



Woodside High School

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26 February 2021

Dear parent/carer,

Re: Year 9 Options

I am excited to inform you that Year 9 students are now at the time of the year when they choose their option subjects to study at Year 10 and 11.

As you will have heard, students will soon be returning to school, and a letter with full details of their return will be sent shortly. This letter and information pack is about the Year 9 options process.

In addition to this letter you have received:

- Information on all the subjects available to study
- Options choice form

Zoom Assembly and Virtual Options Evening

Mr Davis will be running a virtual zoom assembly at the normal time of 3.00pm on Wednesday 3rd March where these sheets and the options process will be explained in full. Please ensure your child is logged onto this very important assembly.

In normal years we invite students and their parents/carers to an options evening where you can find more information about a subject. This year we will be instead launching a *virtual* options evening where you can watch a video, online, for all subjects. There will also be a video explaining the process in full, and we invite all parents and carers to watch it.

The virtual information evening can be found at this web address from Wednesday 3rd March at 3.20pm: www.woodsidehighschool.co.uk/options

EBACC Pathway

You do not need to complete the form before the assembly, however please start to discuss with your child whether they intend to take the EBACC pathway or the FLEXIBLE pathway. To take the EBACC pathway your child must choose either Geography or History and either French or Spanish. If you child intends to study A-Levels at sixth form we strongly recommend they choose the EBACC pathway to ensure to give them maximum breadth of options for future academic choices.

Options Choices

In addition to the core subjects which all students study, your child makes choices from four separate option blocks. They should select a first and a second choice in the options choice form.

It is very important you have a conversation with your child about the information in the subject sheet in the pack you have received with this letter, and that they watch the video for any subject they are considering following Mr Davis' assembly.

There is an exciting range of subjects, but it is very important that your child understands fully what the course is, as this is a course they will study for two years until they leave Woodside.

Unlike this year with Year 9 Electives there is **not** the opportunity to switch courses during Year 10.

Next Steps

When your child returns to school, they should bring their options form with them to discuss with their tutor, who will meet them to talk about their choices. The final deadline for the form to be completed and returned to your child's tutor is **Wednesday 31st March**.

If you have any questions please contact your child's form tutors, the head of year (Mr Davis) or myself. If your child needs further advice on the best subjects for them based on their plans for the future, they should see the Careers Co-ordinator, Ms Ozcelik, when they return to school, or can contact her now via:

nurcan.irencin-ozcelik@woodsidehighschool.co.uk or 020 8889 6761.

We look forward to seeing all of Year 9 at the zoom assembly, and in person when they return to school soon. Please look out for the upcoming letter with full details on their return to school.

Yours faithfully,



David Robson
Assistant Headteacher

Co Interim Head Teachers: Lynne Hardcastle & Tracey Rollings

