



**BECCLES
FREE SCHOOL**

"Providing a foundation for life"

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9 January 2018

Dear Parent / Carer

The Brilliant Club: UEA (University of East Anglia), Thursday 11 January 2018

I am writing to inform you of an exciting opportunity that your son / daughter has been selected for; The Brilliant Club – The Scholars Programme.

- The Brilliant Club works to increase the number of students from under-represented backgrounds that progress to highly-selective universities by training PhD researchers to share their academic expertise with students.
- As part of The Scholars Programme, a PhD researcher will come to our school to deliver a 'super-curricular' teaching programme based on their research for our students.
- The programme involves two trips to highly selective universities and six in-school tutorials. The in-school tutorials take place during the school day and last for one hour each (Key Stages 2-4).
- Students finish the course by producing an assignment which is marked using criteria from the Key Stage above their current level. They are then given a university-style grade (1st, 2.1 etc.) and one-to-one feedback from their tutor to allow them to reflect on and improve their performance.

In order to take part in the Programme, each pupil will be required to miss up to two full days of school to take part in the university trips, and some timetabled lessons to attend the in-school tutorials. The launch event will take place on **Thursday 11 January** where we will be travelling to the UEA (Norwich).

The expectation is that students make up for this missed classroom time by catching up outside of school hours and this is made very clear to them at the beginning of the programme; any problems arising as a result should be



raised with me as the main point of contact with The Brilliant Club so that we can quickly find a solution to the problem.

I hope that you will agree that taking part in The Scholars Programme is a really exciting opportunity for our students. Please talk to your son / daughter about their experiences on the course and their trips, as your encouragement will make all the difference to inspire them on the challenging programme. I really look forward to seeing the work that they produce!

We are keen to support students in raising their aspirations and experiencing education off site, especially in Higher Education and Further Education institutions and I am pleased to offer your son / daughter a place on this programme.

Students are expected to wear school uniform, and must bring a coat in case of inclement weather. We will leave Beccles at 10.15am and will be back in time for the end of the school day. The trip is free for students.

Please complete the attached consent form from the UEA; this will be used by the University for the purposes of the programme.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Jenny Shervington
Extended Leadership Team – Teaching and Learning