



ST GEORGE'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND FOUNDATION SCHOOL

"Every moment, every day, every individual counts"

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3rd February 2020

Dear Parent

REF: YEAR 9 OPTIONS & PARENTS' EVENING SUMMARY

It was great to see so many of you at the recent Consultation Evening for Year 9 where we discussed the options arrangements for this year. I am glad that many of you were able to discuss the process with our staff and asked us lots of questions. We have summarised much of the information for you in this letter.

OPTIONS PROCESS

Well done to those who have attended the taster sessions. As a reminder, lists are displayed on the Student Support window and will be announced the proceeding evening over the tannoy. It is important that pupils who have signed up to these sessions, do attend (as that space has been allocated to them) or advise if they are no longer able to attend so that spaces on the waiting list can be offered.

Key dates for your attention:

Wednesday, 26th February 2020

A 1 hour assembly delivered by Chris Targett – Careers Advisor from CXK

Thursday, 27th February 2020

Options forms emailed to parents and hard copies given to pupils via their Form Tutors

Friday, 28th February 2020

First opportunity for options forms to be returned to school

Process for returning completed options forms:

From Friday, 28th February 2020 until Tuesday, 3rd March 2020 pupils have the opportunity to return their forms to Mrs Jenkins in the small gym between 8.00 a.m. and 8.45 a.m. Please only hand forms to Mrs Jenkins during this time.

Any pupils who do not return the forms in this timeframe will need to return them to Student Support from Wednesday, 4th March 2020 onwards. Please remember, for those option subjects with limited class sizes, we operate on a first come, first served basis.

A reminder that pupils should be selecting 5 choices, the preferred 3 subjects with 2 reserves. Pupils have the ability to choose whichever combination they feel most appropriate. The only exception to this is Art and Textiles. A pupil can only study one or the other due to them being the same qualification but following different specialisms.

Once all forms are returned and processed we will be in a position to confirm allocations and hope to do be able to do this as quickly as possible. These allocations will be confirmed in writing. If for any reason your child's preferred option combination is not possible, we will discuss this with them in the first instance.

As with previous years, it is our intention that pupils will begin their option subjects as of the start of Term 6 of year 9. This term will be used as a settling in term and will also provide a 2 week window for any changes. It is hoped that the taster sessions will have given opportunity for pupils to know which subjects are right for them but in the event of a change this can be accommodated within this window. However, no changes will be made without parental consent.

"For the body does not consist of one member but of many" 1 Corinthians 12:14

HOPE

FORGIVENESS

COMPASSION

FRIENDSHIP

WISDOM

KEY STAGE 3 ASSESSMENT STRATEGY

Assessment strategy remains unchanged for the core subjects (English, Maths, Science and RE). However, changes have been made to non-core subjects (all other subjects studied in years 7, 8 and 9). These subjects have moved to the new colour target and assessment system. Please refer to the Academic Overview Guide which can be found using the following link to our website: <http://www.stgeorges-school.org.uk/340/academic-overview?search=AcademicOverview>. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me at the school.

CAREERS ADVICE

We are very fortunate to have the services of Chris Targett, Independent Careers Advisor from CXK. He will be working with our year 9 pupils over the next few weeks. If you would like your child to have the opportunity of a one to one session with Chris, please send a request to Mr Morgan at the school in the first instance. We will try to accommodate as many requests as possible but group sessions and assemblies will hopefully provide enough information for your child to make informed choices regarding options.

Chris has also written a Guide to choosing GCSE Options for Year 9 pupils which can be found using the following link: <https://www.cxk.org/blog/year-9-careers-information-advice-a-guide-to-choosing-gcse-options/>.

INFORMATION ON THE WEBSITE

The following documents can be found on the website via the following link:

www.stgeorges-school.org.uk/1534/parents-consultations-and-information-evenings

- Subject handouts
- Presentation from both Options Information and Parents' Evenings

I hope the above information is useful to you as your child begins to take this next step in their education. If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact me at the school.

Yours sincerely



Mr L Waddon
Assistant Headteacher