



3/2/17

Dear parent(s) of Year 9 Pupils,

I am taking this opportunity to remind you of the Year 9 Options presentation evening to be held on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March, in the week immediately after the half-term break.

The options evening will begin at 7:00 pm promptly, in the school hall. The first part of the evening will be a presentation led by Headteacher, Mr Hammond who will discuss the structure for GCSE study for 2017-2019. From 7.45 pm onwards, you are invited to attend a number of presentations by Subject Leaders who will provide information regarding the specific GCSE courses available within each of the subject areas. We would expect the options evening to end at approximately 9.20 pm.

In advance of the evening, we want to inform you of some changes we are making to GCSE Options this year, to secure the best possible outcomes and progression routes for your children:

- We are reducing the number of options from four to three. This means that most of our pupils will study nine GCSEs instead of ten – but that all GCSE subjects will gain extra time for teaching and revision.
- French will be available to all pupils, but those currently in French sets one to three required to take French GCSE as one of their options.
- We will also be requiring as many pupils as possible to study either History or Geography.

Our Core Curriculum will remain unchanged, beyond each gaining teaching time.

An Options Booklet will be given to all pupils in an assembly immediately after the half-term break. More information about these new developments will be available in the Options Booklet, as well as in presentations on the evening.

We hope that the evening will be useful and informative. Please ensure that your children bring their Options Booklets with them on Thursday evening. A programme / itinerary for the evening will be available as you arrive.

We look forward to seeing you here.

Yours faithfully

Mrs M Aitken-Lomax  
Head of Year 9

Mr D Brown  
Assistant Headteacher