



18th November 2013

Dear Parent

You will be aware your son will be selecting his GCSE options this academic year. To ensure he can make as informed a decision as possible, please find below some important dates and useful information to aid in his decisions.

Year 9 Exams – Commencing 27th November

These will follow a formal procedure and take place in our exam hall. This is to start to prepare students for when they sit their actual GCSE's which will occur in the same setting and with the same expectations.

Students will require certain equipment for the exams which includes a black biro, pencil, rubber, ruler and calculator. These items must be placed in a clear, see-through pencil case.

It is extremely important that your son spends time revising for his exams:

www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks3/ is a good website to start with.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that homework club runs after school every day for an hour and I encourage your son to use this time and support for his revision.

Students will be briefed in a special assembly about the exam set up this week and have already been informed of their importance by their form tutors.

Subject Review Evening – Thursday 12th December

This is an opportunity for you to attend the Year 9 subject review evening in the Upper School Hall which will run from 4pm until 7pm.

This will be an important evening for you to discuss your son's progress, recent exam results and any other concerns you may have with all his teachers.

Your son will receive an appointment sheet to make appointments with each of his subject teachers; each appointment will last approximately 5 minutes.

Options Evening – Thursday 30th January. 6.30 start in main school hall.

The evening will provide you with a list of the subjects available for your son to follow in Key Stage 4, the varying nature of the courses and the next procedure in the guidance choice.

I know you will be as keen as we are to ensure your son is as informed as possible and that he makes the best options decisions linking in with his skills, hopes and future career aspirations.

After the evening we intend to hold one to one interviews involving every Year 9 student and a senior member of staff. Not only will this provide valuable experience of interview technique, but also give your son the opportunity to discuss, in detail, his career options and to fine tune his choices and ensure we can provide the best pathway tailored to his needs to enable him to achieve excellent GCSE grades.

If you are unsure of anything please do not hesitate to contact me. I look forward to seeing you at these events.

Yours faithfully

Miss N Haggart
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