



PARMITER'S SCHOOL

FOUNDED 1681

Headmaster: Mr M Jones BA MEd

15 January 2019

Dear Parents/Carers of Year 9 students

GCSE Options Process & Information Evening (Thursday 31st January, 7.00pm)

This term your son or daughter will make decisions about the subjects they will study to GCSE level. In Key Stage 4 (Years 10 and 11) students study compulsory core subjects, but they also have an element of choice that allows them to personalise their curriculum (option subjects). Careful consideration should be given to option choices to ensure that your son or daughter enjoys their studies, is successful in their GCSE courses and gains suitable qualifications for study or employment post-16.

The process outlined below will offer you and your son or daughter the necessary guidance to make these important decisions.

- (i) Introduction to the GCSE options process in assembly on Tuesday 15th January 2019 and issuing of the options booklet. The options booklet will also be available on the school website (Curriculum – GCSE Options).
- (ii) **GCSE Options Information Evening on Thursday 31st January 2019, 7.00pm**, for students and parents. Further information about this event is given below.
- (iii) **Year 9 Parents' Evening on Wednesday 13th February 2019, 4:30-7:30pm**, where you can discuss possible choices with subject tutors.
- (iv) **Completed 'GCSE subject choice form' submitted to form tutor on Friday 15th February 2019.**
- (v) Option choices confirmed (April/May). Prior to confirmation, some students will meet with a senior member of staff or Head of Careers to discuss their option subjects.
- (vi) In September/early October you will be invited to the Year 10 Curriculum Evening. The evening provides further information about assessment at Key Stage 4 and offers guidance on how you can support your son or daughter during their GCSE studies.

We recognise that for a small number of students a full programme of GCSEs may not be appropriate and an adapted curriculum will allow them to achieve more highly in the qualifications they do study. If we would advise a differentiated curriculum for your son or daughter, myself or Ms Absalom will be in contact to explain the options available and to arrange to meet with you at Parents' Evening.

GCSE Options Information Evening, Thursday 31st January 2019, 7:00pm–9:30pm

This evening provides an overview of the Key Stage 4 curriculum and allows you to find out more detail about the GCSE option subjects your son or daughter is considering studying next year.

The evening will start with an overview of the Key Stage 4 curriculum presented by Mrs Berks, Ms Absalom and Mr Tookey. There will also be presentations from Ms O'Donnell, Head of MFL, and Ms Hooper, Head of Science. You are then invited to attend up to four 20-minute subject presentations given by subject leaders of option subjects. These presentations will allow you to find out more about the GCSE courses your son or daughter is considering studying. To ensure that you are able to attend the sessions you are interested in, you must register by **Friday 25th January 2019**. To register, your son or daughter must **return the attached form to their form tutor by the deadline**.

During the evening Mrs Berks, Mr Tookey and Ms Absalom will be available if you wish to discuss any aspect of the options process.

The following presentations will run during the evening:

- Art & Design
- Computer Science
- Design & Technology: Electronic & Mechanical Systems specialism
- Design & Technology: Graphic Design and Product Design specialisms (*please note, these specialisms are presented together to allow students to understand the difference between them and make a more informed decision about which specialism is right for them*)
- Design & Technology: Textiles specialism
- Drama
- Business and Economics (*please note, these subjects are presented together to allow students to understand the similarities and differences between them and make a more informed choice as to which subject is right for them*)
- Food Preparation & Nutrition
- Geography
- History
- Music
- Physical Education (GCSE course)
- Religious Studies

Please ensure that you have read the GCSE Options Information booklet before deciding which subject presentations you wish to register for.

We look forward to seeing you on Thursday 31st January at 7.00pm.

Yours sincerely



Mrs E Berks
Assistant Headteacher



GCSE Options Information Evening Registration Form

To be returned to Form Tutors by **Friday 25 January 2019**

Student Name	
Student Form	
I would like to attend the following subject presentations:	
1	
2	
3	
4	

If you want to attend a Design & Technology presentation, have you indicated which specialism?

Please note that the order given above does not indicate a preference, or the order in which you will attend the presentations on the evening. When you arrive at the event you will be given a personalised schedule for the evening.