



Wednesday 5th February 2025

Dear parent/ carer,

Year 9 Options

We have reached the exciting point in Year 9 where students start to think about their options! In an assembly last week, students heard from Year 11 students about how they found their options process, and how they find studying their GCSEs. It was an illuminating and interesting assembly, and we are very grateful to the Year 11 students for giving up their time.

After half term, we begin to support students to make their GCSE options. There are two key events from the academy calendar for your diary:

Thursday 6th March 2025 – Year 9 Options Evening (4.00pm – 5.30pm)

This evening is an opportunity to hear more about the options process. The evening will begin with a presentation (repeated at 4.00pm and 5.00pm), followed by an opportunity to visit various stalls to speak with subject leaders and find out more about the various options available. There is no booking needed, and we hope to see you there.

Thursday 20th March 2025 – Year 9 Progress Evening (4.00pm – 7.00pm)

This evening is your opportunity to meet with your child's individual teachers to gain an insight into their areas of success and areas for improvement in each subject. It will also give you the opportunity to speak with individual teachers about how your child might find their option subject, to help students make the best possible choices. Booking will open after half term on the My Child At School app, and I will write to you again in due course with more details.

We will publish an options booklet which will lay out the process and choices etc., and we will also record the presentation from the Options Evening if any parents/ carers are unable to attend. There is lots of advice and guidance available in the academy, but in the meantime I wanted to share two websites with you that might be of help if your child is already thinking about, and talking about, GCSE options and beyond.

Advice on choosing options: <https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/information/gcses/choosing-your-gcses>

National careers service: <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/explore-careers>

I look forward to sharing more with you about the process, and hope to see you on the 6th March. If you have any questions in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact the academy.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'A. Staniforth'.

Miss A Staniforth
Vice Principal