



The Sixth Form

September 2014

N.B If you are a new entrant applying to us for Sept 2014, please attend our Open Evening on 4th February 2014, 6-8pm. We will process applications after that date.

"Creating critical, reflective and independent learners for life through a learning community which provides a secure and challenging environment."



Rainham Mark Grammar School

Sixth Form Prospectus

Contents

1. *The Sixth Form Booklet*: a guide to qualifications, entry requirements and ethos.
2. Index of courses available at RMGS and The Howard School (THS).
3. Application form (for those who cannot apply using www.ucasprogress.com only.)
4. List of results.
5. *Course Outlines*: sheets are colour coded for easy use and have “Howard” at the top of the insert if they are taught there rather than at RMGS. RMGS courses are on **yellow paper**; those courses taught at The Howard School are on **green paper**.
6. Please pay particular attention to the entry requirements to RMGS 6th form and for each subject, and note that only **ONE** subject may be studied at a different school.

Key Dates

RMGS Sixth Form Open Evening	Tue 4 th February 2014 at 6.00pm- 8pm
AS Option Sheet Deadline (RMGS Y11 students only)	13 th February 2014
Applications to RMGS for 6 th Form, Sept 2014	31 March 2014
AS Induction Days	25 th & 26 th June 2014

Table of Contents

FOREWORD.....

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

□ Foreword including Who's Who in the Sixth Form.....	1
□ A levels and AS levels	2
□ How many subjects should I take?.....	2
□ Which A Level subjects should I take?	3
□ Which AS Level subject should I take?	3
□ What else will I be doing? How can I find out details about the subjects?	4
□ When will I need to make up my mind? Applications.....	4
□ Can I re-sit subjects taken in Year 11?	4
□ Do I need qualifications to join the Sixth Form at RMGS?	5
□ Will I have any free time?	5
□ Should I take a Saturday job?.....	5
□ Are there any rules?	5
□ Who can I talk to?	6
□ Rainham Mark Grammar School - Equal Opportunity Policy	6

DRESS GUIDELINES

THE RAINHAM SIXTH FORM CONSORTIUM

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY SIXTH FORM CONSORTIUM?

CAREERS AND YOUR CHOICE OF SUBJECT

□ Some Recommended reading :	9
□ Year 12 Careers Work.....	9
□ Higher Education.....	10
□ Employment.....	10
□ A Year Off Before Higher Education	10
□ Year 13 Careers Work.....	11
□ Applications	11

FINALLY.....

DESTINATION OF LEAVERS 2012/2013.....

FOREWORD

We have at present 350 Sixth Formers. The majority of Year 11 students elect to stay on in our sixth form. Each year approximately 30 new students join the sixth form, some of them from overseas.

Few jobs with prospects are available for young people who want to leave school at 16. Young people and their families are ambitious and realise the value of qualifications. Last year well over 80% of our sixth formers went on to Higher or Further Education.

Whether you choose to go on to Higher Education or not, there is plenty of evidence that qualifications are a great asset in the job market. Most of our A Level leavers have found secure employment with good prospects even when their A Level grades have been modest.

Most of our sixth formers enjoy their time in the sixth form for its own sake. They gain in maturity and confidence and make a very good impression on local employers who come in to give them practice interviews. Where students do feel unhappy about some aspect of their course we are very willing to give advice and help them to choose an alternative way forward, contacting outside agencies such as the Careers Service or an employer if appropriate.

Mr Moore, Mr Price and Mr O'Neill and I will give advice as you make your choices, and will scrutinise the choice forms RMGS students will complete on 13th February 2014, returning to you individually if we foresee any problems concerning choices made. Those of you who are applying from other schools can tell us all we need to know about you on the www.ucasprogress.com application form. AS Induction Days will be on 25th & 26th June 2014 where you will receive more detailed information about subjects you have chosen and sit complete your ALIS questionnaire – vital for personalising your curriculum. Advice will again be available in September. I look forward very much to seeing you in the sixth form.

Who's who in the Sixth Form?

Mrs Horstrup is an Assistant Headteacher and Head of Sixth Form

Mr O'Neill is Deputy Head of Sixth Form and i/c Extended Project

Mr Price is Head of Careers & PSHE. Consult him about subject choices and career paths.

Mr Moore is Deputy Head and Director of Studies. Consult him about subject availability and timetabling problems.



SIXTH FORM BOOKLET

This booklet is intended to help you make decisions about your course of study in the Sixth Form of RMGS.

