

Tanfield Lea Road
Stanley
Co. Durham
DH9 8AY

TANFIELD SCHOOL

Specialist College of Science and Engineering



Tel. 01207 232881
Fax. 01207 282922

Headteacher
Mr S Clough BSC Hons. NPQH

Mon 12th March 2018

Dear parent/guardian,

Important Careers Information Advice and Guidance

Careers education advice and guidance is growing ever more important for our young people, especially due to the new government policies regarding raising the participation age of all students in education to 18. **Yes!** your child will need to stay in education until their 18th birthday.

What does this mean for my child?: Your child can apply for either:

- **A full time academic course (e.g. A levels);**
- **A vocational course (such as motor vehicle / ICT / barbering etc.) or;**
- **An apprenticeship**
- **Combine part-time studying and training. This means you can get a job, start a business, or volunteer for 20 hours or more a week, at the same time as getting a qualification**

Is there anything else I should know?:

- If students do not pass (grade 4 (the old grade C)) in GCSE English or Maths, you'll need to continue studying those subjects until you pass or turn 18.
- If students achieve a near pass (grade 3 (the old D)) and are planning on studying full-time after year 11 you'll need to *resit* the GCSE. GCSE retakes for Maths, English Language and English Literature are available in November
- Students on apprenticeships have separate but similar regulations and will need to attain Maths and English qualifications during their apprenticeship.

What if my child does not go into further education or training?

- You would be breaking the law. The Government is not introducing fines yet, but they plan to start.

What do we do at Tanfield School to help support our students?

Tanfield School follow a rigorous approach to ensure that all students partake in careers events not only to engage their interest, but to raise aspirations for the future. I would like to take this opportunity to outline some past and future events we have lined up for our year 10 students:

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Past: FE centre presentations (In school)

At the beginning of year 10, all local FE centres gave a presentation to all students to give detailed overviews of their establishment and to discuss which types of courses they offer (academic, vocational, apprenticeship)

Future: Careers fair (In school)

Next Wednesday (21st March) we will be hosting our annual careers event where many local FE centres and training establishments will be in attendance. Each student spent at least 1 hour in the main hall talking to each of the centres and it's a fantastic opportunity for students to begin thinking about their FE choices.

Further education (FE) providers and apprenticeship agencies, in attendance:

Newcastle College	Newcastle 6 th form	Northumbria University Law Dept.
Gateshead College	St Bedes 6 th Form Centre	Durham 6 th Form Centre
Derwentside College	East Durham / Houghall College	Northumbria University raising aspirations team
New College Durham	Apprenticeship services	Navy
National Citizen Service	Ambulance Service	University – Raising aspirations team

Future: Taster Days / Master Classes (Summer Term 2018)

To date, year 10 students have had direct contact with our local FE providers within school time to discuss their courses and facilities and will next have the opportunity to partake in a number of taster days and master classes to FE and Higher education (HE) establishments in the summer term. We hope that this will help the students to make informed choices regarding their FE choices.

Taster days are one full or half day and master classes are two full days based at the college site.

Your child will have the opportunity to visit any of the establishments (behaviour dependant) and will receive information nearer each visit depending on which they have selected.

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Some images from the previous careers events:



Please feel free to contact us if you have any queries.

Kind regards

Mrs K Wall

Computer Science Teacher and Careers Co-ordinator