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Dear Parent/Carer,

Year 9 Options Power Hour – Thursday 20th January 2022

I hope this letter finds you and your family well. I have the pleasure of providing you with the details of Beckfoot Oakbank School's **Year 9 Options Power Hour** which will take place between 5pm – 6pm on **Thursday 20th January 2022**.

Here we will have two outside speakers coming in to talk to you and your child which will aim to support your decision making for the Options process.

Job Centre Plus (JCP) Session

Chris Watson from JCP will deliver a session on Labour Market Information (LMI) and put it into context for the Leeds City Region. He will make links between how the skills GCSE subjects develop relate to the current jobs market and evolving industries within our region. The session will focus on more vocational pathways.

Aim a Little Higher

Kamal Ellis-Hyman will present this session and will touch upon three themes.

Know Yourself - Exploring the importance of developing self-awareness and ensuring that all decisions are made based on who you are, not who your peers want you to be.

Know Your Vision - Explains the importance of creating an exciting vision beyond education which will provide direction, excitement, and a reason to work hard when you just can't be bothered.

Don't Chase Your Dreams - The final theme will challenge how you think about 'success', explaining that chasing your dreams is the wrong mentality. We will instead introduce the idea of 'building your dreams'. This outlook puts less focus on a big final result and instead encourages you to consider yourselves successful now thinking of your time in school as building a foundation for the rest of their lives.

Both will be followed by a Q&A at the end of the session.

The talks will last 20 minutes each and happen twice simultaneously on the evening so you have an opportunity to go to both if you wish to. Chris' talk will be held in the atrium and Kamal's talk will be held in the main hall. For both, we would recommend you wear a mask and observe social distancing. There will be refreshments available in our atrium throughout the evening.

The talks will take place at: 5.10pm – 5.30pm and 5.40pm – 6pm so please come to school through main reception for 5pm so you can make the most of the evening.



Headteacher: Tina Smith
CEO, Beckfoot Trust: Shirley Watson
Chair of Academy Trustees: John Winkley

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Myself, Kayleigh Towers (Higher Education Progression Officer) and other members of SLT will be available throughout the night alongside Chris and Kamal if you want to discuss anything further.

You can also re-visit the school's website to look at all the subject information and additional supporting resources from the Virtual Options Evening we had on the 13th January. As we go into the new year, it is important to start the process of considering what GCSE subjects your child wishes to pursue in Y10 and Y11. Students have already received their options booklet and a copy of the letter outlining key dates for your diary is on the website and was sent through the MyEd app.

We look forward to seeing you on the evening, please do hesitate to contact us at school if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Coombes
Assistant Headteacher
(Quality of Education)



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