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Dear Parent or Carer

York University Research Project

As you will be aware, your child will soon begin discussing options for future study and there will be several opportunities for you to discuss these with teachers and school leaders in due course. The Modern Languages Department has been invited to work with colleagues from the University of York on a research project led by Dr. Ursula Lanvers.

The research will entail all students in Y8 exploring themes in three lessons focussing on the benefits of studying a language. These lessons will be delivered by their usual teachers in normal lessons. Sixth Form students who have studied a language to at least GCSE will act as mentors during this project.

Year 8 students will be asked to complete a short questionnaire before the start of the project, gauging their interest in languages and their current experiences and then another one at the end of the project, so that the impact of the programme can be measured.

These lessons will be delivered in December alongside our normal curriculum content and as our topic at the time is based on future plans and careers, it will fit in well with our usual lessons. The lessons are designed to be informative and enjoyable, not to put any pressure on your child to choose to study a language at GCSE. That decision is a personal one, that you and your child will make when you have all of the relevant information.

Dr Lanvers has met with Mr Byers and her research will be conducted in accordance with a strict code of ethics which will ensure the anonymity of all children who take part.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

Yours sincerely,

Dawn Hale

Dawn Hale
Curriculum Leader Modern Languages