



### The Hero Project

Dear Parents/Carers,

On Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March we will be welcoming representatives from the [Anthony Nolan Trust](#) to talk to our Year 13 students about stem cell, blood, and organ donation. While signing up to become a donor is voluntary, we want all students to attend the session to learn more about the vital work the organisation does.

#### **Who are Anthony Nolan?**

Anthony Nolan is the charity which saves the lives of people with blood cancer and blood disorders, by matching them with incredible individuals willing to donate stem cells for transplant. In collaboration with NHS Blood and Transplant, Anthony Nolan runs The Hero Project education programme, teaching 16-18-year-olds about stem cell, blood, and organ donation.

#### **What information will the presentation include?**

The presentation will introduce the concept of altruistic donation, highlight why donation matters, what is involved in donating, and how people sign up as potential donors. There will also be time for students to ask questions about what they've heard. Our students will be encouraged to reflect on the presentation and discuss with their family and peers.

#### **Joining the donor registers.**

After the presentation, students will have the opportunity to join the stem cell register, if they wish to do so, at a donor recruitment event on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> April which will also be facilitated by volunteers from Anthony Nolan.

The process of joining the register involves the completion of a short online form, followed by three cheek swabs. Swab kits will then be safely returned to Anthony Nolan's labs, where individuals will be added to the stem cell register.

If you would like to find out more about Anthony Nolan and The Hero Project, please visit <https://www.anthonynolan.org/>

Yours faithfully,

**MS S Allen**

Assistant Headteacher: Acting Director of Sixth Form