf@ripongrammar.co.uk).
- **Morrisby Profiling.** This year we will again be offering Morrisby profiling as an optional addition to the careers guidance we already provide for all students. The profiling uses psychometric tests to assess a candidate's strengths, interests and other aptitudes. It involves a series of paper and pencil exercises over a 3 hour period. The results are then analysed to produce a Profile and Guidance Report which the student will then go through with the support of a Morrisby accredited careers adviser in school. This year we are offering Morrisby profiling at a greatly reduced cost of **£39**. (The price of Morrisby profiling outside school is in excess of £200). It may be particularly useful for students who have a wide range of abilities and have not decided which type of career pathway to follow. **The profiling will take place on Wednesday 15 February from 1.15-4.15pm and the student will need to ensure that they can be excused from any lessons or other activities during that time.** If you would like your son or daughter to participate please send a cheque payable to Ripon Grammar School in an envelope marked Morrisby with the student's name and form to the careers department by **Thursday 19 January**.

Headmaster: Martin Pearman, MA(Oxon), CChem, FRSC

Address: Clothierholme Road, Ripon, North Yorkshire HG4 2DG Telephone: (01765) 602647 Facsimile: (01765) 606388

Email: [admin@ripongrammar.co.uk](mailto:admin@ripongrammar.co.uk) Website: [www.ripongrammar.co.uk](http://www.ripongrammar.co.uk)



- **Centigrade Analysis.** Many of our former students have found this a useful additional aid to choosing the right university course. It involves the completion of an on-line questionnaire and the responses are then analysed and matched with university courses. The results are compiled in a personalised workbook which the student can then go through with the support of a careers adviser. In addition students will receive a copy of the Degree Course Descriptions book which this year is available on-line (**not as a hard copy as stated in the attached brochure**). We are offering Centigrade at the subsidised cost of **£19**. If you would like your son or daughter to participate please return the slip in the attached brochure to the careers department together with a cheque made payable to Ripon Grammar School by **Thursday 19 January**.
- **RGS Website.** The careers section of the RGS website is designed to assist students to explore their options and includes pages on higher education, studying abroad, school leaver employment and gap years, with links to recommended websites for further information.
- **Careers and Events Notices.** Students need to regularly check their email for ideas and opportunities to add to their skills and experience and explore career ideas. They include external events such as industry days, leadership courses and university taster courses as well as careers presentations within school. Notices are also posted on Sharepoint.
- **RGS Careers and Higher Education Evening Wednesday 8 March 6.30-8.30pm.** A whole school event focusing on arts and humanities related careers and courses.
- **Lower 6<sup>th</sup> Higher Education Evening Thursday 27 April at 6:30 pm.** Parents and lower sixth students are invited to attend this event which will include presentations from university representatives and senior staff on choosing universities, the UCAS application procedure and student finance. Further information will be sent out nearer the time.
- **Work Experience 10-14 July.** It is important that every effort is made to ensure that this is organised and that Mr Walker is informed of placements by **Friday 7 April** at the latest.
- **Higher Education Visits.** Arrangements are being made for several university related visits. Further information will be sent out nearer the time.

Our careers programme is continually reviewed in order to enhance the information, advice and guidance that we can offer to the students. We are always pleased to hear from parents, whether it is to discuss courses or careers that are of interest to your son or daughter, or if you would like to be involved in the careers programme. If you feel that you, or your organisation, could assist with future events please contact Mrs J Locke, Head of Careers Education on [lockej@ripongrammar.co.uk](mailto:lockej@ripongrammar.co.uk) .

Yours sincerely

Mrs F Wilson

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