

**Year 11 offer from 28<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

23 April 2021

Dear Year 11 parents and carers,

It has been an unprecedented two academic years for our current Year 11 students. In the lead up to their final GCSE gradings many students may be concerned about what their future holds and how to address any gaps they may have before embarking on their planned Post-16 journey. As mentioned in recent correspondence, George Spencer Academy have designed appropriate study, support and signposts for our Year 11's to bridge their transition to the next stage of their educational pathway, whether that be at our Sixth Form or with a different educational provider.

The final day of daily attendance for Year 11 will be Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2021 and we are currently exploring options with regards to end of year traditions in line with government restrictions. Details will be issued at a later date regarding these.

In keeping with our core values, the Learning Managers, Director of Learning and Pastoral Support Assistant (PSA) will continue to be available. This is complemented by an enhanced pastoral offer to those continuing their education at George Spencer Academy. The well-being of all our students continues to be a priority and well-being checks will be carried out alongside regular communication via the Year 11 Google Classroom and school email addresses.

Our continued offer is outlined on the following page and includes:

- A blended programme to include both virtual and face-to-face teaching
- Virtual resources will be provided and consist of a mixture of in-house material and signposted resources
- Face-to-Face sessions will be a blend of a 'Post-16 skills passport' and subject transition materials. This includes identifying where they can get extra online help in subjects that they may still be worried about that they need for their next steps
- Careers advice will be prioritised for those who are yet to finalise their Post-16 plans
- Information regarding College open days and transition weeks at other educational providers will be shared where we have been provided the details.

If you wish to talk to a member of staff regarding transition to Post-16 education please contact the most appropriate person for your request from those listed below.

- Information regarding George Spencer Academy Sixth Form – Mrs K Fawcett (Director of Sixth Form) [kfawcett@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](mailto:kfawcett@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk)
- To request a careers appointment – Mr P Burrows (Director of Futures) [pburrows@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](mailto:pburrows@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk)
- For any well-being concerns – Please contact your child's Learning Manager

Over the coming months, we continue to encourage students to have a healthy balance between preparing for the next stage in education and looking after their well-being. Some useful links are listed under 'well-being' on the student hub, which they are all familiar with. All Year 11 students have received the information contained within this letter at school today.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs H Corbett  
Principal

Miss J Gordon  
Vice Principal  
[jgordon@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](mailto:jgordon@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk)

## Passport to Post-16 2021

Below outlines appropriate study, support and signposts for our Year 11's to bridge their transition to the next stage of their educational pathway. The aim of the offers is to both help prepare all students for their next stage of education, maintain a thirst for knowledge and continue a love of learning.

### For students who are staying or thinking of staying at George Spencer Academy Sixth Form

#### Passport to Post-16

Studying in the Sixth Form requires the development of some specific study skills. It is important that students understand what they are and start to practise them before they start their courses in September. The skills that students develop will enable them to achieve success at Post-16. They will also prove useful Post-18, whether they are intending to go to University, start an Apprenticeship or Employment. The 'Passport to Post-16' is a twelve-week programme which has resources for each of the skills required. A link to these resources will be sent to all students to access and additional support offered during the transition weeks.

#### Transition work per subject

Each subject has created preparation tasks for the Post-16 courses. Students can view these transition tasks on the student hub and they will be introduced during the transition weeks outlined below.

#### Pastoral support

Sessions to build our Ethos of Excellence in the Sixth Form and well-being sessions will be provided during both transition weeks. This will be an opportunity to see what else the Sixth Form has to offer and keep in touch with Learning Managers.

#### Dates for diaries

##### Transition week 1 – 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> June 2021

A timetable for this week will be issued in due course. During this week there will be sessions involving building the Sixth Form ethos, an introduction to the passport to Post-16 and subject transition sessions.

##### Transition review meetings – 21<sup>st</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> June 2021

During this week there will be scheduled sessions with students to ensure we are offering wraparound care. Discussions will take place regarding progress with transition work and any concerns they may have about attending Sixth Form to aid both academic and pastoral transition.

#### An additional qualification

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) is a single project that can be chosen to study alongside your Sixth Form options. It is unique as a qualification because it allows students to choose their own topic and outcome. At the conclusion of the project, there are three pieces of evidence to submit for marking: the completed project, a logbook detailing all planning and evaluation and a presentation. This qualification is valuable for all careers. One way of demonstrating high level planning is using the time available now to make a head start.

### For students who have opted to study Post-16 courses elsewhere

#### Passport to Post-16

Any Post-16 course requires the development of some specific study skills. It is important that students understand what they are and start to practise them before they start their courses in September. The skills that students develop will enable them to achieve success at Post-16. They will also prove useful Post-18, whether they are intending to go to University, start an Apprenticeship or Employment. The 'Passport to Post-16' is a twelve-week programme which has resources for each of the skills required. A link to these resources will be sent to all students to access.

#### Signposting resources for other institutions

As other opportunities become available, George Spencer Academy will use the Year 11 Google Classroom and email to provide details of open days and apprenticeships. Please encourage your child to check these sources regularly.

#### Pastoral support

Face-to-Face sessions will be provided to students not planning on attending George Spencer Sixth Form during form time. These will take place during the second half of the Summer term. If there are any weeks that students will not be available they need to email their Learning Manager. This will be an opportunity for students to touch base and ensure they have firm plans for Post-16.

If any students are still unsure of what options are available please contact Mr P Burrows [pburrows@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](mailto:pburrows@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk)

#### An additional qualification

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) is a single project that can be chosen to study alongside your Sixth Form options. It is unique as a qualification because it allows students to choose their own topic and outcome. At the conclusion of the project, there are three pieces of evidence to submit for marking: the completed project, a logbook detailing all planning and evaluation and a presentation. This qualification is valuable for all careers. One way of demonstrating high level planning is using the time available now to make a head start.