

Our ref: KST/SWD/Guided Choices Letter

17 January 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Preparing for the move from Year 9 into Year 10

Your child is entering an exciting stage in their education, when they will make guided choices about the subjects they wish to study at Key Stage 4. Whilst this may seem like a potentially stressful time, it need not be. I would imagine that your child already has a fair idea of which subjects they wish to study next year, and it is therefore the academy's aim to help them explore these thoughts further and provide them with a range of resources and opportunities to make sure that they are making the right decision.

In Years 10 and 11, every student studies the core subjects:

- English Literature
- English Language
- Mathematics
- Science (double award)
- Citizenship
- Physical Education.

In order to complete their curriculum, they also study four 'Option subjects' which they choose. These could be any of the following:

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| • History | • Film Studies | • Physical Education |
| • Geography | • Design Technology | • Sports Studies |
| • French | • Drama | • Business Studies |
| • Spanish | • Engineering Design (BTEC) | • Information Technology |
| • Triple Science | • Food & Nutrition | • Music |
| • Art & Design | • Textiles | • Computer Science |
| • Photography | • Religious Studies | • Health & Social Care |

In order to ensure that students choose appropriately, we have included entry requirements for all Option subjects. These are included on each subject's page in the Guided Choices booklet.

Key dates for the Guided Choices process can be found on the reverse of this letter.


Yours sincerely



Mr K Scott
Assistant Principal



Key Dates for KS4 Guided Choices:

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| <p>Week commencing Monday 6th January</p> | <p>You will receive this letter, your child's Guided Choices booklet and their Guided Choices form. A video explaining the process will also be available on our website at Teaching and Learning/Guided Choices.</p> <p>Please take this opportunity to discuss your child's initial thoughts on their potential subject choices.</p> <p>Please engage carefully with the entry requirements for each subject; if your child does meet the entry requirements for one of their choices, they may not be able to take it.</p> <p>You can also access a video explaining the process for Guided choices on our website. In addition, each Subject Leader will produce a video explaining the key features of their subjects, which students may excel in them and any other information to consider.</p> <p>These videos can be accessed on our website in Teaching and Learning/Guided Choices.</p>  |
| <p>Thursday 23rd January</p> | <p>4.00pm – 7.00pm Year 9 Parents Consultation & Guided Choices Evening.</p> <p>You will be able to book appointments with your child's class teachers, as well as Subject Leaders, for any specific questions you have. I will also be available to discuss any queries you may have.</p> |
| <p>Thursday 13th February</p> | <p>Deadline for Guided Choices forms to be returned. Forms returned late will be allocated places according to availability, which is likely to be limited.</p> |

