

07d/OpenEvening/2019/JOA/SDO 19 October 2018

Dear Year 11 Parents/Carers

As the momentum of the school year gathers pace, Year 11 will fast be turning their attention to their options following GCSE's. Over the next couple of months, they will have discussions with our Careers Officer, Lucy Hazelton, who will rightly encourage them to investigate different pathways. Whilst many local sixth form providers have early open evenings and recruitment process, we at King James's wait a little longer and I wanted to explain to you why that is.

After a full term of Year 11, students have received Learning Cycle data, they have sat their mock exams and have had chance to experience the bulk of their GCSE subjects, which puts them in an informed position from which to make some important subject choices. Our open evening is on Thursday 10 January 2019 and will be followed by a 'taster day' on Wednesday 13 February 2019, before the application deadline of Friday 22 February 2019.

In the meantime, I will speak to all Year 11 students in assembly about how proud we are of our Sixth Form, and share with them some of our many success stories from recent years where our outcomes were in the top 25% of post-16 providers, nationally. The Sixth Form prospectus will be available this term and will include much more detail about the individual subjects on offer and the entry requirements. After the application deadline, all applicants will receive an individual post-application meeting with a member of the Sixth Form team.

Experience shows that our slightly later process leads to a better thought through application, with a smoother transition to Year 12.

Yours faithfully

John O'Hara

Director of Sixth Form