In September 2008 there were important changes made to the sorts of programmes that students were studying. We feel that the programme that we are able to offer you at RMGS is particularly exciting. We offer you a choice of over 40 A/AS level subjects. It is important, though, that each one of you makes the right choices. To make good choices you need information and this is what we aim to provide for you. To help you with these choices we are offering you:

- This booklet
- The opportunity to discuss your choices individually with a senior member of staff
- An open evening
- Further opportunities to discuss particular options with subject specialists

A levels and AS levels

Following the changes to the sixth form curriculum, all A Levels have been divided into two parts each containing two units; the first set of two units make up the AS which will be examined at the end of the first year of an A Level course; the second set of two units make up the A2 which will be examined at the end of the second year. From 2000-2007, A levels comprised six units; these have been reduced to four units overall for 2008 onwards.

AS stands for Advanced Subsidiary. This can either be a qualification in its own right, or the first half of an A Level course.

It will be usual for students to take four subjects (plus the Certificate in Financial Services, awarded by The Institute for Financial Services (IFS) – equivalent to an AS qualification) in their first year and three in their second year (plus a choice of: the IFS Diploma (A2 equivalent); another AS in a subject of the student's choice; an Extended Project in a subject of the student's choice which is equivalent to an AS; or where appropriate, four A levels).

There are also opportunities to study other A/AS levels and vocational courses through our consortium. This consortium is a collaboration between The Howard School and Rainham Mark Grammar School. This is fully described in the section headed 'The Rainham Sixth Form Consortium'. Details about subjects on offer through the Consortium are also given in this section.

How many subjects should I take?

As indicated above, most students will take four subjects in their first year in the sixth form and three in their second year. This means that they will take 3 A levels and 1 AS level. They will also take the AS equivalent of the IFS Certificate in Year 12 and then a choice of the IFS Diploma; another AS in a subject of the student's choice; an Extended Project in a subject of the student's choice which is equivalent to an AS; or where appropriate, four A levels in Year 13. Some students will take the Sports Leader Award instead of an AS Level, but this cannot be continued to A2 level.

A small number of able and hard-working students will take 4 A Levels and may also add another AS or an Extended Project. If you wish to take this number of subjects, you must receive permission from a senior member of staff who will decide if this is a sensible and realistic programme for you. It is not a good idea to leave with mediocre grades because you have over-stretched yourself. You do not have to make this decision immediately though. We can discuss this with you at the end of your first term in the sixth form. There used to be the option to take a ten-unit Open University Course through the YASS (Young Applicants in

Schools) scheme, but huge rises in the cost has made this option financially unviable for the school, although some of the science courses may still be available this year.

■ **Which A Level subjects should I take?**

Above all, you need to choose A Level subjects that you will enjoy and which you will be able to cope with. You may not enjoy all your chosen subjects equally; however, you will be spending a great deal of time on each subject and it is important that you should be interested and well-motivated. You will also be influenced by your longer-term plans. You may be planning to take a degree course or a job, which demands passes in specific subjects. Consult Mr Price, Head of Careers, or the relevant member of staff at your school, if you need advice about this.

It is most important to be realistic. It is not sensible to take sciences and Maths because you want to be a doctor unless you are good at those subjects, and will enjoy studying them for many years. To qualify for courses in Medicine (or Veterinary Science) you will need very high grades such as A*, A or B at A Level. Incidentally, A Level Chemistry is essential for Medicine.

There are many courses and careers open to you which do not make specific subject demands, for example Law, Accountancy and Business Studies. It is fair to say that Economics would be of value to students who wish to go into Banking, Commerce or Accountancy; it is not, however, essential. A Level qualifications, like degrees, show employers that you have reached a certain academic level and may therefore be considered intelligent. Employers expect you to be literate, numerate, able to speak up for yourself at interview, keen, responsible and well-motivated. They will give you the training you need in their particular field. They want you to be versatile and quick to learn. Your personal qualities and skills may be more important to them than your choice of A Levels. It is important, of course, to achieve the highest grades you can. (There are five pass grades at AS Level: A – E; and six at A2: A* - E).

Choosing A Level subjects is not an easy task. There will be special lessons and time for discussion in PSHE. Please use your Careers Room and ask for help if you need it.

■ **Which AS Level subject should I take?**

This could be a difficult choice as the range of subjects we can offer you is very wide. AS levels will be available in every subject that we offer at A Level except for some of the vocational A levels on offer through the consortium. If you choose to take an AS Level in one of these subjects, you will work with the A Level group, studying exactly the same material, but you will take only the first year of the course.

