

**Headteacher’s Question Time – Year 9**

**Monday 18th December 2017**

**1.15pm-1.55pm - G10**

**Panel: Miss Millward (Chair),Mrs Götschel,Mrs Verma,Miss Pickford, Mrs Rolf,Mr Baker,Mr Guppy**

**Miss Millward welcomed the students and the following questions were asked:-**

**Jennifer Capper Grinham 9G - If enough people do not choose a certain subject for GCSE, does that mean that those who have chosen it have to choose something else?**

**Mrs Verma**: It is very important for you to include both your first and second choices as if you cannot have your first choice you will definitely get your second choice, but I do try really hard for you to receive your first choice.

**Lily Derrick 9W - Stonewall is an organisation that works to promote the LBGT community and stop discrimination and prejudice. I have asked a few times for this school to become a Stonewall school so I was wondering if and when Lordswood will address this issue? This is a subject that needs to be talked about. It is important in the community to spread awareness so that people are not discriminated against and it should not be restricted to the older year students.**

**Miss Pickford**: We arranged for Educate & Celebrate to come into school to provide a workshop to help the school to establish and run the Youth Pride Network. We agree that education regarding LGBT should begin early on but the Youth Pride Network is being set up for year 10 and 11 students firstly as they have already had PSHEE days covering LGBT. The content of the workshop will then be passed down to the younger students. LGBT is also included in our school policies.

**Miss Millward**: There are so many girls that are interested in the Youth Pride Network that we had to restrict the attendee numbers to students in years 10 and 11. However, if you are particularly interested, then I am sure it will not be a problem for you to participate so please speak to me if you would like to be included. Similarly, if anyone does feel discriminated against then again please come and talk to me.

**Muskaan Younas 9W - Why is there no meal to celebrate Eid when there is one to celebrate Christmas?**

**Mrs Götschel:** This is a really nice idea. The food that was put on for Dwahli was excellent and we had to extend lunchtime because it was so popular. If you would like this to be arranged, then please see Mrs Rolf in the main admin office to advise what type of food you would like included.

**Laiba Tariq 9G - How many options are we allowed to choose that are not compulsory?**

**Mrs Verma**: Everyone does four options; at least one humanities subject and one language plus two further choices. There will be more information provided to you in January. Mr Baker and I will be arranging an assembly for you to discuss the options further. All information will be given to you before Parents’ Evening.

**Priscilla Sharif 9G - When is the sixth form centre going to be finished?**

**Mrs Rolf:** The sixth form build was supposed to be completed by this week but there have been many issues and will not be ready now until the middle of March. The Sports Hall will be ready by February half-term.

**Gia Kattapuram 9R – When will we be getting a hockey pitch?**

**Mrs Götschel:** There is good news as we are getting an AGP pitch and a new sports hall where both outdoor and indoor hockey can take place. Lacrosse can also be played on the football pitch.

**Mr Guppy**: This is the most exciting time since I started at the school. We will have an astropitch, netball court and a new sports hall and it will be really exciting for you trying out some new sports.

**Lydia de Graaf 9G - Why do we only have maths three times a week in Year 9 when we had it four times a week in Year 8?**

**Mrs Verma**: Over two weeks there are 50 periods and everything has to be fitted into this time. More time was given to English as you had not done enough English work. You have done enough Maths in years 7 and 8 to compensate for the reduced number of maths lessons now but in year 10 you will be able to have more maths lessons again.

**Ardita Cami 9G - Will Year 9 have a PSHEE day on careers before we pick our options? It would really benefit us if we could have more guidance (ie a whole day) to learn about careers and what GCSEs might be useful.**

**Mr Baker:** We have a lot on the curriculum that we need to cover during PSHEE days so we wouldn’t be able to fit in a whole day on careers. You have two core curriculum subjects that you must take and two options to choose. In review sessions you will be given more time to discuss careers and subject areas will also be talking to you regarding this. We did arrange for Yorkshire Bank to come in to speak to the current year 10 students and Medical Mavericks have also visited the school but there are costs connected to inviting external people in to speak to you and sometimes it is better to discuss this with your review tutor and teachers.

**Bonneeta Braich Bains 9W - Why do I have to do RE for GCSE when I have no interest in pursuing it and my options are limited already?**

**Mrs Verma**: RE is included as a core subject and is not included in the options. There are a number of skills that can be gained from RE which can be used in other areas and it has been included as one of the Ebac subjects to make sure that you have the necessary skills needed to enter into employment, college or university.

**Farah Shah 9D - As Miss Vine is leaving we are worried that none of the extra-curricular clubs that she runs will continue. Some of these form part of our physical section in the DofE so will we have to give up the DofE?**

**Mr Guppy**: Mrs Vine has made a huge impact in PE but Mrs Uffindall will be returning soon and so the after school clubs will continue to run and you will not have to give up the DofE. The GCSE breakfast club is also continuing until May half term.

**Mrs Götschel** announced some ‘hot off the press news’ and told the students that they may be getting both Mrs Vine and Mrs Uffindall as PE teachers for next year.

**Miss Millward asked the students if there were any other questions they would like to ask:-**

**Bonneeta Braich Bains: Why do we have to study for two languages as I would find it easier to concentrate on learning only one language?**

**Mrs Verma:** As you have learnt two languages rather than one language, when you choose your options you will have a choice of two languages to choose from, rather than having only one language choice to study.

**Farah Shah 9D: What is the difference between the Science options?**

**Mrs Verma/Mr Baker:**

Science is a core curriculum subject.

Double science includes chemistry, biology and physics and if you choose this, then you can go on to study ‘A’ level.

Separate award science, which is also called triple science, is more difficult and it is more challenging to obtain ‘A’ level grades. It includes everything that is in double science plus more and there are more learning outcomes to cover.

Mr Baker told the students that this was the best Headteacher’s Question Time session he had ever attended as the questions were really different to the type of questions normally asked and were very interesting.

**Miss Millward thanked all the students for their questions and for attending the session during their lunchtime.**