

Burscough Priory Academy www.burscoughprioryacademy.org Headteacher Mrs L MacLaren

Ref: 3543 CLY

23 January 2025

Dear Parent,

Year 9 Option & Parents' Evening – Face to Face at Burscough Priory Academy Thursday 30 January, 4.00pm - 7.00pm

We are pleased to be able to share with you the details for the Year 9 Parents' Evening and Options Evening process. This evening marks an important milestone in the calendar, allowing students, with their parents, to make informed decisions about the subjects they would like to study in Year 10 and 11. It is also an opportunity to discuss your child's progress with their [possible] option based subject teachers.

The evening will involve a headline presentation and an opportunity for parents and students to engage with our teachers, who will be on hand to answer any subject specific queries and possibly, share examples of current/past students work.

There will be a thirty-minute presentation in the Hall at 4.15pm, 5.15pm and 6.15pm but **you only need to attend one talk** because the content will be repeated. The presentation will provide an overview of the process, the range of subjects available to students and advice and guidance on creating balance and variety for study. On arrival at school, you will be able to choose the talk you attend up to the seating limit in the hall. Consultation with subject staff will take place in classrooms and the gymnasium.

We will be using **Arbor** (via Parent Portal or App) to book appointments, **not SchoolCloud**. <u>Here</u> is the guide for parents which outlines where and how to book appointments. This is the first time that we are using this platform and we are the first in our Trust to do so – we thank you for your support and patience as we navigate this new system together.

We will open the booking system and appointments can be made from Friday 24 January at 8.00am and close on Thursday 30 January at 12.00pm. We do not normally open at this time but given that it is the first run, we have done this before the weekend so that if there are any queries, you can contact us and we can review them. If you need to, please email enquiries@burscoughprioryacademy.org, add a subject line of 'Year 9 Parents' & Option Evening' and if required, screenshot the query. We will follow this up on Friday and Monday.

When you are planning your appointments, please:

- 1. Schedule a Maths, English and Science (with one nominated science teacher) appointment.
- 2. Have a discussion with your child about the options they are considering and book appointments with these teachers. The Creatives Team, for example, tend to be sole specialists and this means there are not enough appointments for 155 students.
- 3. Factor in the thirty-minute presentation in the Hall when you make the bookings.





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On the evening, students and parents will be provided with a paper (and electronic) copy of the Options Booklet along with a draft document to make initial choices on. An electronic link will be sent out to you, to allow your child to indicate their preferred option choices.

Once we are in receipt of all the student responses, we will be able to clarify which subjects will be in the 2025-2027 curriculum and make final decisions about the option blocks. As further guidance and to follow up, each student will have a meeting with a member of staff focused on their individual options choices.

Finally, when the process comes to an end, you will receive a letter to confirm your child's final choices.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of the options process further then please do not hesitate to contact us at school using the enquiries email.

Yours faithfully,

C Lyons

Mr Lyons Deputy Headteacher

