



All Saints' Catholic Voluntary Academy

Head Teacher: C Cuomo

Broomhill Lane, Mansfield, Nottinghamshire NG19 6BW
Tel: 01623 474700 Email: admin@allsaints.notts.sch.uk
Website: www.allsaints.notts.sch.uk



“We shall serve.”

Mark 10:45 - *“For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”*

Tuesday 9th March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to provide you with information about the Year 8 Options - Parent Information Evening. This online event will be taking place on Monday 22nd March at 6.30pm until 7.15pm. It will be an opportunity to deepen your understanding about the ‘Options’ process at All Saints’ so that you can support your child in their future decision making.

The event will be delivered via a Microsoft Live Teams event and this is a wonderful opportunity for all parents and carers to participate as you can discover the information from the comfort of your own homes. Pre-Covid, the Year 8 Options Evening was very well attended by parents and carers; I am really hoping that we will have our best attendance yet, given the home accessibility of this event. Details regarding how to access this event are at the end of the letter.

In terms of the specific content of the event, you will find out why All Saints’ places such importance on the ‘Options’ process, the different qualification pathways available to our students and the process of application including key dates and deadlines.

Whilst we are saddened we cannot hold our traditional event, where families are welcomed into school and can speak to class teachers, we have devised an alternative package of ‘Options’ provision to support our students in making their choices.

You will be aware that we have postponed the Options process, which is normally well underway, to provide students with additional learning time in their range of subjects before making their GCSE option choices. In addition, on Monday 22nd March, Year 8 will have the opportunity to speak to a representative from each curriculum area about the different GCSE courses; instead of their usual tutor time and classes on this particular day, teachers will present on each GCSE Option subject and provide an opportunity for questions and answers from the students. Students will be tasked with taking notes on key pieces of information so that they can discuss with their parents and carers after their school day has finished. Students will receive their options booklet and their options application form on this day so please ask your child to present it when they get home so you can look through it together.

Furthermore, for those students who are isolating, shielding or absent on Monday 22nd March, there will be a series of videos about each GCSE option choice from Monday 22nd March on the All Saints’ Catholic Voluntary Academy website: <https://www.allsaints.notts.sch.uk/teaching-and-learning/options-information>

I would strongly recommend all parents sitting with their children and watching the videos related to the option subjects your child is considering for GCSE study.

It is important that at each opportunity to discuss the ‘Options process’, it is made clear that students are not guaranteed their first choices; whilst the school will do its best to accommodate first choices, there are many factors which influence option allocation. Once allocations have been made by the school, they are final; therefore, families really need to have open and considered conversations about option choices and follow the application process correctly.

“The school is a cohesive and inclusive community characterised by pupils who are highly respectful of each other and very polite. The overall achievement of pupils has remained strong and pupils make good progress overall.”

This will be the first time the school is using the Microsoft Live Teams function; we are hoping that all technical issues have been resolved in advance of the event, but we ask for your patience in the event that we do experience some technical issues.

I look forward to speaking to you on March 22nd.