Having such a wide choice is probably quite daunting, but is also exciting. You have the opportunity to continue with a subject you have enjoyed at GCSE but don't wish to take to A Level, or you can start a completely fresh subject. Again, you should certainly choose a subject you think you will enjoy and you can afford to be a bit adventurous.

The Government is keen to encourage breadth in your choice of subjects, and universities have indicated that they would also like to see you taking this opportunity to expand your range of subjects. So, if you are taking 3 science A Levels, you may wish to choose Music or Government and Politics as a contrasting AS subject. If you are taking 3 arts subjects, you may wish to add an AS in Maths or Biology or Design Technology.

On the other hand, you may choose an AS subject which enhances your specialist areas by adding another dimension. So, for example, if you choose English Literature, History and Theatre Studies at A Level, you may feel that Film Studies would complement your studies very effectively.

You may have other reasons for your choice: continuing with French, German or Spanish because this will be useful later in seeking employment; taking Art or Music because you would like a practical course as a change from subjects that make heavy demands in terms of essay-writing; choosing Psychology because you have always enjoyed reading books on the subject. You will be able to change your mind about which is your AS subject at the end of the

first term in Year 12. Some students will choose the Sports Leader Award instead of an AS Level.

The choice is wide open; enjoy it.

■ **What else will I be doing?**

We support the development of practical and transferable skills which will be valuable later in life as a student and as an employee. Communication, numeracy and IT skills will be developed through your work in A level subjects, PSHE and IFS. You may also have the opportunity to take the Sports Leader Award in addition to the four subjects you choose in Year 12. There is the opportunity to undertake Community Service, and various recreational activities; possibilities might include Young Enterprise, Volunteering, Music, Art, or helping in all departments. You will also follow a PSHE programme appropriate to sixth form students. Some of you will volunteer to become Senior Students who offer day to day help to departments to which you have been assigned. We also have a prefect system in Year 13; prefects are elected by staff and students.

■ **How can I find out details about the subjects?**

Firstly, by reading this booklet. Each subject is described after this general introduction. We also plan to hold an **Open Evening** for Year 11 students on Tuesday 4th February 2014 from 6.00pm – 8pm. Subject teachers will be available to talk to you then and **Induction Days** are on 25th & 26th June when you can receive information, decide whom you wish to be in tutor group with, get to know your fellow students through team building tasks and ask questions of particular subject teachers. Reading lists or assignments may be given out then. Most importantly, you will sit your ALIS aptitude test which we then use to personalise your learning. ***It is essential that you attend these evening events.***

■ **How and when do I need to apply to join the 6th Form?**

- If you are an **RMGS student** and you meet our entry requirements at the end of Y11, you are guaranteed a place here. *However, you do need to apply using the system explained below to give you experience of making applications:*
- **Electronic applications:** all Medway students will have usernames and passwords posted to them by Medway for use with the UCAS PROGRESS website – www.ucasprogress.com. If you are an RMGS student and either wish to study somewhere else in Y12 or think that you might not meet our entry requirements, you should apply to other institutions using this site.
- If you live out of area, use the UCAS PROGRESS site to apply.
- **N.B.** Application forms should be completed by **31 March 2014**. We *strongly recommend* that you attend the Open Evening on 4th February before you submit an application form as we interview new entrants to the school during this open evening.
- It is usual for students to hold up to 3 offers from institutions for a Year 12 place; in August, students decide which one of the 3 places they go to based on their GCSE results.

RMGS students only: Your option sheet must be filled in on **Thursday 13th February 2014** during form time. There are two important points that you need to understand about this process. Firstly, we want to give you the widest set of opportunities that we can. However, we cannot promise that every subject mentioned will be offered in September; that depends on demand for the courses and on the staff available. We are also giving you a completely free choice of subjects. It may be in the end, that a particular combination cannot be catered for. It may also be that a subject is oversubscribed, in which case we will consider each student's order of preference of choices.

Secondly, we cannot guarantee that you will be able to change your mind. Again, we want, as far as possible, to provide exactly what you want, but we cannot be infinitely adaptable. When you make your choices in February, the timetable will then be constructed on the basis of

these choices and teachers will be allocated to groups. If you wish to change your mind after this point and such a change is possible within the timetable (and advisable), we will agree, but it will not always be possible. The same is true at the end of Year 12. We cannot guarantee that any changes to your programme will be possible at that time, but we will try our hardest to provide you with the programme you want to study.

