

St Matthew Academy

St Joseph's Vale, Blackheath, London SE3 0XX
Head of School: Ms Miranda Baldwin
Head of Primary: Ms Joanna Chick



17 November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

RE: Post 16 Information Session for Parents, Carers and Pupils.

I hope this letter finds you and your families well and safe during this second period of National Lockdown. Importantly schools remain open this time and I am really pleased that attendance from year 11 continues to be high. Pupils are taking their studies seriously, working hard in lessons, equally as hard in after school intervention and independent study sessions and most pupils are embedding their learning at home through regular revision and homework. As you know pupils are currently preparing for their first round of year 11 mock exams that begin on Monday 7th December. We are currently awaiting more information from the government regarding the plans for GCSE 2021 summer series but at the moment all we know is that GCSEs will go ahead as planned but have been pushed back several weeks and will not finish until the start of July. This will give us a couple of extra weeks to help pupils with their preparation.

It's a busy time for pupils as they also have Post 16 destinations to consider and apply for – this is a big decision and it is not easy to navigate through all the information available. Normally to support you, you would have attended a face to face year 11 evening in October, received your child's predicted grade report, listened to a presentation from SMA staff and talked to post 16 providers in a market style event. You would also have also had opportunities to visit post 16 schools, academies and colleges and been able to speak to advisors and teachers about possible courses and subjects to study. I'm really pleased that many pupils have already attended virtual events and some have already made applications and are awaiting interviews.

In addition to the virtual events provided by providers we are organising a number Post -16 information virtual events for SMA pupils and parents. **These will take place on Thursday 26th November at 5.30pm.** Each event will have a clear focus, pupils and parents will be expected to sign up in advance (by 12pm, Tuesday 23rd November) and will be able to send questions prior to the sessions. Each virtual event will be hosted by 2 members of staff, be no longer than 45mins and there will be an opportunity for a live Q & A. Pupils must be accompanied by a parent, log in via their SMA email address and must remain visible throughout the session.

- Session A** A Level, IB Programme and Level 3: English, Humanities, MFL & Social Sciences
- Session B** A Level, IB Programme and Level 3: Science, Technology, Computer Science and Maths
- Session C** A Level & Level 3 Creative & performing arts and sport
- Session D** Vocational Level 2 courses

If you are interested in joining any of our events, please complete our short form <https://forms.gle/6DY5LHY2iviowpaCA> Once your sessions have been confirmed an invitation for your chosen session will then be sent to your child's St Matthew Academy email

If you have any questions regarding Post 16 choices, please contact your child's form tutor in the first instance. I am also including with this letter an updated version of the open event dates, joining instructions and application deadlines for our local providers.

Yours faithfully

Ms M Baldwin
Headteacher

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Sixth Form Open Events and Application Deadlines

Schools	Date of Open Event	Application Deadline
Beths Grammar School	23 rd November 2020	31 st January 2021 (4pm)
Bexley Grammar School	13 th November 2020	Early December (TBC)
Chislehurst and Sidcup Grammar School	23 rd November 2020	31 st January 2021
Dartford Grammar School	12 th November 2020	Website not updated yet
Haberdatcher's Aske's Hatcham College	14 th November 2020	31 st January 2021
Haberdatcher's Aske's Knights Academy	6 th October 2020	31 st January 2021
Harris Academy Greenwich	11 th November 2020	TBC
Prendergast Sixth Form	17 th -18 th September 2020	TBC
Sedgehill Sixth Form	25 th January 2020 6-8pm	TBC
Sacred Heart Sixth Form	12 th November 2020	20 th November 2020 (4pm) (Submit all necessary paperwork)
St Thomas Apostle Sixth Form	21 st -22 nd November 2020	Application process opens 6 th December 2020 Deadline TBC
St Olave's Grammar School	5th November 2020, 6.30pm	Apply on line from 10 th November Application deadline 8 th January 2021
Sydenham and Forest Hill Sixth Form	11th November 2020 (Virtual)	TBC
Thomas Tallis Sixth Form	21 st October 2020, 7-8pm (Online)	11 th January 2021
Townley Grammar School	23 rd November 2020 (Online application process) They do not take late applicants	Tbc

Sixth Form Open Events and Application Deadlines

College	Date of Open Event	Application Deadline
Christ the King: Emmanuel	21 st November Virtual Event 9.30 – 13.00pm	29 th January 2021
Christ the King: Aquinus	7 th November Virtual Event 9.30 – 13.00pm	29 th January 2021
Christ the King: St Mary's	14 th November Virtual Event 9.30 – 13.00pm	29 th January 2021
John Ruskin College	22 nd October 2020 21 st November 2020 10:00 – 14:00 // Pre-register here 3 rd March 2021 17:30 – 19:30 // Pre-register here 19 th June 2021 10:00 – 13:00 // Pre-register here	No deadlines they take applications all the way through. For interviews the cut-off date is at the end of the spring term.
Lewisham College	10 th – 17 th November 2020 (Virtual) 2-7pm 7 th -8 th November 2020 (Virtual) 2-7pm 22 nd March 2021 (Virtual) 2-7pm	No deadlines They take applications all the way through.
Shooters Hill Sixth Form	11 th October 2020 (Book a tour online)	29 th April 2021
St Francis Xavier Sixth Form College	19 th November 2020 (Virtual) 4-6pm	