



Dalriada School

Year 14 Parents' Information
Meeting

11.09.23



Programme

- ❑ Introduction
- ❑ The Upper Sixth Form (Mrs Williamson)
- ❑ Careers info – applying to Uni (Mrs Kelly)
- ❑ Examination officer (Mrs Ewart)
- ❑ Management of the Upper Sixth Form Programme (Mr Skelton)



Pastoral Structure

- Tutor
- Head of Sixth form
- Ms Crawford (Deputy Head – Pastoral)
- Tutorial
 - Pastoral
 - Careers
 - Study/planning
 - UCAS process
 - Healthy living
 - Positive Mental Health
 - Student Finance



Year 14 Timetable

- 3 A2 subjects – 8 or 9 periods each
- supervised study periods for each A2 subject – assigned study rooms – Gillan Centre
- 1 tutorial
- 1 period for prefect duty (if applicable)
- Usually 2 or 4 periods for enrichment options
- Home Study

Assessment Manager – Pupil tracking



- At the start of the year pupils and teachers agree a target grade (this can change throughout the year)
- Pupils' progress is tracked throughout the year by Pupil tracking
- At 3 times throughout the year pupils will complete an assessed task and this mark will be used to determine if a pupil is meeting their target. If a pupil is underachieving, measures will be put in place to address this and parents informed.

Enrichment Options



- ICDL – Ms Wallace
- Sign Language (depending on numbers and cost - online)
- Mandarin
- University Ulster online courses
- TEFL
- English/Maths Mentor
- Wellbeing Ambassador Scheme

Standards/procedures



- Uniform
- Self-discipline
- Attendance – parents will be contacted if attendance falls below 95%
- Study room attendance is essential and is monitored closely. If a pupil misses 3 study room periods this will result in an after school detention

Standards/procedures



- Punctuality – to school and to class. Three 'lates' result in an after school detention.
- Notes for absence and exeats – it is very important in 6th Form that the record of attendance is accurate as universities, colleges and future employers often ask for it.

School Policies



- We encourage all parents to take time to read school policies, in particular parents are encouraged to be aware of the following key policies:
 - Positive Behaviour
 - Anti-Bullying
 - Safeguarding and Child Protection
- Thank you to the parents who took time in June to review policies to ensure that there is input from all stakeholders – your input was carefully considered and policies updated
- Policies are available on website or a hard copy can be requested via the school office



EMA



This is a means tested allowance (Educational Maintenance Allowance) which pays £30 per week (fortnightly).

Learning agreements need to be signed as it is only paid for those who are compliant with the education system that they are attending.

If you think you would like to apply or find out more, please see Mrs Williamson.



Medical Forms

- Parents should return the following forms immediately
 - AM2 – request for school to administer medication e.g. EpiPen
 - AM3 – request for a pupil to carry their medication e.g. own Inhaler, prescription medication, EpiPen
- Parents should ensure that school has any necessary medication (e.g EpiPens, Inhalers, Diabetes Emergency Box) and that all medication is in date.
- Contact Ms Crawford with any queries.



Student Finance

Student Finance NI

Student Finance



- Forms become available around March/April.
- Forms are completed at home and posted, or completed online.
- Pupils will receive email from myself with link to use to access the site.

Entitlement



Expenses whilst at university or college fall broadly into two categories –

- Tuition fees – which help meet the cost of a course
- Other higher education expenses, namely living costs

Entitlement – Tuition Fees



Studying in the UK

- **England** – up to £9250 a year
- **Wales** – up to £9250 a year
- **Scotland** – up to £9250 a year
- **N Ireland** – up to £4395 a year

Dates to note



- Assessment Manager 1 –27th October
- Parents' meeting -Friday 27th October
- Internal exams -Monday 8th January
(1 week)

Any queries?



- Please feel free to contact me at school if you have any queries or feel there is information the school should know.
- My email address is awilliamson088@c2kni.net



Careers Advice

Mrs Kelly



Decision time...

