



**John Clarke  
Headteacher**

**BERWICKSHIRE HIGH SCHOOL  
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11 January 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian,

**Borders College & Skills Development Scotland Apprenticeship Information Evening -  
Thursday 17 January 2019**

At Berwickshire High School we wish to ensure our students are fully informed with regards to planning and choosing their options in March, so that they are following the most suitable educational pathway in the Senior Phase of their education.

I am therefore inviting you and your child to an information evening at Berwickshire High School on Thursday 17th January, 6 to 7.15pm so that together we will explore future learning, opportunities and the most suitable curriculum for your child.

One of the alternative options which will be explored on the evening will be the broad range of vocational courses studied at Borders College. Ms Jayne Gracie, Head of Faculty, Care & Access, has kindly agreed to discuss and explore these various opportunities on this evening.

The wider context of Ms Jayne Gracie's presentation is the Scottish Government's initiative, Developing the Young Workforce, and as such Berwickshire High School is actively developing a working partnership with Borders College to provide vocational learning, which we hope will lead to apprenticeships and future employment.

This year the College will be offering 6 Foundation Apprenticeships from August 2019 which will be built into the Senior Phase coursing options for our young people. A Foundation Apprenticeship is a new type of apprenticeship that helps the student become qualified through work experience and work-based learning. Usually it is offered as one of the S5 subject choices and the young person works towards a qualification over 1 or 2 years. The qualification is the equivalent to a Higher, but unlike other subjects, the Foundation Apprenticeship takes the student out of the classroom working on real projects with a real business. They spend time at school and get training with an employer and with a local learning provider.

A Foundation Apprenticeship gives you the combination of a qualification and valuable work place experience in some of Scotland's most exciting industries, all with projected growth in job opportunities. These Foundation Apprenticeships include: Accountancy, Business Skills, Civil Engineering, Food & Drink Technologies, Social Services & Healthcare and Social Services Children and Young People.

On the evening of the 17<sup>th</sup> January we will also have in attendance, Ross Ryrie our Careers advisor and Gordon Craig from Skills Development Scotland (SDS). Ross will give a talk and further information on the different types of apprenticeships available in the work place, ranging from foundation, modern and graduate apprenticeships. Gordon will be on hand to give a short presentation on the benefits to our young people of the SDS website, My World of Work.

We will issue a more detailed programme on the evening, and I would appreciate if you would complete the return slip letting me know of your attendance.

I look forward to seeing you on what I am sure will be a very rewarding evening.

Yours Sincerely,

*K Manson*

*C Gracey*

Kenny Manson  
Depute Headteacher

Colin Gracey  
PT - Developing the Young Workforce

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*Please complete and return to the school office*

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Thursday 17 January 2019**

Student's Name:

I <u>will</u> be attending the above event	
Number of people attending	

I <u>will not</u> be attending the above event	
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Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_