

9 January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

We look forward to welcoming you to the Year 9 Parents' Evening on Thursday. This is the first parents' evening to take place at school since COVID, so I would like to take this opportunity to explain the arrangements for the evening.

Please head to reception on arrival to collect a map (also attached). You do not need to sign in when you arrive but senior staff will be based there throughout the evening should you have any queries. We are using a selection of venues close to reception for the evening: A1 (room next to reception), drama hall, A3 (first room after the drama hall), the canteen, art rooms above the canteen and the outside drama studio. These rooms are in close proximity, which will help to ease movement from one location to the next within the minimum five-minute break you have between appointments.

Please bring your appointment schedule with you on the evening. We recommend taking a photograph of your appointment times in case you cannot connect to the internet when you arrive. Although we are able to help anyone who does not have their schedule, this may delay you from getting to appointments on time.

We encourage students to attend the evening. It is useful for them to be involved in the conversation, but we respectfully request that other siblings do not attend.

The focus for discussion is your child's progress in the subject. We will be providing extensive information about the options process over the coming few weeks so there is no need to use your appointment time to talk about this. I have provided a summary of this process provided below.

To be fair to all parents and students, it is important that we run to time for each appointment.

We will also take the opportunity to ask you to fill out a short survey to let us know your thoughts about aspects of the school. We will hand these out when you arrive and would be grateful if you would complete and return to a box at reception when you leave.

We hope you find the evening informative.

Best wishes



Hannah Khan
Headteacher

GCSE Options Information for Year 9 Parents

Over the next term, year 9 students make their Key Stage 4 options. This is an exciting process for students and is the next stage of their journey to independence; however, we understand that it can also be quite daunting. With all this in mind, we provide resources, experiences and support to help students make their choices.

The Progress Report issued in December and this week's parents' evening provide the attainment and progress information needed to start the options process later this term.

The table below outlines the key dates

Wednesday 7 February 2024	Extended Assembly for Year 9 students Option Booklets issued Information Evening for Parents in Hall at 6pm MS Form sent for students to choose taster lessons for new subjects GCSE taster lessons begin within timetable
Week beginning 12 February	Half term holiday
Week beginning 19 February	Taster lessons for new subjects, taster lessons within the timetable continue. Each student meets with Miss Johnstone or Mr Thomas to discuss choices and access additional support if needed.
Week beginning 26 February	Options form sent electronically to parents by email, completion deadline Monday 4 March