Yours sincerely



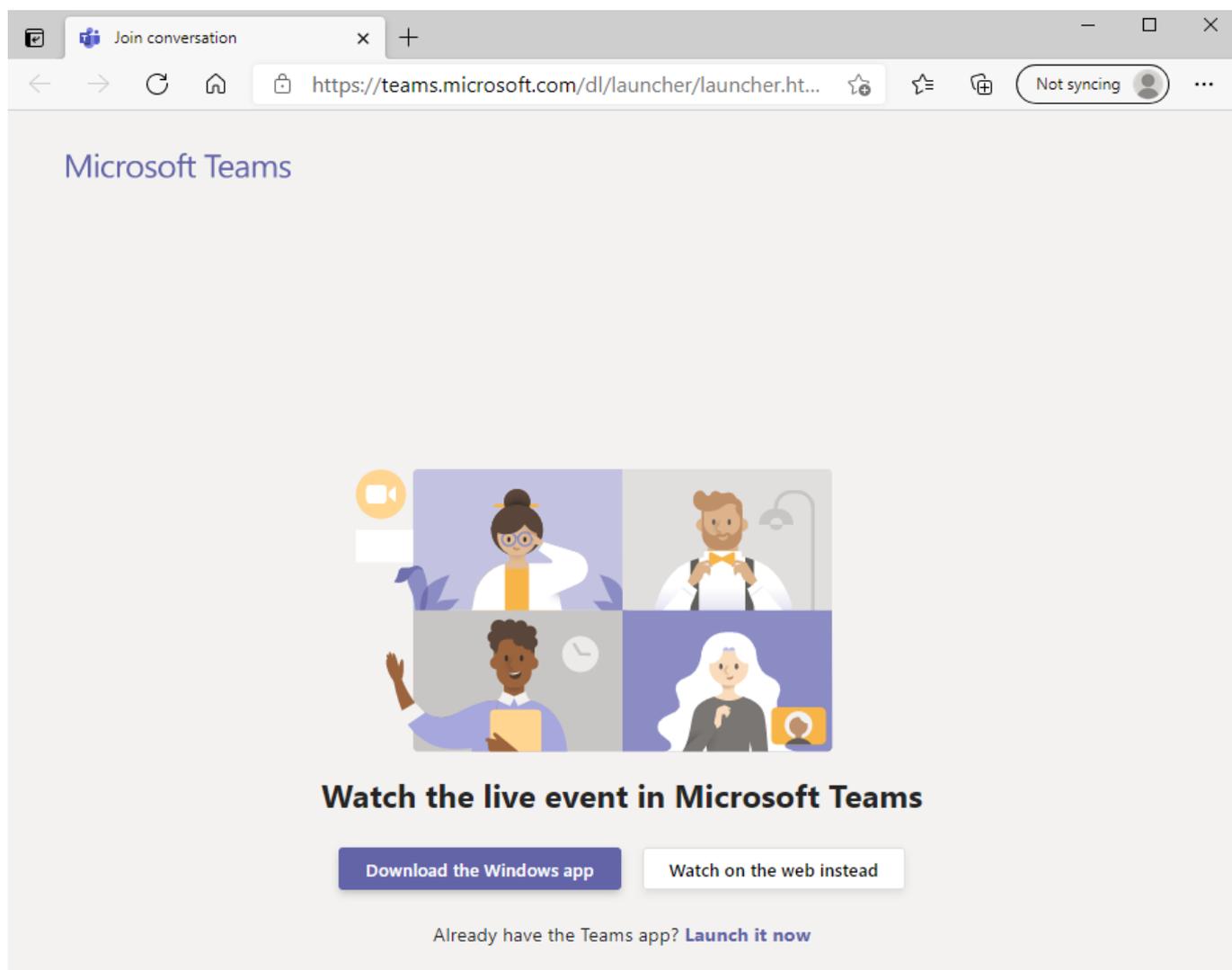
Mrs L Johnson

Deputy Head Teacher

How to access the Microsoft Teams Event:

Click on the link below and you may be given the following options:

https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_YWM3YmYxZDgtYmJkYy00NTYyLWE2MWYtZTViNjYjkzNzMx%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22ee9c2dcd-e995-4c54-a24c-f63fa3a875c1%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22c1241e2d-cbd8-4c0a-b490-23b43365339f%22%2c%22IsBroadcastMeeting%22%3atrue%7d&btype=a&role=a



1. You can Download the Windows app from here, or watch it on the web instead.
2. If you already had the Teams app, you can launch it from here.
3. On some devices, it may require you to go to the App store and download the Microsoft Teams app or go to Google and download Microsoft Teams first before the link appears valid.
4. Your children will already have been using Microsoft Teams to access their online lessons and therefore it is highly likely that the Microsoft Teams app exists on the device used to access lessons.
5. If you have any issues accessing the link having tried the options above, please contact marsden.a@allsaints.notts.sch.uk or emson.m@allsaints.notts.sch.uk