

1<sup>st</sup> December 2020

Ref: 201201/DHH

Dear Parent / Carer

We know that in this academic year your child has some important decisions to make. The careers team at Bradford Academy are here to help guide, inform and facilitate the next steps for your child and we wanted to take this opportunity to share with you some key messages to assist in the decisions you will be helping your child to make.

At the end of this year your child will leave Key Stage 4 (Years 10 and 11) and will move into Key Stage 5 (Years 12 and 13) or an apprenticeship / traineeship. Learners have already begun to virtually meet or speak with our independent careers advisor, and look at what they would like to do when they finish school. All learners must now stay in education or work based training until the age of 18, and there are many different options available to them. As well our own Sixth Form which offers a range of Level 2 and 3 qualifications, learners have the option to apply for other colleges or sixth forms, or an apprenticeship in an area of their choice.

Before making those decisions there are things you need to consider and questions you need to ask as a parent/carers to help your child select the most appropriate choices: For all of these learners making choices we urge them to consider the following, to safeguard against them making the wrong decision:

- Does your child's secondary school have a sixth form?
- Which 16-18 courses are offered in your child's school?
- Are there any other sixth form schools or colleges that your child can consider, visit and compare?
- When are their open evenings?
- Should your child be doing A levels, Applied General Qualifications or an Apprenticeship/traineeship?
- Which subjects is your child enjoying during Key Stage 4?
- Has your child considered the amount of homework particular subjects yield to help them choose how many and which subjects to choose?
- Does your child have a career in mind already so that they can choose subjects based on their dream job?
- Does your child want to go to university, into an apprenticeship or enter the world of work after Key Stage 5?
- Is your child only choosing subjects to be with a favourite teacher or to stay with friends?
- Is your child's school offering an Options Evening to enable you to seek guidance from teachers?
- Is there someone you know doing the job to which your child is aspiring to seek advice from?



To assist with this there is a table below with some answers to some of the questions to help frame the conversations between yourself and your child, along with some helpful websites that you can use to gather more information.

I hope that this guidance provided will give you with enough information at this time, but should you have questions please contact the following people who will be able to assist you.

Ms S Taylor Careers Leader/Progressions Manager – [s.taylor@bradfordacademy.co.uk](mailto:s.taylor@bradfordacademy.co.uk)

Ms A Gibson – Careers Advisor – [a.gibson@bradfordacademy.co.uk](mailto:a.gibson@bradfordacademy.co.uk)

Mrs A Wilkinson-Cox (AP for Key Stage 5) – [a.cox@bradfordacademy.co.uk](mailto:a.cox@bradfordacademy.co.uk)

Mr C Brennan (Head of Year 11) [c.brennan@bradfordacademy.co.uk](mailto:c.brennan@bradfordacademy.co.uk)

Mr D. Haworth (AVP for Curriculum and Progress) [d.haworth@bradfordacademy.co.uk](mailto:d.haworth@bradfordacademy.co.uk)

Kind Regards

*D Haworth*

Mr D Haworth

Assistant Vice Principal – Curriculum & Progress

### Process of Selecting Options

| What                               | When                             | How                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Official Launch                    | Monday 14th December             | Online Launch Event – Bradford Academy Website<br>This will contain information about the subjects on offer and why you should consider Bradford Academy for the next stage of your education. |
| Post 16 booklet issued to learners | Monday 14th December             | This will be given out to learners in school, and will be available on the website.                                                                                                            |
| Applications open                  | Monday 14th December             | Online on the Bradford Academy website.                                                                                                                                                        |
| Applications close                 | Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> January  |                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Interviews begin                   | Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February | These will take place virtually online, or within the Year 11 bubble.                                                                                                                          |
| Conditional places offered         | Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> March | Letters will be sent to learner's home addresses.                                                                                                                                              |

