



22 January 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Option Choices – Key Dates

As you are aware, this term Year 8 students will be selecting their choices for their Curriculum Subjects, which will begin in September 2020 and be undertaken over a three year period. The latest qualifications will follow more rigorous programmes of study, with GCSEs being graded from 9 to 1, with 9 being the highest grade and all will be based on terminal examinations in Year 11. This will create greater flexibility of choice and enable students to fully reach their potential.

In addition it will provide the opportunity to concentrate further on the core subjects of English and Mathematics, thus maximising your child's future life chances.

Therefore, this term, I wish to highlight the following key dates which will enable you and your child to carefully select his/her GCSE Subjects, and possible vocational courses which have become equally demanding and as a result will prepare students accordingly for further academic studies beyond Year 11. All students will be placed appropriately onto the right courses once they have decided the subjects they wish to study, based on their identified academic strengths, attainment and interests.

Thursday, 27 February 2020	Formal Assembly regarding Year 8 Options
Monday, 2 March – Friday, 6 March 2020	Tutor support week with CPSHE
Wednesday, 4 March 2020	Year 8 Options Evening 5.00 - 7.00pm
Friday, 6 March 2020	Year 8 Report issued via the SIMS App
Friday, 6 March 2020	Deadline for students to complete the Interview Form
Wednesday, 11 March 2020	Year 8 Parents' Evening with the Leadership Team available for advice and guidance
Friday, 13 March 2020	Deadline for students to return completed Options Online
Monday, 23 March – Friday, 27 March 2020	Guidance Interviews by Leadership and Year Teams

During this period students will be carefully guided through their Year Assemblies and have the support of their Tutor and their Subject Teachers, with regard to appropriate courses, thus ensuring a smooth transition programme to their GCSE studies. There will also be an opportunity for you and your child to meet with a member of the Year Team or the Leadership Team to discuss Option Choices. After February half term, you will receive an invitation to attend the interview via email, please could you kindly ensure you have responded by Friday, 6 March 2020 should you wish to attend with your child.

Finally, please do not hesitate to contact your son/daughter's Tutor, Academic Performance Leader or Pastoral Leader if you wish to discuss this matter further.

Yours faithfully

Charlotte Hanton
Associate Leader

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