Dear Parents and Carers

We are looking forward to the Parents' Evenings for Year 8, which are happening on **Thursday 18th March** for Students in forms **C,D,E and G**, and **Tuesday 23rd March** for students in forms **P,S,W and Y.**It is not possible to swap between these evenings as different staff are involved.

The evening will be a series of individual meetings of 5 minutes on Microsoft Teams.  This is the platform the students have used for their home learning and they are familiar with it.  Please read the attached instructions about how to attend appointments.

Students will make appointments with their teachers ahead of the evening.  It is possible to see all your child's curriculum subjects if you wish.  Occasionally there may be some subjects that you do not feel you need a discussion with.  It is not required for you to make an appointment with your child's form tutor or Head of Year.  If you have any overall concerns on the evening you can email **parentsevening@staidans.co.uk** this account will be monitored during the evening.

As the students move into Year 9 they will continue to study a broad curriculum but will have a choice to specialise in the subjects they enjoy best within the arts/technology/computing subjects.  Detailed information and a form to express your preferences will be sent out in late April but you may wish to ask about the content of the possible Year 9 course, or your child's progress in the subjects they are likely to continue.  They will continue **four** subjects from - **Art, Music, Product Design, Textiles, Food Technology and Computer Science** into Year 9.  They will no longer study **two** of these subjects.  The main options for GCSE study are then made at the end of Year 9.

We have been extremely impressed by the resilience and creativity the students have shown in their recent home learning.  It has been a challenging time for many families, but the students have developed some brilliant independent learning skills we would not normally see until Key Stage 4 and this will hugely benefit them as they move through school.  Parent's evening will be a discussion of the whole picture of learning and progress your student has achieved at St Aidan's and not just around home learning.

We've really enjoyed seeing the student back in school this week and are very grateful for all your support in the process of lateral flow testing and in getting them back in the correct uniform and with facemasks.

Warm regards

Dr Lucy Holt

Head of Year 8