



Dear Parents/Carers

Year 9 Options selection

Following a review of the curriculum when your child was in year 8, the decision was made to move year 9 into Key Stage 3. The main reasons for this were that this change aligns with the expectations of the National curriculum at Key Stage 3, in that it is a three-year course. This has also allowed students to 'catch up' elements of the lost learning due to COVID-19 disruptions over the last two years. All students will now be starting their KS4 courses in year 10.

This year students have been studying two SIS (special interest subjects) that they selected whilst in year 8. Within these subjects, this year has been spent working on the fundamentals and skills to prepare students for Key Stage 4.

These courses, in addition to the core subjects (English, maths and science) form part of the Key Stage 4 curriculum for students. The remaining elements are the two final individual choices from the EBACC suite of subjects, which students will be making this year. The decision to select these final two subjects in year 9 has given the students another year to experience these and complete further study before making their choices.

The process for selecting these last two subjects is as follows:

- Assembly for year 9 students explaining the selection process and subjects available for selection - Tuesday 5th April 2022
- Virtual options information evening goes live on the Academy website – 5th May. This will enable you to read information about the EBACC subjects on offer and watch videos from subject leaders discussing their courses.
- All students receive a 1 to 1 conversation with their tutor to discuss progress in their SIS and their potential choices - 5th to 16th May
- Options selection window opens – 16th May 3pm.
- Options selection window closes – 27th May 3pm.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you in advance for the support and guidance you will give your son/ daughter. If you have any questions or queries, please speak to your son/ daughter's form tutor in the first instance.

Kind regards

Katie Barker
Director of Curriculum Design and Timetable