

17 November 2021

Dear Year 9 Parents/Carers

Year 9 Option Choices

During year 9 pupils will make option choices for the courses they will study in years 10 and 11 (key stage 4) leading to their GCSEs and other external qualifications. This is an exciting time and enables them to follow a curriculum which starts to reflect their own interests and futures. Alongside their options, pupils will study a core curriculum consisting of English language and literature, mathematics, science and non-examined courses in Philosophy, Ethics and Religion (EPR), Physical Education (PE) and Personal, Social, Health and Education (PSHE). This curriculum will start from the beginning of year 10.

To launch the start of our options process, I am delighted to invite you to our Options Evening on Monday 6th December, starting at 5.30pm. At the moment, we are planning on holding this important event face to face but we are continuing to monitor the infection rates from Covid 19 and will follow governmental advice if this changes. In the unfortunate event that we are no longer able to hold the event as planned, the evening will move online and I will communicate this to you as soon as possible. We do ask that when walking about the school, and at any time where it is difficult to maintain social distancing during the event, you kindly wear a face covering (unless exempt). Sanitising stations will be available and we will ensure that all rooms are well ventilated.

Following Options Evening, a full programme of information and guidance will be in place to help pupils make appropriate choices and to allow you to support them in this over the coming weeks. To ensure that our pupils are given every opportunity to succeed and select the most appropriate courses, they will be placed on one of three pathways (Extended, Open or Vocational) based on their ability, aptitude and the predictions expected of them. Further information on the pathways will be sent out after Christmas once pupils have completed their upcoming end of learning cycle assessments. They will also get the chance to listen to a range of options assemblies where they will be able to find out more about different subjects and qualifications.

If you have any further questions about the options process, please do not hesitate to contact me at: samantha.atkinson@teignmouthschool.co.uk. Next week, I will be sending out the full programme for Options Evening and how the event will be organised.

Yours sincerely



Sammy Atkinson
Deputy Head

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