



Dear Parent / Guardian

We are now entering an exciting time in your child’s education as they start the process of considering what subjects they would like to study for GCSE. Choosing GCSE options is a critical part of a pupil’s school experience. It is an important time for pupils to begin thinking about their future career and the subjects that will best assist them in reaching their potential.

Whilst it can be an exciting time it can also be a challenging and potentially stressful time. However, it need not be. It is the school’s aim to help and support pupils and their parents/carers through the subject Option Choice process by providing resources and opportunities to help pupils in making decisions and choices that are right for them and their needs.

To assist pupils and parents / guardians in making their initial selection, detailed guidance is provided in the GCSE Subject Choices booklet which can be found on the school SIMS parent app or website via the following link: <https://royalschool.com/3d-flip-book/gcse-options/>

This booklet will guide you and your child through the subjects and courses available and will help them make an informed choice regarding the optional subjects they may wish to study.

Pupils who are uncertain about their science choices should consult their science teachers to explore the option that best meets their potential and their needs.

Below is a timeline of the various support opportunities within the Subject Options choice process.

<u>GCSE Subject Option Timeline</u>	
Pupils’ assembly on the purpose of the survey and guidance on how to complete It	Friday January 13 th
Pupils Complete subject options survey to gauge the likely uptake of subjects	Tuesday January 17 th -Wednesday January 18 th
Information Presentation to parents about GCSE Options process	Thursday February 9 th 3.30pm Reid Hall
Year 10 Parent Teacher Meeting	Thursday February 9 th 4-6pm Assembly Hall
Pupils issued with option booklets to include option choice form	Friday February 10 th
Pupils complete a further survey (this takes place after pupils have had had access to their options booklet, careers support and information about new subjects at GCSE)	Tuesday February 21 st - Wednesday February 22 nd

<u>GCSE Subject Option Timeline</u>	
Careers meeting with parent and pupil	Wednesday March 8 th (Individual times to be confirmed)
Submission deadline of option choice form	Friday March 24 th
Contact made with Parents/Pupils if any option choices need to be further discussed	End of April
Letter sent to parents confirming final options outcomes	Week beginning May 14 th

Pupils have also been informed that they have access to members of staff who can advise them about career pathways. They have been encouraged to be proactive and to seek out these staff members in order to have informal conversations about possible pathways and subject choices. In addition, information about course specification and content regarding GCSE subjects will be presented to pupils at various times during timetabled lessons.

We want our pupils to choose subjects they enjoy, subjects that they look forward to going to and subjects that will give them the best possible chances of success in their chosen pathway after leaving school.

Therefore, we hope the support and opportunities we offer to you and your child throughout the process will help your child to choose what is right for him/her.

We look forward to meeting you on February 9th. In the meantime, if you have any questions or need something clarified please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully



Mrs Elizabeth Murray
VP Curriculum