

BMA/jc

25 September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

RE: Open Events at The Ruth Gorse Academy

I am very conscious that we are approaching a crucial time in finalising your preferences for secondary education. I have no doubt that you have taken a considerable amount of time as a family to discuss the options available for your child in September 2021 and will be working towards the deadline for applications on 31 October 2020. This is obviously an important and potentially stressful time for all Parents/Carers and Year 6 students, and consequently, I wanted to take this opportunity to set out for you how at The Ruth Gorse Academy we intend to provide you with as much information as possible about what we do in order to support the choices that you make.

We are operating in challenging circumstances and, as a result, we have been careful in ensuring that the programmes of engagement are informative and reassuring, yet do consider the safety and wellbeing of our school and local community. We have, therefore, taken the decision to provide you with, what we hope you will feel, are a comprehensive array of online resources along with an opportunity to speak to a school representative should you have any further questions about your child's specific needs before making an informed choice of secondary school.

You will no doubt be aware that The Ruth Gorse Academy is in the heart of the city centre with first class facilities and is easily accessible via public transport. The academy was designated as Outstanding by Ofsted in 2017 and currently holds World Class Schools status. As a member of The GORSE Academies Trust we have established a quality of teaching and leadership which is truly in keeping with the performance and characteristics of outstanding schools. Furthermore, the emerging brilliance of our work within the classroom is matched by an ambition in our extra-curricular programmes which is without equal across the city region. The Ruth Gorse Academy was the birth place of our trust's rowing, karate and volleyball programmes which see students compete at regional and national levels. We have an incredible partnership with Opera North should your child be inspired by performing arts and important links with local businesses and organisations such as The Royal Armouries and Burberry Inspire. Whatever your child's passion or ambitions are, we will find and support them in pushing onto new levels of achievement and broadening their horizons.

Our school motto is 'Dare to achieve beyond what you are today' and this ambition is matched by the level of ambition that we share for every child from every background regardless of their ability.

We have high expectations, high aspirations and a personalised approach to ensure that dreams become a reality for our young people.

Online Open Event Information

To support families in making an informed decision, we will be creating a specific area on our academy website to provide you with important information about what makes The Ruth Gorse Academy the school of choice in the local area. This will include a video from the Principal and the people who know our school the best: the students.

This section of our website will go live on **Friday 2 October 2020 at 9am**.

Further communication with the academy

We recognise that in some instances, you may have further questions about your child's specific needs and, therefore, there is a section of our website that will allow you to book a telephone consultation on Saturday 17 October with a member of our team. This booking system will go live on **Friday 2 October at 9am and close on Friday 9 October at 9am**. You will need to complete the Google Form using this link and once we have received your request for a telephone consultation, we will confirm time of your phone call via text message.

Should you wish to clarify any of this information further, please do not hesitate to contact us on 01132 531600 or info@ruthgorse.leeds.sch.uk.

We hope that this is the beginning of a strong working relationship between the academy, our Parents/Carers and our exceptional students.

Yours faithfully



Mr B Mallinson
Principal