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13th January 2020

Dear Parents/Carers of Students in Year 9

Year 9 Options Evening: Thursday 30 January 6.00 pm (arrival from 5.45pm)

The decision about which subjects to study during Key Stage 4 is one of the crucial moments in any student's secondary education. We aim to make sure that the information and guidance provided will support our students through this options process and ensure that their informed choices prepare them fully for life after Ashton.

At Ashton, we follow a two-year Key Stage 4 starting in Year 10. We firmly believe that the curriculum should be ambitious but accessible for all our students, whatever their strengths and abilities. We therefore offer a wide range of subjects which allow students to choose courses which meet their interests and also their needs and aspirations for future progression.

It is important to maintain a broad, balanced and ambitious curriculum throughout Key Stage 4. In addition to the compulsory GCSE courses, students are able to choose a further three subjects from the options blocks. A booklet containing information about the courses available in Key Stage 4 including their content, how they are assessed and their relevance and importance in the world of work will be sent home later this month. In school, students' awareness of employability skills and future careers is a constant focus and I would urge you to look at the information and the many links which are available on the school website in order to support your child with their decision making.

I would therefore like to invite you to the year 9 Options Evening on Thursday 30 January at 6.00pm. There will be a short presentation about the Key Stage 4 curriculum followed by the opportunity to talk to staff about the courses available.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Hoyle

Deputy Headteacher













