



6 January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Happy New Year and we hope you have all had a good break albeit in very different circumstances this year.

GCSE Options for Year 10 - 2021

We are now at the time in Year 9 when your child needs to start thinking about and planning for GCSE options in September 2021. Although many courses have begun some GCSE teaching this year, students select their option subjects during this Spring Term in preparation for September 2021.

This letter outlines below what to expect over the coming term to support you and your child with this process:

Support for choosing GCSE options

- **Options Information presentation.** This will be shared with you next week and will take you through the whole option process. You will also be provided with a contact form if you would like to ask us any specific questions about option choices.
- **Option Booklets.** Students will be provided with an electronic option booklet next week with details on how to choose their options and information about each subject we offer. *Please note that although we aim to run all the options in this booklet that may not be possible if numbers are low or staffing levels change.*
- **Online Option form.** This year we will be asking students to complete their option choices on an online form. This will be shared later in the term with instructions on how to complete it.
- **Option assemblies.** Throughout January and early February, students will have virtual assemblies about the option process and individual subject assemblies so that they are able to make more informed choices about their options.
- **Student support.** Students will be supported in their life skills lessons, where they will have time to reflect on their skills and future career ideas to help them make suitable option choices. They will also be supported by their subject teachers and tutors.
- **One to one virtual interviews / support.** Although we don't run these for all students we are happy to provide them for any student / parent who would like one. There will be the opportunity to talk to the careers officer or a member of the senior leadership team.

All option forms will need to be completed by Friday 5th March 2021.

Yours sincerely

Carol Hubbard
Deputy Headteacher
(Curriculum)