



14th October 2026

Our ref: CLL/hsa

Dear Parent/Carer,

For a number of years, Year 11 students at St Bernard's have taken the initiative to organise an annual student-led conference. The students have arranged for a diverse group of leading female professionals to speak to them about their journeys, to inspire them, and engage with their peers.

Please note that your daughter will be off timetable for the entire day on **Friday 16th October 2026**, and will leave the school site at the earlier time of **3:00pm**.

In addition to talks and panel discussions, students have also designed a series of **practical workshops** intended to empower, develop, and inspire. The workshops are aimed to give them opportunities to discuss their future careers and aspirations. One of the workshops includes **Henna art**. If your daughter has an allergy to henna, she will still be able to participate by sketching designs or applying them to others, if she wishes. There are also a range of other activities she will be able to complete.

To ensure the safety of all students, we will be conducting a random sampling **patch test**. A small amount of henna may be applied to your daughter's arm. Please monitor the area for any signs of a reaction. While we hope there will be none, it is important to take the necessary precautions.

If your daughter experiences any reaction to the patch test, or if she already has prior allergies, please advise her not to apply henna to herself during the workshops, and kindly inform us so we can make appropriate arrangements.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind Regards,

Miss Campbell

Head of Year 7 & 11

Head of Science