



Ref: T/Admin/Events/OptionsEve

10<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

### Curriculum Choices for Students from September 2024

From September 2024 your child will begin Key Stage Four (KS4), and courses leading to GCSE or other qualifications. The selection of appropriate courses for him/her is clearly important to their future educational success. Over the past few weeks and months we have been providing guidance to your child about the different courses available. We will continue to do this but in order to help you and your child make informed choices, the following resources and events will be offered:

1. The KS4 **Options Booklet** includes advice on how to make sensible decisions about Options, 'Frequently asked Questions' and an explanation of words and terms used in KS4. Most importantly, it will give detailed information about all of our KS4 courses. There are three different booklets, depending on the pathway students follow. More information on this will be provided at the Options Evening. The booklets will be e-mailed to all parents during the week beginning 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2024 and will be available on the school website once it has been sent to parents.
2. The Year 9 '**Options Evening**' will take place at school on the evening of **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2024**. The event will start at 4.30pm and end at 6.30pm. Registration on the evening will begin at 4.15pm. This event will provide an excellent opportunity to talk to teachers about KS4 courses and to ask them any specific questions not covered in the Options Booklet. There will be two short presentations in the School Hall during the evening. The presentation for parents with students in tutor groups H,U,M,A is at 4.40pm and the presentation for parents with students in tutor groups N,I,T,Y is at 5.10pm.

Please note that due to space in the School Hall, where possible, please limit visitors to only one parent to each child attending the Options Evening

3. The '**Options Form**' for students to fill in is at the back of each booklet but all students will be provided with a paper copy for completion after the Options Evening. This will need completing and returning to your child's Form Tutor no later than Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024. Information about the number of subjects which need to be selected is given in the Options Booklet and will be given at the Options Evening.

The Government is keen that as many students as possible achieve good grades in a Language subject (French or Spanish) and in a Humanities subject (Geography or History) as well as in English, Maths and Science. Students who attain this benchmark will be regarded as having achieved the '**English Baccalaureate**'. We do strongly recommend all students opt for both a Humanities subject and a Language subject at KS4. As a school however, we do insist that every student studies at least one of the following subjects; French, Geography, History or Spanish.

If you have any initial queries, please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

Yours faithfully

M Lamble (Mr)  
Deputy Headteacher