

9th December 2022

Dear Parent / Carer

Year 9 into 10

Years 10-11 Guided Pathway Information

Continuing the Five Year Curriculum Journey

We are pleased to attach the guided pathway information booklet including subject information for courses starting in Years 10-11 at Outwood Academy Freeton.

At Outwood Grange Academies Trust we firmly believe that all children, irrespective of their starting point, are entitled to a broad and balanced curriculum which will enable them to succeed both whilst at the academy and beyond. It is our intent that the experiences we provide our students through our wider educational offer, and specifically our curriculum offer, drives our Trust vision Students First: raising standards and transforming lives. To that end, at Outwood Academy Freeton we are delighted to offer an innovative curriculum, which enables all students within our academy to fulfil their potential and develop the all-important knowledge, skills and qualities which will serve them well in later life.

Our permanent, subject specialist directors of English, maths, science, humanities, modern foreign languages, computer science and the arts, work across all of our academies. They are key to helping the teachers within each academy, to add the maximum value that we can, to your child's education. In addition to these important subject specialists, we also deploy specialists in Special Educational Needs & Disabilities and Attendance. Regular attendance, especially throughout Years 9-11, is critical to your child's success.

There are a number of opportunities for students now in year 9 to personalise their curriculum pathway as they move into year 10 and 11, the main choices being:

- *The continuation with their chosen GCSE or Vocational Expressive course (which they selected last year).*
- **Choice of either History or Geography**
- **Choice of a third main Guided Pathway GCSE qualifications**

These elements are a further feature of our flexible Guided Pathways curriculum for Years 9-11; which, alongside a core entitlement, make up the broad and balanced range of subjects on offer. Furthermore, we fully support the entitlement that students have to study the group of qualifications which the government calls the English Baccalaureate (EBacc): English, mathematics, sciences, one humanities subject (geography or history) and a modern foreign language. To both support attainment in this important group of subjects and promote a broad and balanced curriculum for your child, we require all students to study either geography or history at GCSE.

For many students it will be appropriate that they also study a modern foreign language, here at Outwood Academy Freeton this is **Spanish**. This will ensure students can attain the Full EBacc

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VAT number: 158 2720 04. Outwood Grange Academies Trust is an exempt charity.

A list of Directors' names is open to inspection at our registered office.

which, increasingly, higher education establishments are looking for: these subjects are also an excellent foundation for those who wish to go on and study A Levels in the 'Facilitating Subjects' (biology, chemistry, English, geography, history, maths, modern and classical languages, physics). It is possible to study both geography and history alongside a modern foreign language if a student wishes. We will advise you if we believe that your child should be following the Full EBacc route and as always, provide specialist independent careers advice to ensure that you have access to impartial support during this process.

We understand that this is a crucial time and the choosing of qualification courses is very important. You will find further information about support available to you on our Guided Pathway Google Site and contact information for key staff if you have any questions.

Dates for your diaries

Students will have an assembly streamed into classrooms on Tuesday 13th December 2022, copies of this will also be available for every student in their year group google classroom. **We have our Y9 virtual parents evening on Tuesday 10th January 2023 and our Information Advice and Guidance face to face event at the academy on Tuesday 17th January 2023, starting at 5:00pm with a presentation.**

Google Option Forms will be sent out on Tuesday 3rd January 2023 through the Year 9 Google Classroom and the **deadline for all returns is Wednesday 25th January 2023.**

Whatever your child is hoping to study, and then do in later life, I am sure that you will find the Guided Pathway process helpful, in the full knowledge that our sole aim is to put Students First: raising standards and transforming lives.

Please contact me directly via email should you have any questions.

Yours faithfully

L Marsh

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