

January 2023

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 is about to start. Next week you will receive the Year 9 Choices booklet via the School Gateway, followed by your child receiving a hard copy of it to bring home. This details all the qualifications we offer at KS4 (during 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 19<sup>th</sup> January** from 6–8 pm. The evening will have two components: a brief presentation in the Main Hall where our choices process is outlined and a subject 'Marketplace' in the Sports Hall where subject leaders and staff will be on hand to answer any queries you may have. We would like to invite you and your child to the session below, according to your child's surname:

TIME	GROUP	VENUE	CONTENT
6.00 – 6.30 pm	Student Surnames <b>A – K only</b>	Main School Hall	Presentation from the Senior Leadership Team
6.30 – 7.15 pm	Student Surnames <b>A – K only</b>	Sports Hall	Subject 'Marketplace'
6.45 – 7.15 pm	Student Surnames <b>L – Z only</b>	Main School Hall	Presentation from the Senior Leadership Team
7.15 – 8 pm	Student Surnames <b>L – Z only</b>	Sports Hall	Subject 'Marketplace'

Headteacher: Mr Gwyn Williams

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Some key dates in the Choices process are:

**9–13<sup>th</sup> 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 all week.

**19<sup>th</sup> January: Year 9 Choices Evening** (for parents and students) – we look forward to seeing you there. Details on previous page.

**27<sup>th</sup> February – 9<sup>th</sup> March: Year 9 Choices Interviews** (these will take place with a senior member of staff; your child should bring their Choices with them written down to this interview and will be informed of the date/time/location by their form tutor).

**16<sup>th</sup> February: Year 9 Parents' Evening** 4.30–7.30 pm (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). This will take place on the School Cloud – more information to follow.

**10<sup>th</sup> March: Deadline for the Year 9 Choices form** to be completed via the link sent to your child's school email. Parents should oversee the completion of this form to ensure they are aware of their child's choices. Students will receive the link after the Choices Interviews have taken place.

Your child will be given a copy of the Choices booklet shortly (which will also be on the website under *Academic/Year 9 Choices*). This 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 Mr Barnett (Head of Year 9) or myself.

Yours faithfully



N. Dixon  
Assistant Headteacher