■ **Can I re-sit subjects taken in Year 11?**

No. There will be no November or January re-sits at this level. All the evidence suggests that time and money spent on such re-sits is often wasted, especially if no teaching can be offered.

■ **Do I need qualifications to join the Sixth Form at RMGS?**

We will offer you a place if you seem likely to be able to cope with the A level courses. These courses are challenging and we think that a certain achievement at GCSE is the best guide to your future success at A Level.

Admission to the sixth form will depend on:

- i) Examination results at GCSE which confirm an adequate base level: generally at least 5 GCSEs at grade C or above, including English Language and Mathematics **and** an average point score of 43*;
- ii) Subject choice: all AS subjects have entry requirements. For most AS subjects, students will be expected to have achieved at *least* B grades in those subjects at GCSE, but some stipulate A grades. Please consult the 6th form prospectus for subject entry criteria;
- iii) Evidence from the current school that the student could cope with at least a 3 A2 Level course, or its equivalent.
- iv) Students who achieve an average point score of between 40 and 43 may be offered the opportunity to discuss, with a senior member of staff, whether the 4AS (plus IFS Certificate) / 3 A2 programme on offer at RMGS is appropriate for their needs. Accommodation of these students is dependent on numbers of students who have already secured places.

An average GCSE point score of 43 points across **all GCSEs taken, not just the best 5 or 8. Each grade is worth the following: A*=58, A=52, B=46, C=40, D=34, E=28, F=22, G=16. Diplomas and BTECS: Distinction= 52, Merit=46, Pass=40. AS Levels: A=116; B=104, C=92, D=80, E=68.*

Year 13

It is recommended that in order to be successful at A2, students must gain "good passes" at AS. Normally, we would expect students to begin their chosen A2 courses with a minimum of a D grade at AS. Obviously, every student has individual circumstances and programmes of Y13 study will be discussed with students on an individual basis if required.

■ **Will I have any free time?**

Yes. This time must be spent working silently in the Library or quietly in the newly refurbished study area. You will have designated library periods on your timetable. It is very easy to waste 'free' time in the sixth form and very difficult to put right the damage done. A sixth former needs to read widely, to do much more than the bare minimum. We shall give you more freedom and more responsibility than you had in main school; but not as much freedom as you will get if you go on to Higher Education. This is a kind of halfway house.

■ **Financial help and part-time jobs**

The school operates a bursary system: please apply when you join.

If you are a high-flier aiming for top grades and a University place you will probably find that you cannot spare the time and energy that part-time work uses up. Many students do work on a Saturday and find the experience and the income useful. It is **most unwise** to undertake

more than one day's work per week. Some students allow a part-time job to take up far too much of their time and energy. They are then unable to do enough study for their A Level courses. In the short term they enjoy the income; in the long term they are usually very disappointed when exam results come out.

Some employers can be very demanding. Remember that they are likely to be concerned with what is best for their firms and not with what is best for you.

■ **Are there any rules?**

We try to keep rules to a minimum; obviously groups of people in a community have to consider each other and accept certain constraints. We owe it to your parents to see that you are in school using your time constructively. It is a serious offence to cut lessons or to leave the premises without permission. If you are absent we require a note or phone call from your parents to assure us that they know and approve of your absence; known absences will require students to complete a pre-absence form (available at school). **You should avoid going on holiday during term time, since lessons missed can never be fully compensated for and the LEA/school will not clear the absence.**

Punctuality and a good attendance record matter very much in the sixth form as in lower school. Employers and universities always ask us about attendance and punctuality when they take up a student's reference.

It is most important that you make full use of your time in the sixth form: students who hang around doing nothing or, worse still, distract others are likely to find themselves in trouble. You may use I-Pods in the study area but not outside the Sixth Form Block. The same applies to mobile telephones.

Sixth formers will be able to use the canteen area when younger children are in lessons, as well as during the break and lunch hour. All sixth formers are allowed to leave the premises at lunchtime, if they wish (and must sign-in and out). Anyone who leaves school early at other times must seek permission, then sign out in at the Main School Office. Year 13 students have the privilege of home study sessions, but must be in for all AM registrations.

RMGS is a non-smoking sixth form. Students will not be permitted to smoke on or anywhere near the school site.

■ **Who can I talk to?**

If you have problems of any kind in the sixth form the first person to consult is your Form Tutor. In many cases they can help – give advice, act as your advocate, recommend who else you might talk to. In certain circumstances, you may wish to talk to Mrs Horstrup, Assistant Headteacher & Head of Sixth Form or Mr O'Neill, Deputy Head of Sixth Form instead. We also have a school counsellor, a family therapy worker and a youth development Worker: see Mr Moore or Mrs Horstrup for information.

