**University / Career Counseling Timeline**

KCCIS aims to ensure students a meaningful education that helps them become open-minded, caring, contributing, and responsible individuals and citizens in the society on different levels. As such, the relevance of our PSHE (Personal, Social, Health Education) program to students’ development in different areas in life, including university / career counseling, cannot be overemphasized. Our teachers, together with our school counselor

(Dr. Vinci), aim to help students explore future studies and potential career options all through their secondary school years.

**Year 7 and Year 8**

From Year 7 onwards, homeroom teachers will discuss various topics related to subject choices and careers. When needed, Dr. Vinci will explore topics related to subject/career choices with students in class, so as to let students share their aspirations. The role of the school counselor will be made clear to students in Year 7, so when it comes to education planning, they know when to seek help along the way. In Year 8, homeroom teachers will help students appreciate their strengths and those of others, and to begin exploring different careers. Students may also be invited to attend university seminars targeted for higher form students. All courses offered in Year 7 and Year 8 set high expectations for students while preparing them for studies in higher forms.

**Year 9**

By the end of Year 9, students should have taken some challenging courses to help establish their academic credentials. Besides improving on their mathematics and critical thinking skills, it is recommended that students should have started (if they still have not) learning another language other than Chinese and English. Apart from PSHE, their involvement in extra-curricular activities will be helpful for personal and social development, and exploration of interest areas. It is very important that students carefully decide the IGCSE subjects they would like to study in Y10 and Y11, as this could be deciding factor for future studies. We hope our students appreciate enjoyment of learning and excel in subject of their choices. The Options Evening is especially created for students and parents to talk to the teachers and the school counselor about subject choices.

**Year 10**

Homeroom teachers will explore with students the skills required for success in a career and have them think about their strengths and weaknesses. Dr. Vinci will talk to students and initiate goal-setting process. Students are responsible in reaching their goals by making their own targets, to discuss how they can effectively utilize their high school experience for academic and personal growth. Dr. Vinci will help students identify skills they possess and recognize strategies they could use for their skill development, and subsequent career. Teachers will work closely with Dr. Vinci to identify and assist at-risk students.

**Year 11**

It is important for students to talk about their future. Here are a few common questions that students should try to find answers or just ask Dr. Vinci:

1. What is IB?
2. Do I have any other options?
3. What subjects should I take?
4. What do I want to do after Y11?

The person in charge of IB at KCCIS is Ms. Calvin Tse, who is the right person to ask when it comes to IB subjects on offer and registration. You are encouraged to discuss with your friends, siblings, parents, and teachers about your future. When you are in doubt, please do not hesitate to see Dr. Vinci, who will guide you through in different ways (face to face, email, eClass).

**Year 12 and Year 13 (IBD)**

From Year 7 to Year 11, students should have learned to take responsibility for planning their future through PSHE and career guidance talks (About My Future survey conducted every other year). For the important dates for university application, please refer to the University Application Timeline posted separately on www.kccisuni.weebly.com

**Year 12 (Junior Year)**

Dr. Vinci will talk to the Y12 class in early September.

Term 1:

* Complete and return the “College Application – Student Information Sheet” to Dr. Vinci in September.
* Take initiatives to talk to Dr. Vinci about your educational plans, your subject choices and university application.
* Start following info. posted on Managebac about college application webinars, Information Day, communicate with alumni etc.
* Identify colleges or universities:
1. Where would you like to pursue your education?
2. What you would like to study?
3. Do I need to get scholarship information?
* For students who consider going to the States: Prepare for the SAT. Students can also consider taking PSAT in the last week of October. This is a good practice for the SAT. PSAT is a qualifying test for the National Merit Scholarship (NMSQT).

Term 2:

* Look up admissions testing information for Oxbridge and/or medicine, veterinary medicine or dentistry; SAT and ACT, and to proceed to registration
* Look up information about language proficiency tests, if needed.
* Attend school fairs.
* Activate your BridgeU account

Term 3:

1. Take assessments on BridgeU to know more about your strengths, skills and ultimate career interests.
2. Schedule a meeting with Dr. Vinci before the summer break.
3. Begin to plan for your summer

Summer

 1. Get some work experience

 2. Take a summer course

 3. Visit colleges and universities

 4. Work on your first draft of Personal Statement

**Year 13 (Senior Year)**

Dr. Vinci will talk to college-bound students in early September about:

1. Personal statement
2. LOR (letter of recommendation): some rules to follow.
3. Information Day
4. Deadlines

Relevant info has been posted on [www.kccisuni.weebly.com](http://www.kccisuni.weebly.com) and Managebac for students to explore.

Term 1 & 2:

1. Attend school fairs
2. Identify universities you would like to attend
3. Develop college application plans with Dr. Vinci
4. Register for any SAT, TOEFL/ IELTS exams, if needed
5. Request LOR from your teachers (must get approval in writing from Dr. Vinci)
6. Request for transcript and recommendations (counselor’s report, if needed) from Dr. Vinci

Timeline for Y12 and Y13, to be revised yearly:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1A1NO_jKoXyY5gLli6TRYyuYUEVMTeKRW/edit#gid=1628257264>

It is advised that students submit their application as early as possible. Universities and colleges do not guarantee to consider applications they receive after the deadline, especially for some popular courses. Please check with individual universities and colleges if you are unsure.

Remember to allow enough time for entry clearance or immigration; also travel and accommodation arrangements, which can take longer during the summer when immigration departments are busy.

N.B. Please note that the above are for reference only. It is important to do your own research, talk to your parents, teachers and me before you make any important decisions.

Last revised April 26th, 2023