



Hazelwick School

An Academy

Headteacher: Ms A Fearon BA (Hons) MA NPQH

Chair of Governors: Mrs R Bowron

16th December 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 8 Option Choices for Key Stage 4 Courses 2021-2024

Towards the end of next term (Wednesday 10th March), your son or daughter will be asked to decide on the range of subjects he or she wishes to study at Key Stage 4 to public examination level at the end of Year 11.

There are a range of events, processes and activities to support students make these important decisions in conjunction with their parents/carers. Alongside a programme of Options-based activities to be undertaken in Form time in January, there are also videos from each Head of Department on the school website outlining their subject at GCSE and giving information. These videos will also be shown to all Year 8 students as part of the tutorial programme.

The Key Stage 4 Options Booklet is currently available on the school website. The booklet and the Head of Department videos can both be found via this link:

<https://www.hazelwick.org/teaching-and-learning/ks4-guidance>.

This booklet gives advice and guidance about each subject and all Year 8 students will be given a hard copy in the first week of the Spring Term. It would be helpful if you could consider all of the information provided in the booklet to help with the process of choosing Options.

An Options Information Presentation for parents and carers will be recorded and placed on the website in January. In this presentation, Mr Leadbitter, Deputy Headteacher, and Mr Myers, Head of Lower School, will:

- give information about the courses available and the ways in which they are examined
- explain the process of choosing subjects which support the needs and ambitions of your son/daughter
- summarise the advice offered in school so that, together, we can help your son or daughter to make appropriate decisions.

Year 8 Examinations

The Year 8 exams start on Monday 25th January and end on Friday 29st January.

In January, Year 8 students will be issued with a booklet offering guidance about preparation for the examinations and subject teachers will be supporting them in their work over the coming weeks. They will receive their own copy of the examination timetable and Mr Myers will deliver an assembly to go through the exam arrangements.

Performance in these exams will provide us all with useful information and the results will be one of several important factors for consideration during the options process. More information about this is given during the Options Information Presentation.

We look forward to working with you in support of our students as they embark on this important period of their school career.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Fearon', with a long horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the signature.

Ms A Fearon
Headteacher