



Blackfen School for Girls

Raising aspirations - releasing potential

Headteacher Matthew Brown BA(Hons) DMS(Ed)

Blackfen School for Girls,
Blackfen Road,
Sidcup, Kent.
DA15 9NU

T: 020 8303 1887

F: 020 8298 1656

E: admin@blackfen.bexley.sch.uk
www.blackfenschoolforgirls.co.uk

November 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

Year 12 students experienced a 'Next Steps' workshop day on Friday 3rd November. During this challenge day we introduced students to moving on after Sixth Form looking at various options with a focus on university application and alternatives for those not wanting to go to University.

Workshops:

Home or Away	Students were able to consider the pros and cons of moving away from home to study
Finance	We looked at the cost of going to university and the myths surrounding student debt.
Student Life	Three ex-Blackfen students came back to share their experiences of University.
Apprenticeships	Students explored the various apprenticeships available and how they work. An ex-student on a higher apprenticeship programme spoke to the students.
Unifrog	Introduction to using this system to search for Universities, apprenticeships and on-line courses.
Preparing for a job	Looking at interview techniques, types of questions and CV preparation.
Mindfulness	A session to show the students the importance of mental health and relaxation.

As a follow up there are a number of websites that you and your son/daughter can look at:

www.ucas.co.uk (all courses, application information for university in UK)

www.gov.uk/applyapprenticeship (apprenticeship information and positions available)

www.futurelearn.com (free online courses run by universities)

www.unifrog.org (research universities, on-line courses, apprenticeships and CV builder)

www.unitasterdays.com (book degree taster courses)

www.notgoingtouni.co.uk (information on apprenticeships, gap years, jobs)

www.moneysavingexpert.com/students (excellent information on student loans, debt etc)

In addition students can request a careers interview with our/independent external provider through Mrs Eiffert in the office.

Additional events to help support students:

Thursday 25th January: Year 12 Student Review evening (parents/carers meet subject teachers)

Tuesday 30th January: Challenge Day (2) Careers workshops:
A large selection of outside speakers and providers will run sessions, students select which sessions to attend.



- Wednesday 28th February: University Information evening:
A chance for parents/carers to come and find out about applying to university.
- Tuesday 6th March: Careers Evening:
A number of providers and advisors available for students and parents.
- Monday 12th March: Challenge Day (3) 'Preparing for Success':
Individual students meetings
- Monday 26th – 30th March: Year 12 Work Experience week
- Thursday 28th June: Trip to Sussex University

Can I remind you that Challenge Days are a compulsory part of your son/daughter's education and therefore students must attend.

We are proud of how much support and guidance we give our students at Blackfen Sixth Form in helping them to make informed decisions about their future career/education. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me at school.

Yours sincerely



Miss K Brewer
Assistant Headteacher, Head of Sixth Form