**GCSE Preferences Process 2023 – Key dates and events – Over three main phases**

In **January and February** form tutors will show students a series of ‘**subject information** **looms’**.

We encourage students to re-watch looms with parents and carers, selecting from:

* **core subjects** of English, Maths and Science (Combined Science or Single Sciences)
* **core subjects** of Geography or History and French or German
* **open choice subjects** for the eleven other subjects on offer

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On **Thursday 23rd February** the **Assessment 2 spring term full report** will be emailed toparents and carers and distributed to students on paper. Students, parents and carers will be invited to preferences evening.

On **Thursday 2nd March** we have the main event, the **GCSE Preferences Evening** from 5.30pm – 8.30pm.

This event is designed for students to accompany their parents and carers.

Different forms arrive at half hour intervals from 5.30pm to 7.00pm and move through three phases.

We start by providing a talk in the **Drama Theatre** to explain the whole preferences process.

We will explain how lesson time works hand in hand with our Aspiration and Careers Excellence Programme to support future careers through providing both academic qualifications and wider careers experiences.

You also collect a paper copy of both booklets ‘**Y10 subject information’ and ‘Year 9 Preferences Process’.**

This is followed by a marketplace in the **Assembly Hall** where heads of subject are available to provide general advice for each subject on offer. Finally, as necessary, we provide a help desk, SEND advice and colleges representatives in the **Dining Room**.

On **Thursday 9th March** we have the **Y9 Subject Video Consultation Evening** during which teachers provide specific feedback on student progress across eight subjects**.** We expect most parents to book to see teachers from English, Maths, Science and 5 other potential subjects. General support appointments are also available. Parents and carers will receive an emailed invitation one week ahead of this event.

On **Monday 13th and Tuesday 14th March** you can book a **general advice appointment** by emailing GCSEpreferences2023@lsahigh.org.

By **Wednesday 15th March** students must electronically **submit their online GCSE preference form.** On a Microsoft Form students indicate preferences for:

* Geography or History and French or German.
* Combined Science or Single sciences.
* Open choice subjects in preference order including reserve preferences.
* Our Aspiration and Careers Excellence Programme.

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During **April,** **May and June** we will carefully scrutinise the preferences indicated by every student contacting and consulting with parents and carers as necessary. We will endeavour to build a timetable for September which accommodates the most suitable preferences that students have indicated. We guarantee every student a fair preference process and a curriculum package which supports career and study paths.

We are unable to guarantee every student all their top preferences in the open choice subjects meaning students must thoroughly consider all open choice subjects and accurately indicate their preferences and reserves in order.

In **July**, students, parents and carers will receive a **final confirmation of Y10 subjects** once the timetable for September 2023 is completed.