



September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

RE: Virtual Careers Interviews

During the course of Year 9 your child will be making important decisions on the next phase of their education, namely their GCSE options. We believe it is vital that we offer impartial information and advice which will support your child in making informed decisions about their GCSE options, Post-16 options and their future career ambitions.

We are delighted to inform you that we will be running virtual careers interviews with a fully qualified careers advisor. She will provide a fully personalised interview which will impartially guide your child to consider their ambitions for the future, what skills, qualities and qualifications are required for their desired pathway as well as linking them to websites to support them further. These virtual interviews will take place on Mondays between September and February.

A careers interview will last approximately 45 minutes and will take place during the school day. Your child will be E-mailed with a time to attend their appointment a few days before it is due to take place and a reminder sent on the morning of the interview. It is vitally important your child checks their E-mails and makes a note of the time of their interview. The careers advisor will then send a Teams invitation to access their careers interview appointment. Your child should go to the LAC on the top floor of the school to access a quiet side room to have their careers interview.

During the careers interview, a student may request that a member of staff is present with them to support them during the conversation or to support with the understanding on the interview. Students with SEND needs will be offered this option via their keyworker.

At the end of the careers interview, students will be sent a copy of the discussion via their school E-mail as well as a copy to Ms Baxendale. These documents should be kept in a safe place as our in-house careers advisor will use these to support her discussions in Year 11 when she re-interviews students to discuss their post-16 decisions. Ms Baxendale will also keep a copy on the staff drive for our careers advisor in the event that a student would like an earlier follow up interview and in the event a student loses a copy of their interview notes.

Principal - Claire Taylor

Oasis Academy Mayfield

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What can I do to support my child with their understanding of Post-16 options?

Your involvement is crucial to ensuring that your child makes decisions that are challenging, aspirational and most importantly, right for them and their future. We would strongly encourage you to begin talking to your child about colleges, apprenticeships and careers and we have listed some resources below that you can access for free which will support your conversations with your child:

- **Oasis Academy Mayfield Website** – Our Careers Guidance page has information about the ways that we can support your child to be successful. There are also links to a variety of websites which will help facilitate different conversations. This can be accessed here: <https://www.oasisacademymayfield.org/curriculum/personal-development/careers-guidance>
- **Oasis Southampton Careers Facebook Page** – Our Facebook page has lots of information about opportunities that you and your child can access e.g. open events at colleges, virtual work experience, apprenticeship events. Please like and subscribe.
- **To Infinity, choices and beyond! A Parents' Guide** – This is a handy online booklet which explains every step of education from Year 9 through to University. This can be accessed here: <https://www.sunoutreach.org/parents/resources/sun-parent-and-learner-guides/>
- **What is an apprenticeship?** – Apprenticeships, although not new, have significantly changed and your child could undertake an apprenticeship any time from 16. Some apprenticeships offer diplomas and degrees whilst paying for university tuition. To find out more about apprenticeships: <https://www.sunoutreach.org/parents/resources/apprenticeships-2/>

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