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CARDINAL HEENAN
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
Putting Our Faith in Education

16 October 2015

Dear Parents

Visitors



It has been a pleasure to welcome so many visitors to school over the last fortnight. Open Evening, Open Day and our *Come and See* tours were very popular. Over 700 families came to our Open Day last Saturday. Many thanks to the large numbers of pupils who helped to make prospective pupils and their parents welcome.

League Tables 2015

The publication of provisional league tables for schools this week indicate that Cardinal Heenan is second in a table of 42 Leeds secondary schools in terms of the percentage of pupils gaining the English Baccalaureate (EBacc). This measure recognises students' achievements across a core of selected academic subjects. Those who attain grades A* - C in English, Mathematics, two Science subjects, a language and a humanity (either Geography or History) are deemed to have achieved the EBacc. This year 40% of our students achieved the English Baccalaureate, a percentage which is significantly higher than the 2015 provisional national average of 24%. The high performance of our pupils maintains a three year trend.

The school's key performance indicators for 2015 are given below:-

- 84% of pupils made expected progress in Mathematics, placing Cardinal Heenan joint third in the table of 38 Leeds high schools
- 77% of pupils made expected progress in English
- 80% of all pupils gained A* - C in Mathematics
- 68% of all pupils gained A* - C in English



- 63% of pupils achieved five or more A*- C grades at GCSE including English & Mathematics
- 40% of pupils made more than expected progress in Mathematics
- 39% of pupils made more than expected progress in English
- 26% of all grades awarded were A* or A
- 22% of all pupils achieved five or more GCSE passes at grades A* or A

Further details of the school's 2015 examination performance are given in the attached booklet and on the school website.

Learning at Cardinal Heenan: A Parents' Guide

A learning guide for parents will be sent home on Wednesday of next week. The guide outlines the target setting and reporting process in school. It also sets out the school's policy on homework and key assessment dates for each year group. Guidance on revision is detailed, including reference to additional resources and revision guides. Please take the time to discuss the relevant assessment schedule with your child. Information is given about parents' evening and annual reports. An overview of how pupils should respond to teachers' feedback using the *Green Pen of Progress* is also provided. It is our aim to make pupils more responsible for their own learning and thereby to raise pupil progress. The booklet will be sent to parents electronically and may be downloaded from the school website; paper copies are available from Reception in school.

Information Evening for Year 9 Parents: 7.00pm on Wednesday 21 October

Details of the new GCSE courses which Year 9 pupils are now studying will be made available at our Information Evening on Wednesday 21 October at 7.00pm. We look forward to seeing large numbers of Year 9 pupils and their parents.

Presentation Evening for the Class of 2015 on Tuesday 3 November

Former Year 11 students and their parents, members of staff and governors will be attending our annual Presentation Evening on Tuesday 3 November at 7.30pm in the School Hall. This year's guest speaker is Veronica King of the Alzheimer's Society. Since her time as a pupil here at Cardinal Heenan, Veronica has been Vice President of the National Union of Students and a parliamentary candidate.



Year 11 Parents' Evening on Thursday 12 November from 4.00pm to 7.00pm

May I remind parents of Year 11 students that a parents' consultation evening takes place on Thursday 12 November from 4.00pm to 7.00pm. This is an important opportunity to review progress prior to the mock examinations and to discuss revision plans with your child's teachers.

Parent Forum Meeting 7.00pm on Wednesday 18 November in the School Hall

A Parent Forum takes place each term and provides opportunity for parents to raise questions, provide feedback and meet members of school leadership team. The next forum will be held at 7.00pm on Wednesday 18 November. All parents are invited to attend. Details of the other Parent Forum meetings scheduled for this school year are given in the School Calendar.

Any finally...

The school closes for the Autumn half term at 3.15pm next Friday, 23 October, and re-opens to pupils at 8.55am on Monday 2 November.

Yours sincerely

E A Cox, Headteacher