**Ref: 020-021-0108**

29th April 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

We have thoroughly enjoyed welcoming back our students, it really is great to see everyone again. As promised prior to Easter, we wanted to use this opportunity to share some important information regarding Year 9 and the upcoming Options process for GCSE subject selections starting September 2021.

***Options Process 2021***

The Options process will start in earnest on Tuesday 4th May, with students having a week of guidance and information relating to the upcoming Options Week which will be from the 10th – 14th May. The process of guidance and Options choices will mainly take place during Citizenship lessons and I have outlined the programme below. In addition to this we have also built into the curriculum a Careers Week where subjects will be holding lessons with a careers theme, to further support students in their Options choices and future career pathways.

***Week Beginning 4th May – Options Guidance***

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| --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Citizenship activity** |
| Tuesday 4th May | Introduction session to the Options process via Form Tutors. |
| Wednesday 5th May | Options booklet provided and Options videos to go live on website. |
| Thursday 6th May | Careers session to outline the following Careers week theme within lessons. |
| Friday 7th May | Assembly via Teams with Mr Castle to outline the following week process of course selection and submission. |

***Course Selection***

In order to fully support appropriate Course selections, there are a number of initiatives we have set up, and some that have already taken place.

1. As part of the selection process, staff and students have been in dialogue over the past few weeks regarding selections of courses within chosen pathways. Students will have informed staff of their preference in Option A or B for Geography or History, and if students are selected for the GREEN pathway (which requires a language), whether they would prefer French or Spanish. Some students have also indicated an interest in either Computing or I Media. If students have chosen History for example, there is still the option to choose Geography in a different Option block.
2. To assist in choices of the remaining Option blocks, staff have recorded videos of their subject courses. These videos outline key information of the course, explain career pathways from the

course and outline examination requirements. These videos supplement the Options booklet which we will provide.

***Week Beginning 10th May – Options Choices***

During Options week, once students have had a chance to digest all information and you and your child have been informed of their pathway and guided subject choices, they then need to select their remaining Options choices. All information about available subjects within each Option Block will be provided. (I have outlined the available Options below, but please remember 1 or 2 maybe pre-populated as students have already expressed an interest in these subjects. Option A and or B, will be pre-populated dependent on the Pathway they are on, I have attached below an exemplar of what this may look like.)

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| --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Citizenship activity** |
| Monday 10th May | Students to take an Options selection letter home to complete with parents. *This letter will be pre-populated with pre chosen subjects.* |
| Tuesday 11th May | Completion of selection letter. |
| Wednesday 12th May | Submission of selection letter. |
| Thursday 13th May | Submission of selection letter. |
| Friday 14th May | Submission of selection letter. |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Option A** | **Option B** | **Option C** | **Option D** |
| FrenchHistory (2 groups)Geography (2 groups)Functional Skills English and Maths | FrenchGeographyHistorySpanishComputer ScienceFunctional Skills English and Maths | Music (Rock School)Health & Social CareArtR.E.P.E. (Sports Science)Performing ArtsDesign & Technology | Hospitality & CateringP.E. (Sports Science)ArtDesign & TechnologyI MediaTextiles TechnologyDrama |

***Course decisions***

The course decision sheet will come home with students on Monday 10th May and will have pre-populated sections for the pathways students are on, and then the subjects available to choose. I have outlined an example overleaf.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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| --- |
| **Pathway: GREEN** |
| **Option A (pre choice)** | **Option B (select one)** | **Option C (select one)** | **Option D (select one)** |
| History | French | MusicHealth and Social CareArtR.E.P.E.Performing ArtsDesign & Technology | Hospitality & CateringP.E.ArtDesign & TechnologyI MediaTextiles Technology Drama |

Student Name:…………………..

|  |
| --- |
| **Pathway: BLUE** |
| **Option A (pre choice)** | **Option B (pre choice)** | **Option C (select one)** | **Option D (select one)** |
| Geography | Computer Science | MusicHealth and Social CareArtR.E.P.E.Performing ArtsDesign & Technology | Hospitality & CateringP.E.ArtDesign & TechnologyI MediaTextiles Technology Drama |

Student Name:…………………….

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| --- |
| **Pathway: LILAC** |
| **Option A (pre choice)** | **Option B (pre choice)** | **Option C (select one)** | **Option D (select one)** |
| History | Functional Skills | MusicHealth and Social CareArtR.E.P.E.Performing ArtsDesign & Technology | Hospitality & CateringP.E.ArtDesign & TechnologyI MediaTextiles Technology Drama |

All information discussed above will be contained in the Options booklet which will be provided to students next week and will be available online [www.stocklandgreen.co.uk/options-2021](http://www.stocklandgreen.co.uk/options-2021) together with videos from each subject. The website will go live on Tuesday 4th May 2021.

Yours faithfully



Mr S Castle

Deputy Headteacher