

Options Journey Newsletter

Year 9 students have started to consider what their future employment might be when they leave Stanground Academy and which level 2 courses will be right for their career journey.

It has been a busy few weeks for Year 9 students here at Stanground Academy...

...In **December**, over 70 students visited the new university here in Peterborough, **Anglia Ruskin**, to attend a presentation and tour around the campus. Students got the opportunity to see what courses are on offer, meet local employers who work with the university and speak to undergraduate students about university life. We are very lucky to have such a great university here in the city, meaning for some of our students who prefer not to move away, can still carry on their education from the comfort of their own home.



Thank you to NEACO, who part-funded this trip and to Mrs Charles for organising this great opportunity.

On **Monday 8 January**, we welcomed Kamal from **'Aim A Little Higher'** to speak to year 9 about building their dreams, knowing themselves, knowing their vision. Kamal had us laughing, sharing opinions, and contemplating the choices we are making. He posed to students that they need to focus on developing themselves, to realise success is there waiting for them BUT it will be tough, however, with self-belief and determination everyone can achieve their dreams. When some year 9 students were asked 'what did you take away from Kamal's presentation', this is what they said...

"It is about making my own decisions, what I love doing and not be swayed by what my friends are doing"

"Don't chase your dreams instead build them. It will take time to be who I want to be, but I know I can do it"

"Not to quit, keep going even when it gets tough. This inspired me."

"He encouraged me to build my dreams; listening to his journey made me feel I can do it to"



This is Kamal!

(An ex-Stanground College student!)



Year 9 students have begun building their career profile using the **UniFrog** platform. Through a series of questions, the students' responses help suggest careers that they may be interested in pursuing. Students have recalled how much they are enjoying these sessions, learning about careers they had not yet considered. Why don't you ask your child to sign into their account [here](#) and show you what career they are building?



During **tutorial**, subject leaders have been presenting to year 9 students' information about their option courses on offer to your child next academic year. So far students have heard about:

- Hospitality & Catering by Mr Scofield
- Triple Science by Dr Mohammad
- Health & Social Care by Mrs Kirwan
- Child Development by Mrs Kirwan
- History by Miss Marsh
- Geography by Mr Needham
- French by Mrs Pirie
- German by Mrs Pirie
- IT by Mrs Jukes
- Computer Science by Mrs Jukes
- Sociology by Mrs Fisher
- Psychology by Miss Waitt



A key part of the teacher's presentations is how their course links to future careers and which pathway's they can undertake at the end of year 11 to achieve this career. Over the remaining weeks, Year 9 students will hear about the remaining options courses. Tutors are collating the questions students have that arise throughout this process, and subject leaders are responding promptly to ensure students are building an informed decision about their option choices.

Coming soon!

- **Careers Fair** – Tuesday 06 February
- **Options Fair/ Parents Evening** – Tuesday 13 February
- **Taster Days** – Thursday 15 & Friday 16 February

With over 20 courses on offer to students, we are giving all year 9 students the opportunity of a taster lessons for those that do not sit in their current timetable, before they make their final choice. Those subjects they are currently taught in Year 9 will be delivering a taster session in one of their normal timetabled lessons. The purpose of these sessions to provide students with a realistic experience of what to expect in Year 10 and Year 11 if they choose that subject as one of their options.

A message from Mr Pollard (Head of Year 9)

"It has been a huge privilege to be the Head of Year for such an enthusiastic and inquisitive year group, these characteristics will put them in good stead for when their options beginning.

It has been fascinating to speak with so many students about their options and what they are thinking of doing once they leave the academy as the successful ambassadors we know they can be.

I cannot wait to see the students blossom on their new journey, picking their options and laying the foundations for their future. Please remember if you have any questions at all about the option process feel free to message the year team or your child's form tutor."