

January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

As your child approaches the end of Year 9, they are about to enter an important stage in their education: the GCSE options process. From Year 10, all pupils will continue to study the core subjects of English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science and Core PE. Alongside these essential subjects, pupils will also have the opportunity to select from a range of additional GCSE and vocational courses that best reflect their interests, strengths and future aspirations.

The options process is designed to help pupils make informed and confident decisions about the subjects they will study over the next two years.

Therefore, we are pleased to invite you to our Year 9 GCSE Options Evening on Thursday 5th March, from 5:00pm to 6:30pm. This event forms a crucial part of your child's educational journey, as they begin to make decisions that will shape their GCSE pathway and future opportunities. It is an essential evening for all parents and carers to attend so we can work together to ensure your child makes informed, confident, and suitable choices.

As a school, we have designed a comprehensive support programme to guide every pupil carefully through the options process. This includes opportunities to explore new subjects, ask questions, and receive personalised guidance from staff who know them well.

#### Key Dates in the Options Process

To support your child fully, please note the following important dates:

##### Wednesday 25th February – Options Assembly

Pupils will receive an overview of the process and the subjects available, helping them begin to think carefully about their strengths and interests.

##### Thursday 26th February – GCSE Options Taster Day

Pupils will take part in a carousel of six taster sessions, delivered by subject specialist teachers, giving them valuable insight into subjects they may not have studied before.

##### Thursday 5th March – GCSE Options Evening (5:00pm–6:30pm)

You will receive a detailed explanation of the options process, guidance on choosing subjects, and the chance to visit individual departments to discuss which courses will best support your child's progress and future pathways.

##### Monday 16th March – Deadline for Submission of Options Forms

Options forms will be sent home electronically, and all submissions must be completed by this date.

##### 16th–20th March – Options Meetings with the Senior Leadership Team

Each pupil will receive a dedicated guidance meeting with a member of SLT to ensure their chosen subjects are appropriate and aligned with their future goals.



#### Principal: Mrs H Zakary

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This structured programme ensures that every pupil receives the information, experience, and personalised support needed to make thoughtful and successful choices.

We very much look forward to welcoming you on Thursday 5th March and working with you to support your child through this important stage in their education. Please ensure you complete the following sign-up form to confirm your attendance:

[Year 9 Options Evening Thursday 5th March 5-6:30pm – Fill in form](#)

Yours sincerely



Hannah Jenkins

Vice Principal



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