



20 May 2021

Dear Remove Form Parents and Guardians,

As your son progresses further through his Bedford School experience coming to the end of his Remove year, it is time to focus our thoughts more firmly on his pathway beyond GCSE, approaching those key decisions during the Fifth Form. The Careers provision at Bedford School already in place includes opportunities within the Citizenship programme, numerous Careers events and talks, and the ability to have one-to-one appointments with the Careers Team both at Parents' Evenings and in school. Your son now has the opportunity this term to complete the Morrisby profile, an aptitude and psychometric questionnaire, which will then form part of early discussions in the Fifth Form regarding Sixth Form choices, with an independent highly-qualified Careers Analyst one-to-one, and then a member of the Core Management Team.

The key aims and benefits of the Morrisby Profile are outlined below:

- Morrisby use assessments to gain objective information by identifying a candidate's strengths (sometimes unidentified) & their potential. They then match strengths, along with interests, personality & other preferences with suitable careers, subjects, and future options.
- Morrisby differs from some other systems as it believes that these kinds of decisions are not made overnight, or as a one-off 'event', but that an individual's ideas, interests and aspirations are likely to change over time.
- Morrisby addresses this transient nature of decision-making as the site is dynamic, interactive and can respond to reflect new thinking by creating a revised profile. The site also adapts to the candidate's age, always focusing on their next decisions – in this case for the Sixth Form. Essentially there is a login for life: users can return to update their profile, aspirations, and plans.
- The site allows parents, the careers adviser and appointed teachers to actively interact with the relevant student profile through a shared access (permissions are sought) to keep each boy engaged & involved.
- The wider site to which the profiles are linked has a vast array of career and course information and includes labour market information and video clips to enhance user interest.

Aptitude tests, psychometric profiling, and the ability to have access to high quality, personalised and reliable information and advice for your son are becoming increasingly important in an educational and employment arena where such testing and reporting are commonplace.

Feedback collated independently from Fifth Formers includes (in their own words):

- Brilliant session. Very useful talking about A level/IB decisions. It helped me logically think/plan my future.

- I liked how the Adviser helped me link my personality and the subjects I am taking to careers and courses I may wish to take in the future.
- I came and did not know what to expect. I have to say that having done it, it was really helpful.
- I liked how we could talk about my ideas and passion and then be able to compare them with my results online.
- Changing my views on A level and now thinking about IB.
- I liked how we spoke about many options and how there is generally a "work around" if things don't turn out how I would have wished. It helped me recognise the things I enjoy and how to focus on the future.
- Very helpful and friendly session. Good to have someone from outside the school.
- I engaged the inside knowledge of the adviser about Oxbridge.
- It really helped me to explore opportunities/jobs that I may not have considered. It definitely encouraged me to think more about my future.

The cost of the online test, to be taken on Wednesday 16th June during Citizenship Morning, and the subsequent interview in September/October is £80 per boy, which covers the Remove Form work, the online access, a full personalised report, and the personalised 1:1 Fifth Form interviews with a personalised completion report for every boy. This will be Blue Billed for the summer term as a default. If you do not wish your son to complete the Morrisby Profile, please contact efoxjohnson@bedfordschool.org.uk by Monday 7th June.

If you would like to discuss this or require any further information, please feel free to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs M Lincoln
Head of Careers and UCAS