



**Buckler's Mead**  
ACADEMY

**Inspiring Education For All**

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Dear Parents/Guardians

### **Year 9 Specialised Curriculum Update**

Further to our previous correspondence, I would like to update you and make you aware of the arrangements for finalising Specialised Curriculum choices.

#### **Website**

Unfortunately, due to the current IT issues we have been unable to update the website with the full information and videos to guide you and your child through the process. This will be available as soon as possible and we will update you to confirm that this is the case. In the meantime, I have prepared a short introductory video to make you aware of the process. This will be shared with your child over the next few weeks. Please follow the link below:

<https://www.loom.com/share/0d74a1e205c7422fa0a1f66081a06b5d>

We have also prepared a booklet to go alongside the video.

<https://www.midsomernortonschoolspartnership.com/uploads/files/specialised-curriculum-2022.pdf>

#### **Specialised Curriculum Evening**

This will still go ahead as planned next week on Thursday 10 March from 5:00-6:30pm. During the evening, you will have the chance to visit the different subjects on offer, speak to the staff leading the courses and see some of the facilities on offer. The evening will give you the opportunity to ask questions and address any queries before finalising your choices. Please can you follow the link below and complete a short Google form to confirm your attendance.

<https://forms.gle/iHt6REs2sbGYjNyD7>

We also felt that this would be an opportunity for you to come and hear about the considerable improvements that have been made at Bucklers' Mead Academy since you were last able to visit the school. Mr Lawrence will be giving a series of presentations in the main hall to inform and update you about the changes that we have made over the past few years.

#### **Submitting final choices**

You and your child will receive a letter over the next few weeks, confirming the recommended specialised curriculum route that your child will follow over the next few years. In most cases, this will be the EBACC Languages Specialised Route or the Humanities Specialised route. Each specialised route has been formed and chosen to ensure that every child has the opportunity to study a broad and balanced curriculum with opportunities to study a blend of academic, technical, practical or creative courses. The specialised route will be selected for your child based on what we recommend would be the best blend of subjects over the next two years as well as Post-16 choices and pathways.

Students will have until Friday 25 March to finalise their choices and submit on a Google form for our consideration. Whilst we always try to give students their first preference there are circumstances when this is not always possible. Students will be expected to select first and second preferences in case we are unable to offer the first.

#### **Careers Advice**

Over the next few weeks we will provide a careers appointment with each student to discuss the choices and specialised routes on offer. This will provide each student with the opportunity to discuss their thoughts and ask any questions or clarifications.

I hope that this provides you with some clarity moving forwards. If you have any further questions or queries please feel free to make contact with your child's tutor in the first instance.

Yours faithfully

Mr P Balkwill  
Deputy Headteacher

**Headteacher: Mr M Lawrence BSc Hons.**

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