

Key Stage 4 Options - Making Good Choices

When choosing your option subjects, it will help to consider the following:

- **What subjects are you interested in/do you enjoy?**
- **What subjects are good at? What are your strengths?**
- **What type of course would suit your skills? Practical or written?**
- **What type of assessment will you do best at?**
- **Will this combination of subjects keep your options open for future choices?**

Do.....

- ✓ Remember that all courses are of an equal standard and value.
- ✓ Choose courses you are interested in and which you are likely to enjoy as you be more motivated to work hard and succeed.
- ✓ Think about the variety within your curriculum as you select your subjects and try to arrive at a balance which matches your talents.
- ✓ Choose courses in which play to your strengths and you are likely to achieve success in.
- ✓ Choose courses that fit with your future aspirations.
- ✓ Remember that the courses last for two years – you will not be able to change your mind part way through Year 10.
- ✓ Pay attention to the method of assessment and choose a subject that suits your skills.
- ✓ Find out more about courses/careers you may be interested in. Which qualifications are needed for the different levels of entry? Having a goal can help motivate you.
- ✓ Talk to your parents/carers, your teachers and your form tutor. Although they will not want to make the decision for you, they know you well and will be able to guide you.
- ✓ Try to be realistic in your choices; commitments out of school such as music and sport are also important and should complement your academic choices and studies.

Don't.....

- ✗ Choose subjects just because your friends are choosing them.
- ✗ Choose a subject because it is new.
- ✗ Choose a subject just because you like your current teacher. You might have a different teacher at Key Stage 4.
- ✗ Choose a subject because someone else thinks you should do it but you don't enjoy it / are not good at it.