



2nd February 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

## Year 8 Option Choices

In Year 9 your son/daughter has the opportunity to choose options for their Performing Arts, Art and Design and Computing subjects. This is something that we introduced a few years ago and have found to be very successful with previous Year 9 students. Your son/daughter had an assembly this week, where they were informed about each of the subjects and what they might be expected to do in those lessons. By choosing options in this way students will be able to secure a deeper understanding of their chosen subjects as well as beginning GCSE preparation if they continue to study that subject in the future. The Google Slides presentation that we used in the assembly has been made available for you to look at so you too are fully informed about what each of the eight subjects is and what your child will be studying next year. The presentation can be found on our website under the Parents tab, select Letters and Communications to Parents → Year 8 Options 2021 Assembly or by clicking this link:

<https://s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/smartfile/b8e4c5fb0130b37967e1a57beab66e9b/uploads/2021/01/28085113/Year-8-Options-2020-Assembly-%40-28.1.21.pdf>

We have sent out a copy of the options sign up sheet to all students via their school email and are asking you to sit down with your child and complete this by **Monday 22nd February** so we can plan for the 2021-22 timetable. The online form requires their name and tutor group and for them to rank the eight given subjects in order of preference with 1 being their top choice and 8 their last. We ask that students please think carefully when making their choices as it will not be possible to change them once they have been allocated. Please also be aware that although we will try very hard, we may not be able to give every student their top 4 subjects due to clashes with other subjects, class sizes or timetabling restrictions.

This year, with the current uncertainty due to coronavirus, it may not be possible for us to chase the students for form completion as easily as we have in the past, so we encourage you to complete this as soon as possible. We will endeavour to send out reminders as often as possible and certainly just before the deadline, but this year if students have not completed their choices by the deadline, they may be assigned subjects that have spaces rather than us asking them to complete their preferences in school, in order for the writing of the timetable to take place in good time, and ready for the new academic year.

Thank you for your help and support with this, if you have any questions or concerns please feel free to get in touch by either phone or email.

Kind regards

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