

26 February 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 9 Parents'/Carers' Evenings 5/7 March – Video Appointments

I would like to invite you to 'virtually' attend our Parent/Carers' Evenings on Tuesday 5 and Thursday 7 March 2024. This will be an opportunity for you to meet with your child's subject teachers to discuss their progress or any concerns you or the teachers may have. Different teachers are available on each of the two evenings, depending on their teaching days and other commitments, which means you are likely to need to use both days to see all teachers. If a teacher is marked as unavailable for one day, then please check the alternative date for a vacant slot.

The school uses a very straightforward online appointment booking system, which enables these appointments to take place via video link. You choose your own 5-minute slots with teachers (or ask the system to automatically generate them) and receive an email confirming them. The system allows you to book all of your appointments consecutively, but our advice is that you do not do this because you could find it quite exhausting! There is much to be said for building in a 5-minute gap between all or some appointments so that you have time to process the information, especially if two parents or a parent and student are doing this together. However, in order to fit sufficient appointments into the time available, teachers will not have these gaps and normally need to go directly from one appointment to another. This means that teachers will need to be very focused in their feedback and to draw the conversation to a close within the last minute of the appointment in order to have a short 30 second gap between conversations. If this does not happen the system will end the appointment abruptly at the scheduled time and this time cannot be extended. If further discussion, in exceptional cases, is necessary the teacher will arrange to follow up by email or telephone.

When you go into the online booking system to your child's class list you may see the option to make an appointment with Mrs Whittaker, SENCo, Mrs Parsons, Deputy SENCo and Ms Hobson, Deputy Senco. You are not obliged to make an appointment but if you would like the opportunity to speak to someone from Learning Support, please only book one slot.

Teachers of Music, Art, Computer Science, French and Spanish often teach multiple classes and will be unable to see every parent/carers, so we would recommend that you make an appointment only if you have a specific concern or want to discuss taking this subject forward at GCSE.

Appointments can be made from Thursday 29 February at 08.00 and close at midnight on Monday 4 March. We recommend one set of appointments is made per student. Please visit <https://smrt.schoolcloud.co.uk> to book your appointments (a short guide on how to add appointments and access the video connection is included with this letter). The system works effectively on computers and smartphones using up to date web browsers

such as Chrome, Edge, Safari or Firefox. To log in to the system you will need the following information for your child:

- Preferred Forename
- Preferred Surname
- Date of Birth

Should you have any queries or are unable to make online appointments from 29 February, please contact Mrs Williams, Pastoral Administrator on 0117 377 2100 ext 216 or at williamsk@smrt.bristol.sch.uk. If one of your chosen teachers has run out of appointments and you would like feedback please contact Mrs Williams who will pass on your request. Where teachers do not work either of the days allocated to this event this has been indicated on the system and those teachers will make contact with you directly by email with some feedback. If teachers are unable to carry out their appointments because they are unwell this will either be indicated on the system at the point of booking or you will be made aware of this with an email update.

We hope you will find the evening informative and enjoyable.

Yours faithfully



Mrs K Duzniak
Assistant Headteacher (Community)