



21st November 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

From September 2023 your child will start Key Stage 4 and begin studying their formal GCSE or equivalent qualifications. At the heart of our Key Stage 4 curriculum is a strong academic core as defined by the English Baccalaureate suite of subjects (English, Maths, Science, a Modern Foreign Language and either Geography or History). This is complemented by the opportunity for students to follow their passions and opt to study two of those subjects that they enjoy and achieve most in at Key Stage 4. I am writing to invite you to our Key Stage 4 Guided Options Evening which is to be held on Thursday 1st December. The aim of the evening is to ensure you are well informed and able to support your child in making important decisions about their future. During the evening there will be a formal presentation outlining the options process, in addition to subject presentations.

The format of the evening is detailed below:-

5.45	School opens – please sign in at Barrow Hall Theatre entrance.
6.00 - 6.20	Presentation for students in forms 9A1, 9A2, 9B1, 9B2 in Barrow Hall Theatre
	Subject presentations for those in other forms
6.25 - 6.45	Presentation for 9N1, 9N2, 9P1, 9P2 in Barrow Hall Theatre
	Subject presentations for those in other forms
6.50 - 7.10	Presentation for 9S1, 9S2, 9T1, 9T2 in Barrow Hall Theatre
	Subject presentations for other Houses.
7.15 - 7.35	Subject presentations for all.
7.40 - 8.00	Final subject presentations for all.
8.10	School closes.

The options process will be explained to students on Wednesday 23rd November during a dedicated assembly. Students will also receive an options booklet, outlining the courses we offer. We advise you to read these carefully before this evening in order to decide which subject sessions you wish to attend. Details of the rooms for subject presentations will be available on the night. Bells will ring to indicate the end of each session.

Subject reports will be issued during the week beginning the 5th December and this will be followed by a Subject Parents Evening on Thursday 15th December where you will have an opportunity to speak to your child's teachers about their progress in each subject, this will also help inform your child's choices. Further details of the parents evening including how to book appointments will be shared closer to the time.

The submission of the options form will be via an online form which can be accessed through the options page on our website, or by using the QR code below:







We are asking parents to submit the options form on behalf of their child once they have reached a final decision. You will be asked to submit your child's details, four choices and two reserve options which will only be used in the unlikely event that we are unable to fulfil your child's first choice combination of subjects.

Once the options process is complete, we will begin the process of writing our school timetable for next academic year, and although some option changes may still be possible, we cannot guarantee that students will be able to select different courses if they change their minds. Therefore, it is vital that your child carefully considers the options available.

The deadline for submitting options forms is **Friday 20th January 2023.** Should you have any questions related to options, please feel free to contact either myself, your child's year team or subject teachers and we will be more than happy to help.

Yours faithfully

Mrs C Kane

Deputy Headteacher

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