



Dean Watson Headteacher

Bolton Road West, Ramsbottom, Bury, Lancashire, BL0 9QZ

Tel: 01706 825 215 Email: woodhey@woodhey.set.org Online: www.woodhey.bury.sch.uk

#TeamWoodhey

Monday 26th January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

The start of this term brings the start of our Options Choices process for our Year 9 students ever closer. As a result, I wanted to share with you some important dates and the timeline for students making their choices.

You will see from the dates below that there will be lots of support for students to receive information about the subjects they can choose, what they will learn about and where these subjects will lead to, as well as opportunities for students to engage with colleges, employers and universities to help them start to consider their future education and careers.

Students have already experienced a range of support opportunities this academic year, and it is important to use these experiences to support their decisions. In September, students attended our first ever Post-16 Fair, with colleges, universities and apprenticeship providers present. Currently, in form time, students are learning about careers, and only last week, we held our annual Careers Fair, with a plethora of employers attending from a range of different industries.

Throughout the process, students will have support from their form tutor, Mr McMahon, Mrs Sharp as the Year 9 Progress Team, and Mr Holden and Mr Ward, who will be the Senior Leaders overseeing options this year.

Key dates:

- 11th February: Options Launch assembly
- 12th February: Parents' and Carers' Evening (virtual) 4.30-7.30pm
- Week commencing 2nd March: Subject-based assemblies (one faculty per day, sharing a wide range of information about the subjects on offer)
- 5th March: Options Evening (in-person) 4.30-7.30pm. Colleges who have confirmed attendance currently are: Holy Cross College, Bury College, Bolton College, The Manchester College and East Lancashire Learning.
- 6th March: Options Choices completion form released to parents and carers
- 27th March: Deadline for Options Choices completion form to be submitted
- Week commencing 11th May (provisionally): option choices confirmed with students and parents and carers.

If you have any questions in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact any of the colleagues detailed above.

Yours faithfully,

Mr D Watson
Headteacher