

## THE BUCKINGHAM SCHOOL A SPECIALIST SPORTS COLLEGE

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Headteacher: Mr A McGinnes

15 January 2021

Dear Parent / Carer

## Year 12 and Year 13 Virtual Parents Evening - Online Appointment Booking

I would like to invite you and your child to attend our Year 12 and Year 13 Parents Evening on Thursday 28th January 2021. The purpose of this evening is for you to discuss your child's progress with their subject teachers. It is expected that both the child and parent/carer are present during the virtual conference.

In order to comply with the Government guidelines around Covid-19, we have made alternative arrangements this academic year to replace our face to face Parent Evenings.

We have linked up with SchoolCloud - https://buckinghamschool.schoolcloud.co.uk/ to use their Parents Evening system which allows parents/carers to video conference with their children's teachers from a smartphone, computer or tablet. No additional software is required; just internet access.

You will shortly receive an email, looking something like the one below, from SchoolCloud, inviting you to make an appointment with your child's subject teachers.

## Reminder to Book Appointments

Please remember to book appointments for Jonathan online.

Please remember to book your appointment for Parents Evening today by 5pm.

Click here to login and book appointments

This email was sent by Parents Evening System.

Powered by Annual Parents Evening System Copyright © School Cloud Systems 2020

Click on the link in the email message. You will be asked to enter your child's date of birth to log in.

Should you not receive an email, you can log in by clicking on this link: https://buckinghamschool.schoolcloud.co.uk/ and then enter your full name and child's details.

The Buckingham School is concerned that every student should have the opportunity to attend school activities/obtain equipment, regardless of their financial circumstances. As such, it may be possible to subsidise those students who would otherwise be unable to attend trips/purchase items. Please feel free to write in confidence to Mrs K Bones at kbones@buckinghamschool.org, if you wish to seek assistance, or obtain more information about Pupil Premium funding.















A Parent Guide has been included with this letter to support you in making your appointments.

In order to attend your appointments, an email will be sent a few minutes before your first scheduled appointment. Simply click on the link contained within to login and begin the call. When the call begins, please ensure your camera and microphone are both on.

This page has some further advice on the process:

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

Appointments will be available for booking from 6pm on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2021. You will be sent a confirmation of booking email as well as a reminder email the day before.

Appointments for Business, Criminology and Sport:

The subject teachers will be hosting appointments earlier in the day, during Lesson 4 (12.30-1.30pm) and Lesson 5 (2.00-3.00pm) to increase Parents Evening capacity and to enable them to meet with more parents, as these departments are particularly large.

The appointments will focus on progress made, engagement to learning and what your child needs to focus on next to develop their knowledge and skills in the subject.

Each appointment on the platform will be 5 minutes long. There is a timer on the parent and teacher screens to inform both parties of the time remaining for the appointment. Once the time expires the screen will go blank and your meeting will come to an end. If you have further appointments, you will then be placed in a virtual waiting room with a countdown until your next appointment and your screen will become live at the appointment time.

As appointments are only 5 minutes long, we will follow a clear protocol in all conversations. If any issues need to be discussed that will require longer, please make arrangements with the subject teacher to continue your discussion after the evening via a telephone call.

A Sixth Form update will be shared with parents and students ahead of the Parents Evening, which will keep everyone informed of current changes in Key Stage 5.

To welcome you to this exciting event, our Headteacher, Mr Andrew McGinnes has pre-recorded a welcome, which will be available to view on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2021. To access this, please click on this web link: https://www.buckinghamschool.org/news/?pid=3&nid=1&storyid=2426.

We hope you find this new system helpful and an appropriate measure for the current situation. Should you have any difficulties making your appointments, please contact Mrs Brearley at cbrearley@buckinghamschool.org, or call 01280 818680.

Yours faithfully

Mrs C Gibson-Smith Head of Year 12 cgibsonsmith@buckinghamschool.org

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