

24 June 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The Psychology department are delighted to be able to offer an exciting opportunity to our Year 12 A-level students. On Friday 9 July we will have a visit from renowned Psychologist Dr Guy Sutton, director of MBI and Honorary Lecturer at the University of Nottingham Medical School. Dr Sutton's primary areas of interest are the genetics of neurodevelopment and neuropathology and the interactive nature of genetic, biological and behavioural factors in chronic disease processes. These fit well with our A-level studies of biopsychology and psychological abnormality, and represent a fantastic enrichment opportunity, the likes of which we have been sorely missing amidst the difficulties we've faced during the ongoing public health situation.

Dr Sutton will be giving an introductory lecture about neuroscience and brain function in the morning, followed by a series of seminars with smaller groups of students throughout the day. The seminars are interactive and include the dissection of a sheep's brain and resulting discussion on the structure of the brain and its relationship to various disorders. They will be tailored towards knowledge required for the upcoming examinations.

The students attending will benefit enormously from this activity. Not only will it introduce them to new topic areas not yet studied but assessed in the summer exams, it will also consolidate previous learning and really enhance their understanding, enabling them to produce more effective writing for assessment. Attendance at this event is **compulsory**. Students who are squeamish can choose to sit away from the dissection but will benefit from the rest of the session.

We cannot overstate the value of this opportunity as Dr Sutton is hugely sought after and his lectures are renowned for their memorable and engaging style. Students will be able to use this event as evidence of experiential learning in their UCAS statements, and discuss their ideas about the brain in interviews for university study.

We do request that students make a voluntary contribution of £5.00 in order to participate in this activity. Dr Sutton is in high demand and his visit incurs costs that unfortunately we are unable to accommodate as a department. We ask that this payment be brought into school in cash, please, and given in an envelope with the payment slip enclosed to the class teacher by Monday 5 July. There is **no link** for payment on Scopay, **cash only** will be accepted due to the proximity of the lecture date.

Thank you.

Mr D Vernon
Subject Leader of Psychology

I give permission for my child (insert name) _____ to attend

the Brain Day lecture on Friday 9th July, and enclose payment of £5.00 in cash to cover costs.

Signed by parent _____

Believe.....