

01 February 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

As you will be aware, your child will choose their option subjects in Year 9.

It is very important therefore that that you and your child attend the Parents' Evening on February 03, as you will be able to use discussions between you, your child and your child's teachers to help inform the options decision making process.

The purpose of GCSEs are to provide a broad and general series of qualifications. It is essential that choices are guided by such things as: skills; performance to date; the types of assessments used in option subjects; the number of examinations and, importantly, an interest and aspiration to study the subject, along with a thirst for more knowledge about the subject. GCSE outcomes in the core subjects plus a range of other outcomes in other optional subjects will provide young people with what they need to access the majority of courses at college and beyond. It is frequently unnecessary for young people to have studied optional subjects at GCSE which they wish to study at A level, if that is the route, they have ambitions to pursue.

When considering Key Stage 4 options subjects, you and your child should be making decisions based on the subjects most suited to the skills and abilities that your child is demonstrating in school currently. The teachers that you speak with on Parents' Evening will be able to discuss this with you, along with their thoughts on the suitability of your child studying particular subjects.

Staff will already be having discussions during lessons regarding the options process and the choice of subjects available. Over the next week, I will be making a number of presentations available to pupils that staff have produced to give more information about the options process and their subjects. These will be available online so that you can view them together to discuss their content.

I shall also be sending out an options booklet on Monday February 07, which details information about the subjects available, how many must be chosen and the timescales for the process.

Included in the options booklet are details of how pupils will communicate their choices to us. This will be done via an online system and a separate letter will be sent to you with details for your child to login to this system after half term.

'I have come that they have life and have it to the full' John 10:10

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Thank you for your continued support and for continuing to work with us in supporting your child to achieve their full potential.

Yours sincerely

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

Mr A Turner
Assistant Headteacher