

14 January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 9 Options Process

The next few months are an important time for our Year 9 students. They are making the transition into Key Stage 4 and need to start to consider the choice of pathways they may take in the future.

The process of choosing courses of study for the final two years of school is a vitally important one. It is a time when the partnership between school, parent and student becomes even more significant. I am therefore writing to tell you some of the key events that we have planned to support your child through the Year 9 options process.

Key Dates

18.01.21	<p>AM Tutorial</p> <p>Students will be guided by their tutor through the options process and be given advice on what factors to consider when making their choices.</p>
20.01.21	<p>Year 9 Parents' Evening</p> <p>An opportunity to discuss your child's progress and their suitability for subjects that they are considering. <i>You will have received information separately about this and will hopefully have been able to book the appointments that you wanted.</i></p>
26.01.21	<p>Options Booklet & Subject Presentations</p> <p>The options booklet will be sent to students electronically. This booklet provides a detailed explanation on the options process, the Key Stage 4 Core Curriculum and detailed information on each of the option subjects. To supplement the information in this booklet curriculum areas have also produced a short presentation to give students a flavour of their subject.</p>
1.02.21	<p>Options Presentation</p> <p>Sara Jacobs, Deputy Principal, will provide an overview of the Key Stage 4 Curriculum and provide further guidance on the options process and factors students should consider when making their choices.</p>
4.02.21	<p>Virtual Options Evening</p> <p>An opportunity to join a Subject Teams meeting to ask any final questions.</p>
22.02.21	<p>Deadline for option choices</p> <p>Students submit their choices by 9.00am on Monday 22 February 2021.</p>
22.02.21	<p>Individual Interviews</p> <p>If a student feels unable to confirm their final option choices by the deadline they may request an individual interview. This will take place during the week commencing 22 February 2021 and will be with either the Tutor, the SENCO or a member of the College's Senior Leadership Team.</p>

Please note that all resources and information linked to Year 9 options will be available for students and parents via the students' section on the College website.

We will upload the presentation that will be shared with students in their tutorial session on Monday 18 January by the end of the same day, and all other information for individual subject areas will be published by Tuesday 26 January. The final Options Presentation, summarising the process to date and the next steps to take, will be uploaded on Monday 1 February.

If you have any questions either about this process, or about the specifics of your child's options, please do not hesitate to contact the relevant tutor, or Head of School.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sara Jacobs', written in a cursive style.

Sara Jacobs
Deputy Principal