### Additional Guidance

| <u>Question</u>                                                                                          | <u>Answer</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
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| Does Bradford Academy have a sixth form?                                                                 | Yes – We offer a range of Level 2 & 3 subjects, plus the opportunity to re-sit GCSE <b>M</b> ath and or English if necessary.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Which 16-18 courses are offered in your child's school?                                                  | Details of all Level 3 BTEC courses are in the Post 16 Booklet listed to learners and available on the website.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Are there any other sixth form schools or colleges that your child can consider, visit and compare?      | Yes, there are many educational establishments that learners can access at 16 in Bradford. The Bradford Academy Careers Website has links to different colleges, school 6 <sup>th</sup> forms and training centres to help you make the best choice for your child.                                                                                                                        |
| Is your child's school offering an Open Evening to enable you to seek guidance from teachers?            | We are not able to offer a physical open evening due to the Covid 19 restrictions, but we are producing informative videos about each subject that will be shown to learners in their PSHE lessons and then available on the website. Links will be sent out through Weduc<br>Virtual appointments will be available for parents or carers of students with the post 16 team, if required. |
| Should your child be doing A levels, Applied General Qualifications or an apprenticeship/traineeship?    | Use the school report to determine the grades your child is likely to attain in their exams and use that to help guide them towards the most appropriate pathway <b>for</b> them.                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Does your child have a career in mind already so that they can choose subjects based on their dream job? | If they do have a career in mind and need more information about how to pursue that career, our careers advisor would be able to help find a suitable pathway to explore.                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Where can I get further general information                                                              | All learners in Year 11 have access to 'Unifrog' which is a great site to give general information on careers and pathways – your child can access their Unifrog home page at home y following the link<br><br><a href="https://www.unifrog.org/sign-in">https://www.unifrog.org/sign-in</a>                                                                                               |

## Helpful Links

| A levels at school or college                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Applied General Qualifications at school or college                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Level 2 or level 3 Apprenticeships                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Part-time education or training plus volunteering for 20 hours or more a week.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Part-time education or training if you are employed or self-employed for 20 hours or more a week.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
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| <p><a href="https://my.sacu-student.com/sacustudent/f?p=SACU_BROWSE:331:0">https://my.sacu-student.com/sacustudent/f?p=SACU_BROWSE:331:0</a><br/>What A Levels do I choose and what degree course can I study with my choice of A Levels?</p> <p><a href="http://www.russellgroup.ac.uk">http://www.russellgroup.ac.uk</a><br/>Gives access to 'Informed Choices' booklet, which gives definitive information on GCSE and A-level subject choices.</p> <p><a href="http://www.careersbox.co.uk">http://www.careersbox.co.uk</a><br/>Gives short careers film clips.</p> <p><a href="https://www.theguardian.com/education/2016/feb/03/how-to-decide-which-a-levels-to-take">https://www.theguardian.com/education/2016/feb/03/how-to-decide-which-a-levels-to-take</a></p> <p><a href="https://university.which.co.uk/advice/a-level-choices/six-things-you-need-to-know-before-making-your-a-level-choices">https://university.which.co.uk/advice/a-level-choices/six-things-you-need-to-know-before-making-your-a-level-choices</a></p> | <p><a href="https://www.careeripilot.org.uk/information/vocational-qualifications/types-of-vocational-qualifications/applied-general-qualifications">https://www.careeripilot.org.uk/information/vocational-qualifications/types-of-vocational-qualifications/applied-general-qualifications</a></p> <p>Link to FE colleges<br/><a href="http://findfe.com/">http://findfe.com/</a></p> | <p><a href="http://www.apprenticeships.org.uk">http://www.apprenticeships.org.uk</a> Gives access to the national apprenticeships database and general information.</p> <p><a href="https://www.getmyfirstjob.co.uk">https://www.getmyfirstjob.co.uk</a><br/>Gives information about a range of apprenticeships available in over 170 industries.</p> <p><a href="https://resources.amazingapprenticeships.com/live-broadcasts/">https://resources.amazingapprenticeships.com/live-broadcasts/</a><br/>Live Broadcasts about potential apprenticeship opportunities.</p> | <p>Voluntary work:<br/><a href="https://do-it.org/">https://do-it.org/</a><br/><br/><a href="https://lattice.org.uk/">https://lattice.org.uk/</a><br/><br/><a href="http://www.ncsyes.co.uk/">http://www.ncsyes.co.uk/</a></p> <p>Part-time education<br/><a href="http://findfe.com/">http://findfe.com/</a></p> | <p>Paid work:<br/><a href="http://www.monster.co.uk">www.monster.co.uk</a><br/><br/><a href="http://www.totaljobs.com/">www.totaljobs.com/</a><br/><br/><a href="http://www.cv-library.co.uk/">http://www.cv-library.co.uk/</a><br/><br/><a href="http://www.gov.uk/jobsearch">www.gov.uk/jobsearch</a><br/><br/><a href="http://www.jobsite.co.uk/">www.jobsite.co.uk/</a><br/><br/><a href="http://www.jobsgopublic.com/">www.jobsgopublic.com/</a><br/><br/><a href="http://www.jobs.nhs.uk/index.html">www.jobs.nhs.uk/index.html</a><br/><br/><a href="http://www.indeed.co.uk/">http://www.indeed.co.uk/</a></p> <p>Part-time education<br/><a href="http://findfe.com/">http://findfe.com/</a></p> |

