

5 March 2024

Ref: ES/HA/SF

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 9 GCSE Options Evening – Thursday 25th April 2024

We would like to invite you and your son/daughter to the annual GCSE Options Evening which is being held on **Thursday 25th April** at Wollaston School from 6.00pm to 8.30pm. This is a key milestone in your child's education and the first stage of selecting a preferred pathway of study towards a career and future educational development. ***Please note, this is a revised date, and later in the year than usual, allowing for continued focus on a broad curriculum at Key Stage 3 as well as allowing us to gather more student data to support the process.***

A short presentation will take place in the Main Hall to give you information about the Options process, outlining some key information you need to be aware of to enable your child to make informed decisions.

Tutor groups **9BKS, 9CCL, 9CTO** and **9HBN** need to arrive and be seated for the **6.00pm** presentation.

Tutor groups **9HRU, 9MAC, 9MCN** and **9LYN** need to arrive and be seated for the **6.45pm** presentation.

After this, we invite you to circulate around the school to give you the opportunity to discuss the option subjects with specific teaching staff, who can give you further information about what the course involves and any necessary requirements. For those attending the 6.45pm session, you are welcome to visit the subject staff from 6.00pm, prior to the presentation. Please be mindful, however, that the presentation is the launch of the process and will outline the criteria for selection.

There will also be an opportunity to speak to our careers staff regarding your child's options and future careers.

Please collect your child's support pack from the Main Hall foyer on arrival. Supporting documents that you will receive on the evening:

- **Presentation**
A welcome and an explanation of the evening and the process ahead. Please do attend at the allotted time as we cannot otherwise guarantee seating.
- **Options Booklet**
This booklet contains information about the process along with guidance and course specific information for each subject.
- **Options Selection Guidance Sheet**
This should be kept and used as a working document throughout the selection process. It outlines the subjects available as well as any requirements or limitations you will need to consider when selecting your subjects. This is the form with which you will submit your preferred subjects.
- **Progress Report**
A copy of your child's latest progress report to support your decisions on which subjects are most likely to be successful.
- **Evening Map**
This details the subjects available, and the venues used around the school, all on ground level.

We will make the Options Booklet available online in advance of the evening, so that you can gather some subject information prior to visiting staff on the evening. However, please be mindful that the evening itself is a package and should be treated as the launch of all information needed.

Please also note that this is a separate event to the Year 9 Parents' Evening – Thursday 7th March, which will have a sole focus on progress and success at Key Stage 3.

Kind regards

H Atherton

Harry Atherton
Head of Year 9

E Stevenson

Edd Stevenson
Assistant Headteacher