



18 January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 9 Progress Evening by Video Call - Appointment Booking

I would like to warmly invite you to attend our Year 9 Progress Evening on Thursday 28th January from 15.45 - 19.00. As well as an opportunity to discuss your son/daughter's progress with their subject teachers, you may like to use this evening as an opportunity to discuss option courses for next year. The options process will be more formally launched after February half term with further information regarding option subjects as well as opportunities to speak to departments to assist in the decision making process.

Due to the national lockdown, the evening will be run remotely with meetings via video calls using the 'Parents Evening System'. Despite a short disruption to the Year 11 Progress evening last week (caused by a nationwide technical fault affecting schools across the country), feedback from parents and staff has been very positive. This is mainly because there is no queuing or waiting around as timings are adhered to religiously due to the automated nature of the system. Furthermore, there are also no background noises or distractions such as there can be in big venues in school. However, it is worth remembering that each appointment lasts exactly 7 minutes (there is a timer in the corner of the screen). This means conversations need to be really focused in order to make the most of the appointment. As a result, you may wish to prepare questions in advance so you can maximise the time. If, following the evening, you still find yourselves with unanswered questions or that simply time had run out before you had finished, please contact the member of staff directly and a further conversation can be arranged. Staff email addresses are formed as follows: staff initial staff surname (no gap)@southdartmoor.devon.sch.uk. So, for example, my email address is jbradford@southdartmoor.devon.sch.uk.

To book appointments for all Year 9 students at South Dartmoor, please visit <https://southdartmoorcommunitycollege.schoolcloud.co.uk/>. (A short guide on how to add appointments is attached with this letter.) Login with the following information:

Student's First Name / Surname / Date of Birth

This allows you to choose your own appointment times with teachers and you will receive an email confirming your appointments. Other staff also available for appointments are Head of Year 9, Mike Slater and members of the SEND Leadership Team made up of Sally Banfield, Rachel Mitchelmore and Ben Fuller.

Appointments can be made from 09:00 Tuesday 19 January and will close on Tuesday 26 January at midnight. Should you wish to make any changes after this date please contact: Mrs J Wills: jwills1@southdartmoor.devon.sch.uk.

Cont/d

Please also find a guide on how to attend appointments over video calls below:

<https://support.parentseveningsystem.co.uk/article/801-video-parents-how-to-attend-appointments-over-video-call>.

I hope this evening will offer you valuable information and support.

Yours faithfully



Mr J Bradford

Associate Assistant Head teacher

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