



ABINGDON

From: Second Master, David Dawswell

7 January 2022

Dear Parent

**Parents' Evening for Fifth Years on  
Tuesday 25 January**  
(and Wednesday 26 January overflow night for teachers  
with 2 sets in the yeargroup),  
**6.30 – 8.30pm**  
**Parents' Evening Webinar is on Monday 24 January, 7pm**

Parents of students in the fifth year are warmly invited to discuss with staff their child's progress, via our online application "Parents' Evening System".

The appointment system will be open for bookings at **7pm on Wednesday 19 January** and a reminder email will be sent from school. You are welcome to book appointments with your child's **subject teachers** on a first come, first served basis. Please see the following guide for booking appointments: [Parents' Evening System](#) - *please note that this system uses a student's 'Preferred' name, e.g. 'Bertie' rather than 'Albert'*. As usual, if issues arise which you would like to discuss with your child's tutor, please contact them by email to arrange a time to talk.

Like many schools, appointments will be all on **one** main night only. However, **when a teacher has 2 or more sets in that year group**, bookings will be allowed to overflow into a second night in order to maximise the opportunity for parents to speak to the teacher.

The nominal time of the first evening is 6.30pm to 8.30pm, but some staff may offer earlier and/or later appointments. For the second night there will usually be fewer appointments available, as the majority will have been done the previous night. Here is the list of teachers who are needing to offer a **second night (Wednesday 26 January)**:

Biology:	Clare Hamilton, Sarah Gibbard, Ben Whitworth
Chemistry:	Tim Goodman, Rebecca Howe, Kate Ley
English:	Katherine Burrows, Matthew Coolin, Andrew Jamison
History:	Tim Chase
Modern Languages:	James Ambrose, Nathan Brittain
Physics:	Chris Hack, Kevin Magee, Daniel Mason, Ben Simmons

In general, most staff will only need one night to cover all their pupils.

Staff who are caring for young children on their own may not have full availability and will endeavour to make alternative arrangements where necessary. Thank you for your understanding. Please email them.

We understand that many parents of our international boarders may be unable to make

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appointments at those times due to the time difference. Please can those parents liaise with their child's teachers to find appointment times during the school day that would work better for them.

On the evening(s), all video conversations will take place via the Parents' Evening System application. Please [log into the system](#) on the evening and you will automatically be moved between teachers as per your scheduled **5 minute** appointments. More information on using the system for the evening can be found [here](#). It is possible for families to be in multiple venues, yet all be part of the same conversation with the teacher - please find information on how to add another parent/guardian to the appointments [here](#). If a more detailed interview is necessary, then please arrange one at a more convenient time with the member of staff concerned.

In many cases, students join their parents, as happened for the fourth year parents' evening. The meetings are a good opportunity for dialogue about progress so far, and for discussion about choices for the next academic year. Parents may feel it necessary to have a private word with a member of staff, and so come to the decision that their child will not attend the evening. If, however, they attend, we would discourage you from sending them away, even temporarily. Parents are encouraged to continue the conversation by contacting the teacher by phone or e-mail. We would hope that students can be included in nearly all discussions. The fifth years will have been told to expect that comments may be "robust", as we think it important everyone develops a clear vision of the current situation and possible future prospects.

**To set the scene for the following parents' evenings, there is a webinar on Monday 24 January at 7pm. We would ask parents to attend, or listen to the recording which will be sent round to them. Andrew Crisp will send you an invitation to the webinar.**

If you have any technical difficulties during booking, please contact [is@abingdon.org.uk](mailto:is@abingdon.org.uk).

*Career Guidance, Non-UK University Applications, Alternatives to University (vocational education/training and work-learning programmes, and Gap Year: appointments can be booked with Michael Triff by emailing [michael.triff@abingdon.org.uk](mailto:michael.triff@abingdon.org.uk).*

Yours sincerely

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