



8th September, 2010

Dear Parents,

Over the last few years, I have run an AS level course in Critical Thinking on Monday evenings after school. The course is something that is usually run in the first year of Sixth Form College and runs alongside other AS level studies. As its name suggests, the course gives students the skills to critically evaluate the credibility of oral and written arguments often forwarded by journalists, teachers, lawyers and other professionals. It ends with teaching them how to write their own arguments that avoid the kinds of errors that often riddle such arguments. Also as its name suggests, it helps develop students' ability to think more clearly in all of their academic subjects. In addition, Sixth Form Colleges look favourably on students who have engaged in AS level study before they enter sixth form.

I would like to invite all of our S2 to a short meeting in English 1 on Monday 13th September at 1.30pm to find out more about the course. If they would then like to enrol, it will run from Monday, 20th September and every following Monday between 5.15 and 6.00pm. It does require a high level of commitment on Monday evenings but there is little prep. Students will need a fairly high level of literacy to access the course but it is not exclusively for high fliers – all are welcome to come and have a go.

Please would you talk to your daughter about this course and encourage her to come along on 13th September if you feel it would be suitable for her.

Kind regards,

Ian Hamilton
Critical Thinking