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Co-op Academy
Failsworth

Dear Parents/Carers,

Year 10 Careers Programme

In 2024 your child will be applying for their place at college, apprenticeship or training course. I wanted to let you know in advance what our careers programme will involve this year.

1 to 1 interviews with a qualified careers adviser - Your child will receive a 1 to 1 meeting to advise and guide them on their Post 16 options after they have left school. These meetings will start around Easter and will continue into Year 11 so every student gets seen. These will take place with either myself or a Positive Steps Adviser. If your child has any special educational needs they will be seen more than once if needed to assist them with this process.

College Open Days – These are going on throughout the year, I strongly advise you attend as many open days as you can with your child to get a feel for the college and find out what they offer. I have enclosed a leaflet with a list of all the local colleges on. Please keep an eye on the website of any college your child is interested in to find out when their open days are. These will also be displayed in school and promoted to your son/daughter regularly.

College Taster Days – These take place during school time. Your child will have the opportunity to sign up for a college they are interested in attending to visit for a few hours and meet the tutors. These take place in June/July and are on a first come first served basis. They will be well publicised in school, I would advise every student to sign up for at least one college.

Colleges will deliver assemblies – from September all our local colleges will deliver assemblies to the whole year group to tell them about what courses they offer.

Citizenship lessons – From September onwards your child will be learning more about different colleges and what they have to offer, there will also be some targeted talks on Vocational courses, Apprenticeships, A levels and T Levels.

Applications – From October onwards your child will be able to go on line and complete their college applications. Time has been designated during the first half term to help your child do this in their Citizenship lessons but they can also do this in their own time at home.

College Interviews – These are nothing to worry about. They are to make sure your child has chosen the right course, at the right college for what they want to do in the future. This is also the college's opportunity to make sure your child will be successful on their chosen course going off their predicted grades and attendance to school.

Provisional Offer – After your child's college interview they will receive a provisional offer. This means providing they get the required GCSE grades for that course they will have a place at that college.

Mock Interviews – These will take place in school in around November. This is your child's opportunity to experience sitting in front of an employer and being interviewed. This is usually for the first time and many students are nervous. Again, this is nothing to worry about and we will help them prepare for this in their citizenship lessons. This is where they can get it wrong with no consequences and they will receive informative feedback on how to improve.

What you can do now for your child – Start to talk to them about what they are interested in doing in the future, encourage them to speak to family and friends about what they do and what different jobs involve. The best thing they can start to do now is research the different jobs available by looking on the job websites (I have listed a few in the enclosed leaflet). Help them understand this is fast approaching, they need to start thinking more seriously about their options.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Colleges will make a decision off your child's Year 10 attendance record and their up to date predicted grades, Year 11 is too late, they will already have applied. To give your child the very best chance to get into the college of their choice please encourage them to have excellent attendance to school. Colleges will choose students with the best attendance and the highest predicted grades.

Your child can apply to as many colleges as they like, they do not have to make a final decision until they collect their final GCSE results in August 2024 and enrol at college that week.

Throughout the year there will be many other opportunities to visit colleges and employers. Information will be displayed in the Careers Café in the atrium and during Family Time on the Powerpoint and on Google Classroom. To help your child, please ensure they are accessing their Google Classroom regularly.

If you have any questions please email me joanne.farnworth@coopacademies.co.uk. I will be happy to help.

Yours faithfully,

Miss J Farnworth
Careers Co-ordinator