

28th February 2023

Year 9 Options Evening – March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is a reminder that you are invited to the Year 9 Options talk on Thursday 9th March at 5pm. The talk will last for approximately 30 minutes. There will be an opportunity to ask questions afterwards.

The purpose of the event is to give you and your child the information and guidance needed to make positive choices when opting for the subjects that your child will study in Years 10 and 11. Please note that due to restrictions on seating, we request that each student is accompanied by no more than two people.

Information about the options process is on the OIEA website in the 'Curriculum' section, under 'Key Stage 4 Options'. The Learning Journey for each subject is in this section. Learning Journeys give a brief overview of each subject from Year 7 to 11. You will also find a short video for each subject, which gives more detail on the structure and content of each course in Key Stage 4.

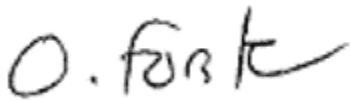
The timeline for the Options Process is:

Monday 27 th Feb to Friday 17 th March	Students will have taster sessions in lessons, to give them an experience of what a typical lesson is like in that subject in Key Stage 4. Opt-in taster sessions will also be run for subject that are not taught in Key stage 4 such as Health and Social Care and Enterprise.
Thursday 9 th March:	<p>Options Evening Talk with Mr Forster. The talk will last for approximately 30 minutes. There will be an opportunity to ask questions afterwards.</p> <p>We appreciate that many parents and carers have commitments, that may prevent you from attending. Therefore, a presentation, with all the key information on it, will also be available on the website from Friday 10th March. Parents and carers will be sent a link to this.</p> <p>Please note: Subject staff will not be in attendance. If you have specific queries about a subject, please watch the subject videos on our website: https://www.oiea.co.uk/curriculum/gcse-options</p> <p>If you have further queries, please email subject leaders. Their contact details are in the Options Booklet that all students will be given on the 9th March.</p>
Monday 13 th March to Friday 31 st March	All students will have a meeting with a member of the Senior Leadership Team to discuss their preferred options.

Tuesday 18 th April	<p>Final date for submission of Options choices. These will be submitted via an online form. Details on this will be sent home before Easter.</p> <p>Please note that there is no advantage to putting in a form early. All options choices are considered equally, after the 18th April. However, if Options choices are submitted late, or a student requests a change of option choice after the 18th April, then students who submitted their forms on time will get priority.</p>
Monday 24 th April to Friday 19 th May	Where it is needed, students will have a further meeting with Mr Forster, Mrs Pape or Mr Lockhart to consider if any changes need to be considered for options. If any changes are being considered to options subjects, parents and carers will be contacted and consulted.
Friday 7 th July	A letter confirming options choices will be sent to parents and carers. Please note that whilst we cannot guarantee that students will get all three of their top choices for options, we aim to give as many as possible, and to be fair to all students.

If you have any questions about the options process, please contact me at school.

Yours faithfully,



Oliver Forster
Vice Principal – Teaching and Learning