



Dear parents and carers,

Year 8 Options

Students in year 8 have the opportunity to select some 'option' subjects for studying in year 9, 10 and 11. This is part of a varied curriculum made up of core subjects, option subjects, PE, PSHE and the exciting Enrichment Curriculum.

The options students select allow them personalise their curriculum and select subjects that they have a special interest or skill in. Alongside this specialising, all students take part in an Enrichment Curriculum. This is an exciting mix of curriculum subjects including art, IT, humanities and performing arts, all taught in a project based manner. There is a particular emphasis on key skills from these subjects and on transferable literacy skills which will support learning in all subject areas.

The options process this year comprises of the following elements:

- Initial survey completed by year 8 students in January 2021. This was an initial indication of what subjects they may want to select, which enables us to create option blocks.
- Options Event – this will launch on Wednesday 24th February on the Academy website. There will be videos from each subject on offer containing information about their subject, plus general information videos about the options process. From this day, the options booklets will also be available on the website.
- All students will be given the opportunity to have a discussion with their form tutor or member of their college pastoral team to talk about their options.
- The option selection window opens at 9am on **Monday 15th March 2021**.
- The option selection window closes at 3pm on **Friday 26th March 2021**.

Students will be submitting their selections online using their usual school computer logins. Please note that it is not a first come first served system- any applications made during the selection window will be treated equally.

If you have any questions, please contact your student's form tutor or myself. Thank you for your support in helping to guide your son/daughter in selecting their options.

Katie Barker
Director of Curriculum Design and Timetable

