



23 February 2024

Dear Parent/Carer/ Student,

## RE: Year 9 Options Process and Subject Evening

As you are already aware, this term students will have the opportunity to select their KS4 options subjects in preparation for September and we want to take this opportunity to outline the activities on offer to support the students, and the key dates you need to be aware of.

From September when they move into Year 10, all students will continue to study Maths, English, Science, Core PE, RE and PSHE for approx. 60% of the week. These lessons will feel very similar to their current experience in Year 9. For the remainder of the week, students have the opportunity to select option subjects from the wide variety of choices we offer. The vast majority of students will select four subjects, including an EBACC subject (Geography, History, Triple Science, Computer Science or Modern Foreign Language). The exception to this is those students who will be allocated time to work with the IEN faculty and the IEN team will contact those families directly to discuss this. As part of our curriculum ethos we will also continue to offer wider enrichment opportunities wherever possible.

All information on what courses are available, the criteria for choosing options, how to inform us of the choices and links to helpful resources are now on the website in the Learn zone, Key Stage 4 Options, [here](#) and will be explained to students in assembly on Thursday 29 February. We would encourage everyone to visit this site as soon as possible so that you can fully support your child in making their choices. If you still have queries following this, then please contact your child's Form Tutor or relevant subject teacher as appropriate.

We are fully aware that choosing Key Stage 4 Options is an exciting, yet big, decision for students. It is important to us that students make informed decisions about the options subjects they will be studying over the coming two years, and thus we are able to confirm that the following will be in place to support these important decisions over the coming weeks:

Date	Activity
<b>February</b>	<b>Launch of Options information on the website and to students via assembly</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Subject information</li> <li>- Information on what criteria there are for choosing options</li> </ul>
<b>Friday 1 March – Tuesday 12 March</b>	All subjects will share information around their courses at KS4 with students during lessons. For Health and Social Care and Business, students will have the option to sign up to taster lessons via their Form Tutor.
<b>Monday 4 March</b>	<b>Year 9 Subject Evening</b> - face to face subject evening with Library market place. Opportunity to book appointments with staff who currently teach your child to discuss progress and options in those subject areas. Booking are already open on School cloud. Business, Health and Social Care and Media will have an information stand in the Library where you can speak to subject staff.
<b>Tuesday 5 March</b>	Parents will receive login information for the options website, where choices will be made.

<b>Monday 18 March 9AM</b>	Deadline for Options choices to be made online
<b>July</b>	Students will be informed which options choices we have been able to allocate them within the timetable.

### Options Online Portal

After the Year 9 Subject Evening, we will launch information on how to access and use the Options online portal to select your child's options. **This will be sent to the individual emails where you receive school group calls, and we will alert you when it is issued.**

Kind regards

Ms. Michelle Foy  
Deputy Headteacher - Curriculum

Mr Carl Royle  
Assistant Headteacher - Year 9 Lead