

Dear Year 9 Student

10 November 2023

**Year 9 IAG Options Process - Y10/11 GCSE and BTEC Courses starting Sept 2024**

(IAG = Information, Advice and Guidance)

You are about to enter an important stage in your school life. From September 2024 and then for the next two years you will be following a range of examination courses that will provide you with your first educational certificates and, hopefully, lead to further success in Post-16 education or an apprenticeship of your choosing and beyond.

At our academy, we wish to provide you with the best possible education and guided pathway options. To do this, we set high standards and help you do the very best you can: placing students first. Our students have enjoyed considerable success in their examinations in the past and we are confident you will maintain this tradition in the future.

Up to now you have been studying a wide range of subjects as part of a balanced curriculum that has provided you with a firm foundation for your GCSEs. In fact, you have followed a range of subjects that have met all of the requirements of the National Curriculum.

In September 2024, you will progress to Key Stage 4, where each of the subjects taught have a specification which takes a certain amount of lesson time to get through. This makes it impossible to study an unlimited number of subjects in Years 10 and 11; you need to make some choices. Therefore, some of your subjects will be compulsory (we call them the core subjects: Maths, English and Science plus PHSE and Core PE), and some subjects are optional.

The optional subjects may be traditional GCSE and/or vocational qualifications. There will be more information about both of these types of qualification later this term. An options booklet explaining these choices will be posted in your year group classroom early December 2023. Please read this options booklet carefully, it will give you an overview of the options you can choose within it.

It is an exciting time in your education where you get to make some choices, please make sure that you consider them carefully and follow the advice that is given to you. Your teachers will start to talk to you about subject specifics throughout this term. If you have any questions on a particular subject, please contact the following teachers.

Yours faithfully,



**Mrs Marsh**  
**Vice Principal**

Please get in touch with the  
***Heads of Department***  
for that subject area for more information.

Mrs Sanderson - Head of English

Ms Gaughan - Head of Maths

Mr Ogley - Head of Science

Mrs Higson - Head of History and Geography

Mrs Fernandez - Head of MFL (Spanish)

Mr Amer - Head of Art and Design

Mr Grant - Head of DT and Food

Mr Hudson - Head of PE

Mr Peirson - Leader of Life (RE)

Mr Appleby - Head of Music and Drama

Mr Clegg - Head of ICT / Computer Science and Business



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