



17 January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers of our year 9 students

Important information about the year 9 options evening

I hope this finds you well.

We look forward to welcoming you to our options evening on Thursday 18th January. The evening runs from 4.30pm to 6.15pm with talks in the Main Hall at 4.45pm and 5.30pm.

The purpose of the evening is to give parents/carers and students the opportunity to discuss with academic staff what is involved in their subject at GCSE. Of course, the options booklet that has been sent to students contains lots of information about the various option subjects and parents/carers may wish to look at it with their child. You can access the 2024 options booklet on our website [here](#).

Parents/Carers have received their child's report which includes a GCSE predicted grade for each subject. The predicted grade is the class teacher's best estimate of what your child is likely to get if they continued with the subject to GCSE. Sometimes, parents ask if the teacher feels the child would do well in their subject at GCSE and whilst 'doing well' is a bit subjective, the intention of providing a predicted grade is to help students and parents/carers make an informed decision alongside other considerations.

I hope that the options evening gives you the chance to find out more about the various GCSE options so that you and your child can make an informed decision about the most appropriate subjects for them to study. It is important that students



select subjects that they enjoy. As you would imagine, during the options evening, teaching staff will be focusing on explaining the requirements of their subject at GCSE as well as answering general questions and are therefore unlikely to have capacity to have in-depth conversations about individual students.

Parents' evenings for year 9 are scheduled for the weeks after the option evening and parents will be booking a slot for these online meetings. The parents' evening is the opportunity for parents/carers to discuss how their child has been getting on over the course of the academic year and for the teacher to share successes as well as areas of development.

Very best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Underdown', followed by a horizontal flourish.

Simon Underdown.
Headteacher.