

12th January 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

As you are aware, this term is a very important time in your child's education. Within this term we begin the Key Stage 4 Options process, wherein your child will be able to input into the decisions around the subjects they will study throughout Year 10 and 11.

I will be launching the Options Process in Year 9 Assembly this week to talk the students through the process and share key information with them. As parents, your support in this process is vital and I would like to make you aware of some key dates and deadlines.

| Date | Event | Time |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Thursday 11 th January | Year 9 Options Launch Assembly | 1.05 - 1.30pm |
| Thursday 25 th January | Year 9 Options Evening | 6.00 - 8.00pm |
| Friday 2 nd February | Taster Session Option Deadline | 1.30pm |
| Thursday 15 th February | Taster Day 1 | Lesson 1 - 4 |
| Friday 16 th February | Taster Day 2 | Lesson 1 - 4 |
| Friday 8 th March | Key Stage 4 Options Deadline | 3.10pm |

The Options Evening on **Thursday 25th January 2024** is a vital part of the process and will include a short presentation in the Theatre to explain the process and things to consider. The other part of the evening allows an opportunity for you and your child to speak to teachers about the subjects they are considering studying, the career opportunities they link to and key skills required for the courses. There will also be an Options Booklet which will contain detailed information on all subjects, the options process itself and the blocks that subjects are in. As you will be aware there is a wide variety of courses on offer in the Academy, some of which will be completely new to your child and the Options Evening is an excellent way to find out more about what the expectations are for studying each subject in Key Stage 4.

Due to the increased numbers in the Academy, there is a need to split the Options Evening presentation on Thursday 25th January into 2 sessions to be able to accommodate all students and their parents.

| | Presentation in Theatre |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Discovery and Challenger Students | 6.15pm |
| Endeavour and Enterprise Students | 6.45pm |

Doors to the evening will open at 6.00pm and parents and students from Endeavour and Enterprise are welcome to come when doors open. This will give them the opportunity to talk to teachers about the subjects before their talk at 6.45pm. Following the first talk, students from Discovery and Challenger are encouraged to spend time talking to teachers about the subjects they are considering. The evening is expected to end at 8.00pm which should give time for all students and parents to be able to discuss the subjects they are interested in.

I look forward to meeting you on the Options Evening and supporting your child in the decision-making process about the next stage in their education.

Yours sincerely

Rebecca Rhodes
 Assistant Principal