

# HENDON SCHOOL

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*'Learning Together Across the World'*

30/01/2024

Dear Parents /Carers,

Students in year 9 are about to make some important decisions regarding GCSE choices for next year. At Hendon we want all our students to be well prepared for the future, which is why we have a broad and balanced Key Stage 4 curriculum. We therefore have a mix of core subjects that all students must study in key stage 4 and optional subjects, which students can choose between.

To help students make the right choices we have 2 important events coming up this half term:

1. Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February: Year 9 Options Event

This event will be for **students only** and will run during period 6 up until **3.20pm**. Students will have a special assembly (through MS Teams) to launch the options process, followed by subject presentations from a variety of new subjects, which are not taught in Key Stage 3. After the assembly students will have the opportunity to visit market stalls in the Key Stage 4 Curriculum Fair and talk to teachers about the subjects they are interested in.

2. Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February: Year 9 Parents Evening

Parents evening will provide an opportunity for both parents and students to ask questions to individual teachers about GCSE subject choices. After the parents evening you will be invited down to the canteen for a special presentation about the options process and transition to key stage 4. You are more than welcome to ask questions to senior leaders during this time.

In addition to the 2 events above, students will also receive advice and guidance on future career pathways through SMART Futures lessons and can access more detailed information about the Options process and the courses we offer on Frog. It will also be possible to speak to form tutors on the Academic Review Day on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February with any further questions.

There is no immediate rush to make any decisions, however we encourage all students to be thinking about and discussing potential choices at home over the next few weeks. Please be aware that course changes at a later date are not always possible therefore getting the choices right from the outset is very important.

The electronic form for making Options choices on Frog will be open from **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February** to **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024**. Please be aware that some courses have a maximum number of students and places will be allocated to students that meet the deadline in the first instance.

If you have any further questions about the options process please feel free to get in touch. My email is [spicerr@hendonschool.co.uk](mailto:spicerr@hendonschool.co.uk)

Yours sincerely

*Mr R Spicer*

(Assistant Headteacher)