Form Tutors will also monitor your progress throughout the sixth form more formally with regular interviews. At the beginning of Year 12 teachers will share ALIS data with you. This data provides subject grades that someone like you, with your GCSE pass grades and your result from a computer test known as the ALIS test (taken on Induction day), gained last year in your subjects. It provides statistical predictions of the **minimum** grades you ought to be aiming at and can be a useful reference point as your courses progress over the two years. In Terms 1 and 2 of Y12, teachers will use this data in the process of negotiating target grades with you. These will be the best grades that you and your teachers feel you are capable of achieving. It's a two-way process.

Rainham Mark Grammar School - Equal Opportunity Policy

The Governors have adopted a formal policy. What follows is the standard we expect pupils of all ages to adopt:

We all want RMGS to be a school where everyone feels secure.

We all want everyone to know where we stand on bullying, abuse and harassment:

- no one should have to suffer sexist, racist or homophobic abuse
- no one should have to suffer name-calling
- no one should have to fear or suffer physical violence
- no one should feel victimised in any way
- it is every pupil's responsibility to ensure that harassment is not tolerated
- if there is a problem, share it.

DRESS GUIDELINES

Sixth Formers in a school which they share with other younger students are in an unusual position. They have privileges and freedoms that are not granted to those in Year 7 – 11. Staff have different views on how students should look in the Sixth Form, but none of us wants to waste time on disputes over clothes, jewellery or hair. Very importantly we have a high local reputation which is precious; outsiders do make judgements on how our students look, whether we like it or not.

Students should come to school dressed appropriately for study. Whilst we do not have a uniform or insist on smart office-wear, we do ask that students' dress does not cause offence to staff and other students. Therefore, the following items are **not** permitted:

Girls

Strappy vest tops/ strapless tops

Short skirts (mid-thigh)

T-shirts with inappropriate slogans

Low rise trousers which reveal hips/stomachs

Shorts

Hats

Please note that hats of any kind may only be worn to and from school or when participating in sporting activities. Under no circumstances are hats to be worn inside buildings.

Jewellery

Sensible jewellery is permitted, but please note that facial jewellery e.g. lip or eyebrow rings/studs and belly rings are not allowed. Jewellery of religious significance is permitted but, as with all jewellery, must be removed if it is deemed a health and safety risk in certain circumstances.

In cases of dispute about what is appropriate the Head of Sixth Form will be the final arbiter.

Dress Smartly Days

On 6 occasions across the year, sixth formers will be asked to "**dress smartly**" so students should have a more formal outfit which would be suitable for wear in a professional office environment.

THE RAINHAM SIXTH FORM CONSORTIUM

What do you mean by Sixth Form Consortium?

The Howard School and Rainham Mark Grammar School have a sixth form consortium. The Howard Sixth Form and the Rainham Mark sixth form **work together** to provide an extremely wide and varied curriculum which is available to you.

You can choose to **study ONE subject at a different site**.

The sixth form has a largely common timetable which enables this to happen. This means subjects will not clash if you are studying on both sites and the lesson times are the same. It enables you to choose virtually any combination of subjects. The choice can include A2/AS level, Applied A Levels and other vocational courses like the Diploma. Look carefully at the amount of curriculum time these qualifications take up though, as you may only study the equivalent of one AS/A2 level at another school.

The sites are approximately a 10 minute walk apart and this will afford you a unique opportunity to benefit from the facilities on both sites. Studying at both sites gives you access to talented experienced and well qualified staff from all three schools.

There are also considerable social advantages gained from studying on both sites. You will widen your circle of friends and have the opportunity to take part in a range of joint social and cultural events. This widening of social experience will help you prepare for the challenges of higher education and your future career.

Please take the opportunities offered by the consortium arrangement. Study your own prospectus which will describe the opportunities at both sites.

If in any doubt, ask for advice.

You will be given the opportunity to visit the other site.

If you choose to study on both sites you will be introduced to your new workplace.

We promise you that you will be made very welcome and you will enjoy working with your new found friends.

CAREERS AND YOUR CHOICE OF SUBJECT

Particular careers may require students to have specific qualifications - Postgraduate, Degree, A Level or GCSE - for example students wishing to become a doctor will need a degree in Medicine and for this will need Chemistry and Biology, Mathematics or Physics at A Level. Other careers such as Law or Accountancy may require A levels or a degree but not specify a limited range of subjects. The situation is complex and students should seek our advice if they have a particular career in mind.

