



18 January 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

## **OPTIONS EVENING – THURSDAY, 28 FEBRUARY 2019 OPTIONS PROCESS 2019-2022**

As you are aware year 8 is a very important year. This is when your child will select the GCSE subjects they wish to follow from year 9 through to year 11. Students have already had an assembly in order to help them start thinking about this process. This will enable them to make informed choices on their options form ready for study from September 2019.

Several subjects remain compulsory during Year 9, 10 and 11 to meet statutory requirements; all students study a core of **English Language, English Literature, Maths, Combined Science, PE and PSHE/RS**. To maintain breadth and balance in the curriculum students must select one of the following compulsory subjects; **Computer Science, French, Geography, History and Spanish**.

When it comes to option choices, subjects come with different requirements. To support students with these demands we will recommend a particular pathway to follow. We will select the pathway we feel most appropriate for your child considering prior attainment, academic potential and student interest. The selection of the pathway will be carefully thought through so that your child can reach their maximum potential at the end of year 11. I will inform you before Options Evening of the pathway we have selected for your child.

These pathways are:-

- Pathway A - students on this pathway will select their compulsory subject following the EBACC route and therefore including a Humanities subject i.e. Geography or History, a Language and 2 open choices.
- Pathway B - students on this pathway will select their compulsory subject and 3 open choices.

Additional assemblies will be held to explain to the students the options process and to allow staff to present subjects not currently studied in years 7 and 8. This information will also be available at the Options Evening on 28 February.

This is an exciting time for the students in year 8 and I would encourage you to discuss with your child their aspirations, career wishes and learning styles to help them make the most informed choices.

I look forward to seeing you on Options Evening on 28 February.

Yours sincerely

Mr P Gordon  
Assistant Principal