

From the Careers Advisor

Our ref: GP/FQL/DAC
7 October 2008

Dear Parent or Guardian

As detailed in Mr Livingstone's letter at the end of the summer term, Year 11 is a busy year for your child in terms of making decisions for the future.

During this week Year 11 will take their Morrisby Career Profiling tests. I thought I would explain a little bit about the tests and what is available afterwards.

The tests are provided by the Morrisby organisation (a leading supplier of vocational guidance services.) They consist of a series of individual multiple choice 'tests' which help to assess aptitude and work-related personality. Although the tests are administered in a formal manner, they are not examinations. The results from these tests provide a valuable insight into strengths, ability patterns (verbal, numerical and perceptual), talents and personality, in order to assist students in exploring possible directions for their future beyond school.

After half-term there will be a formal feedback session where the students are given a detailed written report of their test results. At the end of the report career paths are suggested, based on the test results. These are not fixed directions that must be taken, but a range of suggestions matched to the profile generated in the tests. They provide a great starting point for discussion of future options. Your child will be given a copy of the full report and you will be sent a summary copy. Your child's Houseparent and I also have summary copies.

Following the feedback session, one-to-one interviews are conducted by the Houseparents. These are intended to provide a forum for discussion of questions raised by the report or issues related to Year 11 decisions. My availability during weeks 10/11 is reserved for Year 11 to follow up these sessions with specific one-to-one career guidance interviews as required. (I am available as normal by appointment beyond that.)

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As part of the Morrisby profile, the students are registered with an internet-based careers package – ‘Futurewise’. It is a comprehensive careers service designed to assist young people in researching, planning and developing their career plans. Their enrolment begins with the Morrisby profile and ends at aged 23. It takes students from school, through higher education, to early employment. It is strongly encouraged for students to research for themselves their post GCSE options. Whether students are already set on a definite career path or are keeping their options open, there is plenty of information that they may find useful on the ‘Futurewise’ site or in the careers library.

The Morrisby Profiling is a starting point for Year 11 in the process of post GCSE decision-making. In conjunction with other planned events to support them, such as the Sixth Form Information Evening and Careers Convention, we hope it will prove a useful experience.

If you have any further queries about the Morrisby Tests or the Year 11 careers programme, please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

Yours sincerely

Gill Parsons