

December 2019

Dear Parent/Carer,

At this stage of Year 9, it is time to consider students' choices for KS4 and ultimately those subjects they will achieve their first external qualifications in. We know these are big decisions and would like to reassure students and parents that there will be a great deal of support on offer during the Year 9 Choices process, which will start after Christmas. As a first step, please find enclosed the 2020 Year 9 Choices booklet, which details all the qualifications we offer at KS4 (Years 10 and 11) – some are compulsory, but there are a number of decisions to be made by your child about those additional subjects they wish to take.

To help you support your child in making these important decisions, we are holding a **Year 9 Choices Evening for parents and students on Thursday 16th January** from 6-8pm. The evening will have two components: a brief presentation in the Main Hall where our choices process is outlined and a subject 'market place' in the Sports Hall where subject leaders and staff will be on hand to answer any queries you may have. Due to our numbers, we would like to invite you to the session below, according to your child's surname:

TIME	GROUP	VENUE	CONTENT
6.00 - 6.30pm	Student Surnames A – J only	Main School Hall	Presentation from the Senior Leadership Team
6.30 - 7.15pm	Student Surnames A – J only	Sports Hall	Subject 'Market Place'
6.30 - 7.00pm	Student Surnames K - Z only	Main School Hall	Presentation from the Senior Leadership Team
7.00 - 7.45pm	Student Surnames K - Z only	Sports Hall	Subject 'Market Place'

Headteacher: Mr Gwyn Williams

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Some key dates in the Choices process are:

13th – 17th January: Year 9 Choices assemblies (these are for students only and will inform students about those subjects at KS4 they won't have studied before or may be unfamiliar with). Please ensure your child is in full attendance this week.

16th January: Year 9 Choices Evening (for parents and students) – we look forward to seeing you there.

20th – 31st January: Year 9 Choices Interviews (these will take place with a senior member of staff; your child should bring their Choices form with them to this interview and will be informed of the date/time/location by their form tutor)

23rd January: Year 9 Parents Evening 4:30 – 7:30pm (this is an extremely important parents evening so that you can be well-informed about your child's progress in their subjects and ask any additional questions you may have about Year 9 Choices)

7th February: Deadline for the Year 9 Choices form to be handed to your child's Form Tutor (the form must be signed by a parent/carer, the student themselves and the person conducting your child's Choices interview)

Your child will be given a copy of the Choices booklet and form later this week (which will also be on the website under *Academic/Year 9 Choices*) which hopefully contains all the information they will need to make informed decisions about the subjects they wish to take in Key Stage 4. If you have any questions in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Wagstaff (Head of Year 9) or myself.

Yours faithfully



N. Dixon

Assistant Headteacher