

Our Ref: AK

Friday 12th May 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

University of Birmingham's Forward Thinking Programme

Your child has been selected for the **University of Birmingham's Forward Thinking Programme**. The launch event will be held at the University of Birmingham on **Tuesday 20th June 2023**.

Forward Thinking is a progressive programme of activities for students from Year 8 through to Year 11. Your son/daughter has been selected to take part in the programme which is targeted at Gifted and Talented young people who are likely to have little or no knowledge of higher education, but who have the academic potential to consider future progression to university. Throughout the programme students will participate in a range of on-campus activities, receive one to one mentoring support from undergraduates in school, and access information and advice materials to support the programme. We hope that taking part in these activities will help your son/daughter become clearer about their future education and career path, which should in turn motivate them to achieve in school so they are able to reach their full potential.

Visit to Birmingham University on Tuesday 20th June: Launch Event

Pupils will travel to University Campus with members of staff by minibus and leave school at 1.15pm. The event for students begins at 2:00pm, with parents welcome to attend from 5.30pm. Pupils will engage in a range of activities to get them thinking about possible careers and team building activities. A buffet meal will be provided on your arrival. Parking and travel information is enclosed with this letter. The event will finish at 7.15pm.

We would be grateful if you could complete and return the attached reply slip to confirm whether you will be attending this event. ***If you attend, it will be your responsibility to make arrangements for you and your child to get back home.*** If you are unable to attend, your child will be brought back to school by approximately 7.45pm. (In this case, please indicate how your child will be getting home in the evening – will they be collected from school or make their own way home?)

Please return the reply slip to **Mrs Kanda in N8, by Thursday 18th May 2022** so that we can let the University know. We very much hope that you will be able to join us at the launch event and look forward to seeing you there.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Kanda
Academic Coach
Email: arvinder.kanda@oldburyacademy.org.uk

Pupil Name: _____ School Name: _____

Name of parent/guardian: _____

Contact numbers of parent/guardian: _____

Will a parent/guardian be attending the event? Yes No (please circle)

Please indicate whether 1 or 2 parents/guardians will be attending the event: _____

If parents do not join us there. How will your child be making their way home in the evening?

Collected from school Walk home

Please let us know whether you have any dietary or other special requirements i.e. mobility issues:

Do they have any emergency medical e.g. inhaler or Epipen? They must bring this with them on the day. If yes, please give details

Photographs may be taken at the event. Please tick here if you give consent for photographs of your child to be taken and shared on school social media – we love to share these opportunities!

Parent/Carer Signature _____ Date _____

Travel & Parking Information

The Forward Thinking Launch Event will take place at the University of Birmingham Edgbaston campus. The University address is:

University of Birmingham

Edgbaston

Birmingham

B15 2TU (This postcode should bring you on to campus through East Gate)

The event will take place in **the Great Hall in the Aston Webb Building** (the Great Hall is building R6 on the campus map) <https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/documents/university/edgbaston-campus-map.pdf>

Travelling by car

Please enter the University via East Gate, Edgbaston Park Road. Security will direct you to park in Chancellor's Court or the surrounding area where you will be able to leave your car for the duration of the event.

Travelling by bus

It is also easy to reach the University by bus. Please use the website <http://www.travelinemidlands.co.uk> to plan your route.

Travelling by train

If you are coming by train, the Longbridge or Redditch train from New Street stops at the University station. It takes approximately 10 minutes to walk from the train station to the Great Hall.

If you need any help on the day of the event, please telephone: 07970 956969