



20th May 2019

Dear Parent,

Information for Current Year 8 Parents about the Year 9 Curriculum 2019-20

For a number of years now we have been in the practice of allowing Year 9 students the opportunity to make choices from elements of the curriculum so that they can focus more readily on the subjects they are most interested in as preparation for their Key Stage 4 options.

The core curriculum that every student will experience is as follows: English, Maths, Science, French, History, Geography, RE, PE and PSHCE.

In addition to this students will focus the remainder of their curriculum by choosing 2 further subjects from:

- Art & Design
- Computing
- Drama
- Food Preparation and Nutrition
- Music
- Spanish

Students will shortly be given the opportunity to indicate which subjects they are interested in continuing with, and to rank these in order of preference.

In order that parents have sufficient time to discuss these options and their implications with their sons/daughters, we intend to wait until **Thursday 23rd May** before making the options form available online. This will be **distributed directly to students via ClassCharts and the school website** (under the 'Our Curriculum' section), along with some further information about what the Year 9 course entails. At this point, parents will be able to aid their sons and daughters in deciding on their option choices for the year ahead.

Please note the following additional points:

- Students will not automatically be allocated their top two choices. Some classes such as Food Preparation and Nutrition are limited in size due to Health and Safety and as such prior engagement in learning will also be taken into account in the allocation of choices
- Students will be counselled individually by Heads of House and members of the Senior Leadership Team to ensure the choices are the right ones for them

Outstanding education at the heart of the community

- Crucially, in order to choose a subject to study through to GCSE in **Years 10 and 11** students would have had to **have studied these subjects in Year 9** so please help us to ensure your son/daughter does not stop a subject they may be interested in pursuing further in Year 10
- You will receive a final written confirmation of your son/daughter's option choices.

An assembly has taken place today in which the options process was outlined. This presentation is also on the school website.

Options forms are required to be completed online via ClassCharts by the end of **Monday 3rd June**.

Yours faithfully,

T McLardy

Mr T. McLardy
Assistant Headteacher – Curriculum and Assessment