

Monday, 7 December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers of Year 9 pupils,

I am very excited to write and let you know that we have invited an organisation called 'Humanutopia' into school to work exclusively with Year 9 pupils on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December. We will be following up this work on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December in-house.

Year 9 pupils have spent the majority of this term in quite a 'static' state. As you know the vast majority of their lessons take place in their form rooms and their movement during unstructured times (break and lunch) has also been limited. We have made the decision to introduce a 'break' for Year 9 and use these two days to work with our pupils on a completely different part of our essential school curriculum.

The first phase of the project is called 'Who Am I?' and is a day-long experience which deals with important teenage issues around personal awareness, peer pressure and conformity. It will also encourage pupils to reflect on their life chances; encouraging them to have high hopes and aspirations for their future. The day has been designed to help young people discover a more authentic side to who they are.

The experience is designed to empower young people to develop critical life skills, improve motivation and take ownership of their education. We are certain that this will be a positive and memorable experience for pupils and feel it is a perfect complement to their academic studies.

For further information on humanutopia – please go to their website at [www.humanutopia.com](http://www.humanutopia.com).

Day 2 of the programme will be led by Leytonstone teachers and will work around the theme 'Who Are We?' The follow-up day will be dedicated to constructing a shared vision with the whole of the Year 9 cohort, working through some social/emotional scenarios which we are likely to see over the next few months and a number of team-building competitions.

It is going to be a brilliant programme and will be just what our Year 9 pupils need after such a challenging term.

Pupils must wear full school uniform for Day 1 (Tues 8<sup>th</sup>) but will need to be in their PE kits for Day 2 (Wed 9<sup>th</sup>).

Yours faithfully,

Jessica McQuaid