



19 January 2026

Dear Parents, Carers and students

As we begin the GCSE Options process for Year 9 students, I am writing to outline the process, key dates, and the support available to you and your child as they make these important decisions. While all students will continue to study a core set of compulsory subjects in Upper School, they will also have the opportunity to choose four additional option subjects as part of their GCSE pathway.

We recognise that this is a significant and sometimes daunting stage, and our aim is to ensure that students are supported to make thoughtful, well-informed choices that reflect their strengths, interests, and future aspirations.

Year 9 Options Evening - Monday 2 February 2026

We warmly invite you to attend our in-person Year 9 Options Evening, which will run as follows:

- **6:00 pm – Presentation for families with student surnames A-L**
- **6:30 pm – Presentation for families with student surnames M-Z**

Both presentations will be led by me and will cover the same information, including how the options process works, how subjects are allocated, and key points to consider when making choices.

While one presentation is taking place, families are encouraged to visit subject areas around the school. Teachers will be available throughout the evening to discuss course content, expectations, and progression routes, including subjects that are newly available at GCSE.

**Please complete the link below if you will be attending the Options Evening:
[Year 9 Options Evening - 02 February 2026 – Fill out form](#)**

Key Dates for Your Calendar

Thursday 26 February 2026 - Virtual Parents' Evening

An opportunity to discuss your child's progress and the suitability of potential courses with subject teachers.

Monday 2 March 2026 - Deadline for submission of the Options Form

The Options Form will be emailed to students' school email address and will need to be completed online. If IT access is unavailable at home students can use the computers in school to complete this form. Please note that forms submitted after this date may limit our ability to secure preferred subjects.

To support families further, all students will receive a comprehensive Options Booklet, and the same information will also be available on the school website. Together, these resources are designed to help guide conversations at home and ensure students feel confident about the choices they make.

If you have any questions at any point during the process, please do not hesitate to contact me. I am very happy to help.

We look forward to working closely with you and your child as they take this exciting next step in their education.

Yours sincerely,

Ellen Maude

Assistant Headteacher

