

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **Year 8 GCSE Options Evening**

The GCSE Options Information Evening will take place on Wednesday 11th February.

This event marks a very significant point in students' educational journey, as they begin to refine and shape their curriculum choices in preparation for September 2026. It is therefore very important that students and parents/carers take the time to carefully review the information provided.

Our curriculum is designed around a two-year Key Stage 3 (KS3), followed by an extended three-year Key Stage 4 (KS4). This model allows students additional time to develop strong foundations, explore subjects in greater depth, and embed knowledge and skills well beyond exam specifications. By spreading GCSE study over three years, learning is more secure, less rushed and more meaningful, while still maintaining enjoyment and balance through trips, visits, clubs and enrichment opportunities from Year 7 to Year 11.

The Options Booklet is attached to this letter, and paper copies will also be given to students. We recommend that you take time to work through this booklet with your child. Year 8 full reports were issued at Parents' Evening and electronically via email, and these should help to guide discussions about your child's progress in each subject.

The Options Evening will include:

- A course information booklet detailing curriculum organisation, individual subject information, and guidance on how your child should select and submit their option choices
- A main presentation at 6.00pm outlining the curriculum and the options selection process
- Individual subject information stands, where departments will be available to discuss what each course offers

Students are encouraged to attend the evening with their parents/carers. Please arrive in good time to make your way from the car park for the main presentation at 6.00pm. Following the presentation, there will be an opportunity to speak with individual subject departments.

We are immensely proud of how our Year 8 students have engaged with their learning this academic year, and these choices mark an important milestone in their educational journey.

Yours sincerely,

Mr A Gurung  
Head of Year 8

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