

27th November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I am delighted to be contacting you regarding the process for progression into Key Stage Four and the selection of GCSE Options. This is an incredibly exciting time for our school and scholars. Selecting GCSE Options is a significant event for scholars and represents the beginning of the process to choose their future pathways. We are excited to support them with this decision.

As you will be aware, Year 9 are completing an Assessment Cycle on the **2nd and 3rd December**. This will give them an indication of which subjects they are most successful in and therefore which subjects might be a good fit for them at GCSE. We will be sharing the results of these assessments in the Reports at the end of Term 2.

In Term 3 we will be supporting the scholars with a series of events. Firstly, we will be launching our Online GCSE Options Event. This will feature a presentation from SLT outlining the options available to scholars as well as detailed subject presentations. We will also be providing this information as a booklet and will host a series of follow up Google Hangouts with the Senior Leadership Team to offer an opportunity to ask any questions you may have.

We then intend to offer a Year 9 Parents' Evening and we are currently investigating the logistics of this, it is very likely that this will be a virtual event. This will provide you with the opportunity to discuss your child's achievements with their teachers and their suitability for GCSE progression.

Throughout this time we will also be offering Careers Guidance to all of Year 9 through the completion of a Start Profile and Careers Fairs.

Finally, we will be ensuring that every scholar gets a chance to discuss their options with a senior member of staff on a one to one basis before submitting their choices by the **8th February**. As I am sure you can appreciate it may not be possible to ensure that every scholar can study every subject they request and therefore we will also be asking them to select additional options which they would enjoy studying at GCSE for this eventuality.

For the time being there is nothing specific the scholars need to be doing other than focussing on the Assessment Cycle coming up on the 2nd and 3rd of December. However if they or you have any questions regarding the process that you would like answered before the events outlined above please do get in touch.

Yours Faithfully



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