

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

Dear Parent / Carer

**Year 9 Options Taster Day/Evening and Progress Evening**

We are pleased to inform you of the dates for three Year 9 events which will both support you and your child when making their choices about the courses they wish to study at Key Stage 4 (GCSEs).

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2025 - Options Taster Day for pupils**

On this day all Year 9 pupils will experience a lesson in the subjects which will be new to them should they choose to study them next academic year. This will include Sports Studies, Enterprise (Business Studies), Computing, iMedia and Hospitality and Catering. They will also have a careers session with an independent careers advisor focusing on the local labour market and how option choices might have an impact on their future employability.

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2025 Options Evening in school 6:00-8:00pm**

This will involve a presentation in the school hall about the options process and progression routes into further education and training for all parents and pupils, followed by a carousel of 20-minute subject presentations for parents and pupils to attend. At the end of the evening, we will ask all pupils to complete a short Microsoft form to indicate their initial option choices. This straw poll is not a final choice but will help us to start planning the curriculum.

**Main presentation:** School Hall 6:00pm prompt start

**Subject presentations:** 6:20pm, 6:45pm, 7:10pm & 7:35pm

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Room</b>
Art and Design	M2
French / Spanish	M3
Enterprise / Creative iMedia/ Computer Science	M4
Geography	M5
History	E1
Hospitality and Catering / Design Technology	E2
Music	M1
Religious Studies	E3
Sports Studies	E4
Triple Science	E5

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Acting Headteacher: Mrs V Crossman  
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Staff from the SEND department will be available in the library should you wish to discuss appropriate progressions routes for your child based on their educational needs.

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2025 - Year 9 Progress Evening on School Cloud 4:00-7:00pm.**

This provides you with a final opportunity to discuss your child's academic progress to date and ask any follow up questions regarding KS4 study.

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2025 - Deadline for options forms to be submitted by pupils 3:20pm.**

Prior to these events, you can support your child by discussing their interests and future ambitions with them. You can also use the websites listed below to complete some research into the possibilities:

**Careerometer:** Careerometer compares jobs by salary, working hours and employment prospects.

<https://careerpilot.org.uk/job-sectors/subjects>

**Bitesize:** Explore all Bitesize Careers' job profiles by specific school subjects to find out about jobs, training and top tips. Part of our Bitesize world of work series.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zhst2sg>

**Quick guide:** Picking your GCSE options is an exciting time. Here's a quick guide about compulsory subjects, what you can choose, and more to help you make your decision.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zrjh92p>

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

Yours sincerely



**Joanne Lilley**  
**Assistant Headteacher– Personal Development**