

Year 9 GCSE Options Information Evening

13 December 2018

Welcome to the GCSE Options Information evening. This evening is the first step for students in choosing which subjects they would like to study throughout Key Stage 4. The selection of subjects is a very important decision in any student's education. We aim to provide all of the information and guidance we can to ensure the students achieve their best results and reach their full potential.

The main focus of the evening is to find out more about the subjects your child is interested in studying. Whilst our students have already been looking at careers and future pathways, this evening is the starting point for their option choices.

The Principal, Mrs Evans and Vice Principal, Mr Cooling will be available to answer general questions throughout the evening.

All of the subjects on offer have a display this evening and staff who will be happy to discuss the subject content with you. The subjects are based in the following classrooms:

Latimer Building		De Montfort Building	
Room	Subjects	Room	Subjects
L1	Business Travel and Tourism Geography	D1	Food Preparation and Nutrition Hospitality and Catering
L2	Computer Science Film Studies	D5	Drama
L3	Skills for Learning, Skills for Life	D6	Dance
L4	French Spanish	D7	Music
L5	Physical Education	D9	Health and Social Care
L6	Science	D10	Textiles Technology
L7	English Language and Literature Mathematics	D11	Product Design
L8	History Religious Studies	D13 (Upstairs)	Art

In order to make informed decisions, students must have a clear understanding of their subject strengths and therefore, next Thursday, your daughter will receive a Progress Check which will provide details of her progress in all of her subjects.

The educational landscape has changed considerably in the last two years with new GCSE grades being introduced, coursework being removed from the majority of subjects and an increase in content. These changes have impacted on the curriculum that students follow.

Our aim is to offer a broad and balanced curriculum which meets the needs and aspirations of our students and provides the optimal progression routes into post-16 education.

The English Baccalaureate places a focus on certain key subjects seen as offering academic rigour and a firm foundation for students' future success whatever route they follow. All students will study the English Baccalaureate combination of subjects.

Our core curriculum consists of:

- English Language
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- Science
- A Modern Foreign Language (Your daughter selected this in Year 7 and will continue to study this subject.)
- History or Geography
- Core Physical Education

Students will be able to choose two extended option subjects based on their interests and aspirations. These choices will be made from a broad selection and it is these choices that should be the focus of this evening. We understand that students tend to achieve their best results in subjects that they enjoy and so it is important that students select courses in which they have a real interest as well as aptitude.

All of the subjects on offer are present this evening to talk to you about what their subject has to offer at Key Stage 4.

The available extended option subjects are:

- Art
- Business
- Computer Science
- Dance
- Drama
- Film Studies
- Food Preparation and Nutrition
- Health and Social Care *
- Hospitality and Catering *
- Music
- Physical Education
- Product Design
- Religious Studies
- Sports Studies *
- Textiles Technology
- Travel and Tourism *

* GCSE Equivalent

This year, for the first time, students will complete their options online. Tomorrow, all students should receive an invitation to log on to the options portal via their school email account. Once they have logged on they will be able to complete an initial options survey. This information will enable us to place subjects in the most appropriate option block. It is important to us that as many students as possible receive their first choices and this feedback early in the process will hopefully result in option blocks that will suit the majority of students. Some of the subjects on offer will be new to our students and we will therefore offer taster lessons to enable them to make an informed choice. Students will be able to choose up to three subjects in which they would like to have a taster lesson. **The completed survey and taster lesson choices are due in by Friday 11 January 2019.**

In order for parents to be able to approve their child's choices online we must have an up to date email address to create login details for parents. Please complete the details on the forms this evening and leave in the collection boxes by the doors.

Parents will have the opportunity to talk to their child's current teachers at the Parent Consultation Evening on Thursday 31 January 2019 before having to make any definitive choices.

Map