- 3rd level study – Degree/Masters, Foundation Degree, Level 5 diploma
- Higher Level Apprenticeship
- Gap Year
- Employment



Applying to University



- UK applications – UCAS – online



- ROI applications – CAO – online



- USA



- Europe



- Back up plan

Higher Level Apprenticeships (HLAs)



- Offer the opportunity to gain quality training and a recognised higher qualification while in paid employment.
- Higher Level Apprenticeships (HLAs) currently offer you qualifications from Level 4 to Level 6 (Honours degree). The majority are at Level 5 (Foundation degree).
- The length of a Higher Level Apprenticeship will vary depending on the programme you choose, but will be a minimum of two years.



- By taking part in a Higher Level Apprenticeship, you can gain the skills that employers need and that are relevant to the local economy, therefore improving your prospects of good earnings and sustained employment.
- Other benefits include:
 - earning while you learn
 - achieving professional-level qualifications without paying higher education tuition fees
 - increased opportunities for career progression
 - a clear pathway to achieving ambitions in the workplace
- See <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/higher-level-apprenticeships> for further information.
- Local HLA opportunities will be advertised in school.



Research

- University prospectuses – Careers library
- Online research
 - University websites
 - Other sites such as
 - <http://www.nidirect.gov.uk/careers>
 - <http://www.applytouni.com/>
 - <http://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk/>
 - <http://unistats.direct.gov.uk/>
- Visits to universities – Open Days (balance with school work, notes in advance)

UCAS Applications (UK universities)



- On line applications
- 2 internal deadlines – end of September, end of November
- Oxbridge, Dentistry, Medicine, Veterinary applicants must meet September deadline

UCAS Applications



- Personal details (must be accurate, 'appropriate' email address should be given, Special Circumstances section)
- Education – exam results, results pending (must include all results - other qualifications should be included)
- 5 choices – no preference shown
- Personal statement – very important
- Reference – provided by school – includes predicted grades

UCAS Personal Statements



- Only opportunity to make your form stand out from the crowd
- Take the opportunity to sell yourself
- Explain preference for course (or institution – rarely)
- Give flavour of own character
- Outline employment / work exp. opportunities
- Explain qualities gained from academic and extra-curricular experiences
- Make full use of space – 47 lines or 4000 characters

UCAS References



- Prepared by tutors, careers staff and senior staff
- All students need at least one meeting with referee – full CVs
- All students also need at least one interview with a careers adviser
- Positive predicted grades used based on subject teachers' professional judgement
- Special circumstances
- References are shown to pupils

UCAS – Submitting forms



- Pupils must sign release form in Careers Office to indicate it is ready for UCAS
- Once received by Careers Dept. it will be checked and reference uploaded
- Time is required for this process so forms will not be sent away immediately
- Flawed forms will be returned to student electronically – be alert for this, check emails
- Completed forms are not retrievable once they have been sent to UCAS

Careers Support for Students



- Careers Advisers available every day
- Open Day visits and University talks
- Interviews with reference writers and Careers staff
- Well stocked Careers library cared for by Careers Prefects working with Head of Careers
- Help with all applications
- Preparation for university interviews
- Parents welcome at any time



Interviews

- Mock Interview Evening – Wed. 15/11/23
- Interview Preparation in tutorial
- Students to dress formally
- Students should be punctual
- Interview panels – support welcome

Dates to note



- UCAS Application** - submit anytime, but final deadlines:
- (Oxbridge, Med, Dent, Vet) - Sat. 30th September
 - All other UCAS forms - Thurs. 30th November

Finally...



- Any queries, contact me at school or email me on ckelly743@c2kni.net





Examination Information

Mrs Ewart

EXAMINATIONS



- 1. Review of Marking: (Applied for after the results)**
 - Clerical check
 - Remark
 - Accelerated remark (Only available for Year 14). Must be applied for within one week of getting the results
 - Access to scripts
 - (All of these must be applied for through the Exams Officer within four weeks of getting the results)



- **Special Consideration: (Applied for during the exams)**
- This is applied for after the last exam. The pupil or parent should contact the Exams Officer if there has been any situation or Health issue which has prevented the pupil from giving their best effort.
- **Re-sits in November**
- Re-sit requests for GCSE English and Maths need to be with me by 29th September
- Re-sits are also available in the summer series for AS modules and requests for these are made in January.
- **My Contact details: aewart765@c2ken.net**



Management of Courses

Mr Skelton

Management of Courses



- Coursework, Assessment Manager, number of subjects
- Study leave and examinations
- Extracurricular responsibilities
- Outside interests; part-time work
- Time and resource management