The choice of subjects is often difficult; it may be better to take a subject you like or are good at rather than one you think you might need because career ideas often change.

We strongly recommend students to seek advice before they are committed to a choice of subjects. RMGS students can see Mr Price, Head of Careers, who can also book appointments for students with our Careers adviser. If you are from another school, please make use of the services available at your institution.

■ **Resources to help you**

Students are strongly advised to look at the resources on the careers pages in Moodle, particularly the advice from The Russell group of universities.

■ **Year 12 Careers Work**

In lessons students are given time to consider the options after A levels and to complete personal research.

There are four main options available:

- full-time education at University;
- employment which gives the opportunity of further part-time education;
- employment without Further Education;
- to have a break for a year before returning to full-time education.

Whatever the student decides to do it is important that time is spent planning in Years 12 and 13 so that he/she is not left without offers at the end of the sixth form.

In the summer term all A Level students take part in a two-day intensive Careers Course. We look at applications to Higher Education and employment, build transferable skills and students have a trial interview with an employer in a career area they are thinking of entering.

■ **Higher Education**

Most of our students do decide to go on to Higher Education and take either:

- A Degree Course.
- or
- A Higher (National) Diploma, or Higher (National) Certificate or non-Degree Course.

The minimum qualification for entry to a degree course is 5 different subjects at GCSE (normally including English Language, Mathematics and a Science subject) and A or AS Levels. Entry to university is competitive and different degree subjects frequently demand high grades in A and AS Levels.

Questions which often arise for sixth formers would include - how valuable is a degree? Is one university better than another? Should the subject studied be relevant to a career? Should students take a sandwich course involving a mixture of industrial experience and academic study or a straight academic course? There are no absolute answers; what is right for one student may be wrong for another. Considerable guidance will be given via the school's careers staff, through subject tutors and careers advisers to ensure that the decision reached is the right one for you.

We have a wide range of computer guidance material available. The Careers Room is well resourced with books and prospectuses and staff are available to answer questions.

■ **Employment**

Some students decide that the route to Higher Education is not for them.

Careful planning is needed to find the right job which offers training and progression.

It is sometimes possible to do a higher education course whilst working. We do receive details of vacancies at school and students need to use the careers library and seek advice from staff.

■ **A Year Off Before Higher Education**

A number of A Level students consider the idea of taking a year off between the sixth form and Higher Education. The pros and cons of this course of action need careful consideration. The possible advantages include a chance to travel abroad, to do voluntary work for the community, to earn some money before university, and loan or to gain some experience relevant to a chosen career. Taking a year off can make an individual a more committed and motivated student. A disadvantage can be that a year off completely free of studying could make it difficult to return to academic study once more; also if your year off is not fully planned it is possible to drift without gaining any real advantage from it. This is a matter of individual needs and preferences and should be talked over with parents, teachers and advisers.

■ **Year 13 Careers Work**

By this year, most of the research into careers and courses should have been done and many of the decisions will have been made. Students should crystallise their ideas as early in the academic year as possible so that you can forget about the future in the month approaching the mock examinations and concentrate on the present.

The first half-term should be spent completing the UCAS form for university applications and it is certainly not too early to start enquiring about employment opportunities and making preliminary applications. In the second term we get details of the financial management for higher education and lesson time is used to help students complete forms and plan ahead.

The decision about whether or not to go on for a Higher Education course is often taken up by students without much reference to parents - and yet this is a decision which may involve parents in heavy financial outgoings, long after they have legally ceased to be responsible for their children. It is important therefore that students discuss this option with their parents so that they are aware of the financial implications from the start.

■ **Applications**

Most students looking for employment will apply after Christmas. We offer guidance and help with applications. Career vacancies are posted in the Sixth Form block and careers room during the Spring and Summer terms.

Finally... .

Starting in the Sixth Form is a time for new opportunities. In addition to courses of study, you will have opportunities to take on other responsibilities, maybe helping with younger students, assisting in a particular department or organising a major event. All these add to the skills and experience you will gain from your time in the Sixth Form. A positive attitude to gaining maximum benefit from all opportunities offered to you is invaluable.

We look forward to welcoming you to the Sixth Form at RMGS.



DESTINATION OF LEAVERS 2012/2013

Summary of Leavers 2013

Higher and Further Education

Year out

Employment / apprenticeship

Other/ unknown

