



Burscough Priory Academy
www.burscoughprioryacademy.org
Headteacher Mrs L MacLaren

Ref: 3451 JMG/MDI

07 November 2023

Dear Parent,

Opportunity for Year 9 Pupils to participate in “Explore”

Explore is an engaging programme from the University of Oxford. As the “Home of Big Ideas”, it aims to challenge high school students with debates and ideas that go beyond what is covered in the classroom. Big questions tackle complex ideas across a wide range of subjects and reflect the kind of critical thinking that students undertake at A level and at university. Our goal is to raise aspirations, promote broader thinking and encourage intellectual curiosity, so everything in the programme is underpinned by the latest discoveries and research from the University of Oxford. You can find out more here:

<https://explore.org/about>

Beginning this term students from Year 9 will have this chance to engage via after-school sessions here at Burscough Priory Academy. They have had an assembly inviting them to a series of Explore sessions that will run fortnightly on Mondays from 3.15pm until 4.30pm, so students will be finishing the school day later than usual. As well as tackling a “Big Question”, students will also be given guidance and ideas on how to write a research essay on any topic that interests them. To complete the programme and demonstrate their commitment, students will have to attend a minimum of three sessions and write a research essay.

Explore is an enjoyable, challenging initiative that pushes students to develop skills that will help them at GCSE, A level and beyond. Please do encourage your child to participate. Students will have the chance to ‘sign up’ via a Google Form sent to them this week. Only students who respond to the form will be able to participate.

Many thanks for your support.

Yours faithfully,

J McGrath *M Dicker*

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