



Saint Joseph's

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

September 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian

Year 11 – Options Post 16

As I am sure you are aware, the next year is a very important time for your daughter or son at St Joseph's School. Not only will they be sitting their GCSE/BTEC qualifications, but they will also need to be looking ahead and exploring their future career paths and post-16 options.

Here at St Joseph's we aim to equip our young people with all the support they need to realise their future potential and ambitions. Mrs Glover (our independent careers adviser) and myself, are both available to give support, information, advice and guidance in school. However, it is also important that your daughter or son realise that they also need to play a pro-active and responsible part in this process.

We strongly recommend that pupils should attend College and 6th Form open days/evenings. This will enable them to find out much more about course content, look at the facilities, speak to tutors in person and find out the destinations and outcomes of previous pupils. We also advise pupils to consider the distance and time they could be travelling to some colleges and 6th forms and the impact that this could have on their studies. We are enclosing a list of college/6th form open evening events for your information and recommend that pupils apply to more than one provider as a back-up. A list of career events is also enclosed for your information. Our advice is that if your daughter or son is offered a place, they should accept it to keep their options open at this stage. Pupils can apply to as many colleges and 6th forms as they wish; there is no commitment to attend any college or 6th form until they formally enrol. This is generally after they receive their GCSE results in August. Most colleges/6th forms will invite applicants in for an interview in the summer term, but not all do this. If your daughter or son needs any assistance then please do not hesitate to ask us for help.

Your daughters and sons are moving into an increasingly competitive global jobs market and our aim is ensure that they are fully prepared and equipped to enter this market. We will work with them to produce the best applications possible and support them with interview techniques.

As you may well be aware, the Government has increased the age to which all young people in England must continue in education or training, requiring them to continue until the end of the academic year in which they turn 18. This does not necessarily mean staying in school; young people have a choice about how they continue in education or training post-16, which could be through:

- full-time study in a school, college or with a training provider
- full-time work or volunteering combined with part-time education or training
- an apprenticeship

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Website: www.sjcs.org.uk

Your daughters and sons are informed about all of these options by our careers adviser, Sue Glover who also offers a drop-in session every Tuesday and Thursday lunchtime in the Careers office. The school also has an excellent on-line resource which contains information to help with careers and next step information. "Careercomp@nion" is accessible from any pc in school and can be accessed from home via the careers portal on our school website or directly via the internet at

www.careercompanion.co.uk

Username: **stjosephsstudent** Password: **stjosephsstudent**

We hope that by working together we can support your child on their journey beyond St Joseph's School to ensure that they make the right choices. If you have any questions regarding this letter please do not hesitate to contact either Sue Glover or myself at school.

Yours sincerely

Mrs S Fenwick
Careers Co-coordinator

Encl.

College & 6th Form Open Days 2017/18
Careers Calendar 2017/18