

Thursday 16 May 2024

Dear families

Later this cycle, your child will be selecting their examined option routes for GCSE. This is an exciting time for students as they make important decisions about their studies. The academy puts a range of measures in place to support students, including dedicated sessions during PDS and individual meetings with senior staff. Students will continue to be taught a broad curriculum in Year 9, however this process will identify the examined routes that your child wishes to uptake. For example, if a student chooses History, they will continue to study Geography as well until the end of Year 9.

The first step in this process is for your child to complete the expression of interest form attached to this letter. Your child has had a lecture delivered in a whole year group this week and received a booklet about the potential subjects that will be available for them to select next year.

Please note that the first stage is an initial expression of interest. Once all forms have been returned, the available choices will be finalised based on student interest. The deadline to return the expression of interest forms is **Friday 24 May**. Students will need to hand in their form to reception.

#### Examined Route Information Evening

Following on from expressing their interest, one of the most important forms of support is the advice of family members. To help you to support your child, there is an Examined Options Evening on **Thursday 6 June**. This will include:

- A presentation about the examined option routes
- Information about how to complete the form correctly and how to support your child
- An opportunity (after the presentation) to speak to senior staff
- A link to all the specifications for each course

The presentations are at **4.00pm and 5.15pm**. Each presentation will last approximately 35 minutes; this will allow time to speak to senior staff in the Heart Space if you have any further questions.

As the information at this event is essential for supporting your child, it is expected that all families will attend. If you are not able to make this date, please contact the academy who will be able to give you further information.

Please don't hesitate to contact Miss Blythe with any questions that you might have.

Yours faithfully

Charlotte Blythe  
**Vice Principal**

