

Dear parents / carers

I am writing to introduce myself as Etonbury's Head of Sixth Form. Our first month has been very busy, and I have been especially impressed by the maturity and work ethic of our Sixth Formers, who are studying from a range of over 20 subjects on offer. These students have had a central role in the initial design process and I am delighted to now invite our current Year 11s to help shape Etonbury Sixth Form's exciting future.

I am excited to meet you on **Thursday 9th November** at our Revision and Sixth Form Open Evening- you will soon be receiving invitations in the post. We will be holding 2 talks at 5pm and 6pm in the school hall and then subject teachers will be in the new Sixth Form centre to talk about their courses in greater detail. You can find our subject guide on our website, so please take a look with your child in advance of the evening.

To enable students to get an idea of the vast range of subjects that will be on offer, we will be holding a Sixth Form Taster Week **30th October-3rd November**. During this week, subject teachers will spend part of a lesson introducing what their subject looks like at Key Stage 5, so students can get a feel for which subjects might appeal to them, in preparation for the open evening. In tutor time, we will also invite each form group to the Sixth Form centre so students can see our amazing facilities and talk to our current Year 12s about the courses in more detail. Whilst we hope that many of our students would like to continue their post 16 education with us, Sixth Form is not always the best option for every student and we will also be using form time to look in greater detail about other post 16 options, such as local colleges and apprenticeships.

Whilst we are aware this is close to the mocks, we feel it is the right time to hold this week as further education providers are starting to hold their open events now and we want to help students get a clearer picture of where they might be heading. Please don't feel concerned about students losing lesson time- team leaders have been aware of this for a while and have arranged their lessons accordingly.

As part of this week, we also thought it would be beneficial to give the students the opportunity to try out our new Sixth Form dress code and fully immerse themselves in discovering what post 16 education will feel like. The students have been at the forefront of all decisions and told us that they would prefer a smart casual dress code so they can feel comfortable while they are learning and can express their individuality. However, the expectation is of an appropriate style of dress that is compatible with the positive culture of the Sixth Form.

- Jeans and general attire should be smart. Please no rips, holes or slogans
- Headgear should be removed in school buildings unless required for religious purposes
- Sportswear should only be worn to do sport (no jogging trousers, football/rugby shirts)
- Clothing should not be see through and should cover shoulders, chest, midriff and thighs.
- Footwear should be appropriate for the school and learning community (no flip flops/sliders/crocs)

It is certainly not our intention to cause anxiety or alarm for parents or students and please do not feel that you need to buy new clothes for this week. Students are, of course, free to continue wearing their Etonbury uniform if they so wish.

I look forward to meeting you soon at our open evening on 9th November. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at cdowden@bestacademies.org.uk.



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