

May 2019



Dear Parent/Carer

Off Timetable Enhancement Days 10th and 11th June 2019

We are writing to you to tell you about the next stage in the Y10's off-timetable enhancement days. There will be two days - 10th and 11th June - and on one of these days, your child will be going on a free trip to the University of Sheffield.

We benefit from a unique collaboration between Silverdale School, Sheffield University's Philosophy department and the award-winning university outreach programme Philosophy in the City. This was mentioned in the Year 9 options booklet and referred to at options evening as the 'Examined Life'. The days will be based on the work of leading academics at the University of Sheffield's Philosophy department: Jules Holroyd, Angie Hobbs, and Josh Forstenzer (see <http://www.shef.ac.uk/philosophy/staff/faculty>). Each day will consist of an accessible lecture on a key aspect of philosophy, and then a series of related seminars which will be led by trained undergraduates currently enrolled on the Philosophy of Education course at the University of Sheffield.

On the other day, your child will remain in school and will be exploring media literacy: how to be a responsible consumer and creator of mass media. However, to make the numbers manageable, the year-group will be split as follows:

Monday 10th June: SLV will go to the University and ERD stay at school for media day

Tuesday 11th June: ERD will go to the University and SLV stay at school for media day

Both days will focus on developing the analytical skills, which employers and higher education institutions want - yet are difficult to foster within the regular curriculum: engagement with theory, critical reflection, questioning of assumptions and deep thinking. Experiences of this kind are precisely the ones that can be included in UCAS statements and discussed at university interviews, as well as being valuable in themselves!

Details for the university trip

Students are required to make their own way to and from the University. Silverdale staff will meet the students in the main entrance of St Georges Church between 8:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m. The days will also end at St Georges Church 3:30 p.m. (see overleaf for map and itinerary). Lunch is **not** provided by the university, so students will be given the opportunity to buy their own lunches from the many outlets on West Street or pupils may wish to bring a packed lunch instead. Those pupils who are entitled to a free school meal will have that provided by the school as usual (meals will be collected by staff from Silverdale). **Pupils are expected to wear Silverdale school tops so they can be identified in town.** Pupils are also advised to bring some light refreshments to keep them going throughout the rest of the day.

Executive Headteacher: Roisin Paul

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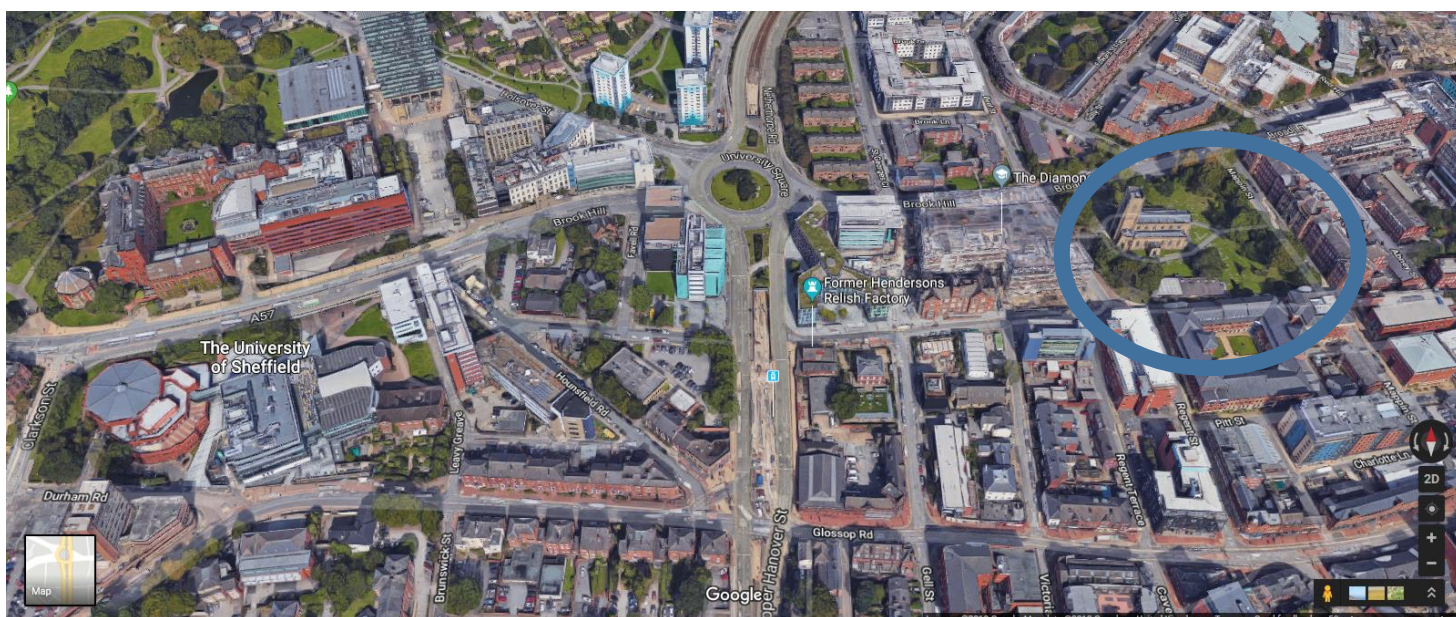
Parental consent will be assumed unless we hear from you otherwise by returning the slip below. The University will be seeking feedback on the experience of students at this event. Please return the slip below if you need to inform us of alternative contact details during the day or any current medical conditions that we do not know about.

Mr Steadman-South will be leading on the trip to the university and Ms Priestley will be leading on the media day at school. If you have any queries about any aspect of next two days please contact us on 0114 2369991.

Yours sincerely

C Steadman-South

Mr C Steadman-South
Subject Leader for Religion and Philosophy



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Silverdale School - Enhancement (GRIT) day – Sheffield University
Monday 10th June SLV and Tuesday 11th June ERD

Name _____ Form _____

- I DO NOT GIVE permission for my son/daughter to attend the conference at Sheffield University on Monday 10th June or Tuesday 11th June
- ALTERNATIVE EMERGENCY CONTACT details for my child during the day are:

Emergency Contact Name & mobile number _____

Medical conditions I need to know about _____

Parental Signature _____ Date _____

PLEASE RETURN TO SCHOOL BY 3 JUNE TO MR STEADMAN-SOUTH