



Dear Parents and Carers

January 2022

**Re: Year 9 Options Choices**

In September 2022 your child, along with all students in the present Year 9, will begin a two year course leading to qualifications in GCSEs or equivalent. To assist in these important decisions there will be a Virtual Options Evening that will be on our website **from Thursday 3rd February**. This will be followed by a virtual Year 9 Parents' evening on **Thursday 10th February** which will enable you to discuss emerging option choices with your child's class teacher.

The Options Evening webpage will provide you with the full range of possibilities with a video guide to each course; a detailed booklet will also be emailed to students via their school email address. Our aim is to allow a degree of choice while making sure that all pupils have a broad and balanced curriculum. There will also be an online option form, where you will indicate the preferences your child would like to make. This form should be completed by the deadline, **Thursday the 17th of February**.

To guide pupils, each student will be given a pathway to help them choose appropriate option choices. The Options Evening has been designed to help parents and pupils in making their decisions. Please read the options booklet with your child, and discuss the subjects available, before decisions are made about choice of subject. Pupils are sometimes tempted to make choices to ensure friendship patterns can continue in Year 10. What may be correct subject choices for their best friend may not be right for them - they must choose wisely!

Obviously staffing levels and accommodation control the options which we can offer. While every attempt will be made to meet students' first choices, it may be necessary to offer some students alternative options from those that they initially request. This may occur if too few pupils opt for a subject or if there are too many students to accommodate. In addition, if a student chooses an unsuitable subject, or too narrow a range of subjects, they will be contacted to discuss their choices and explore a range of appropriate alternatives.

I urge you to read through all the information you receive with your child. Please do not hesitate to contact me, if you require advice on any aspect of your child's subject choices which may be causing you concern.

Yours faithfully

Mr T Armstrong  
Assistant Headteacher