Options 2020

Once again we have the excitement of providing the students with the opportunity to make some decisions about their own education.

Options 2020 - Information Evening

Aims of the session:

- To explain the context of Options 2020

- To describe the process

- To answer any questions you may have.

Options 2020 - Response to Ofsted

Ofsted have found that because we take our options in Year 8, students may not be benefitting from the full range of National Curriculum subjects in Key Stage 3.

Although we had introduced an enrichment curriculum in Year 9, this was not felt to address the perceived narrowing of the curriculum.

We know, from the Big Ask and staff surveys that the extra time to cover GCSE material is overwhelmingly popular with students, staff and parents.

Options 2020 – Response to Ofsted

We have taken a single lesson from some core subjects to provide time to cover all of the National Curriculum so students will study the full range of subjects up to Year 10.

They will have extra lessons per fortnight of their chosen options in year 9, this will allow some preparation for GCSEs to begin in Year 9.

This will require some intense work on the curriculum to make sure we have no duplication or omission of key areas and that we deliver the full National Curriculum in an exciting and engaging way. Staff are planning this now.

Options 2020 – the process

Due to our recent visit and the changes we have had to make, the process has been condensed somewhat; tonight begins our Options Focus Week.

The booklet goes live on the website today and contains many of the details for each subject area and the qualifications they follow.
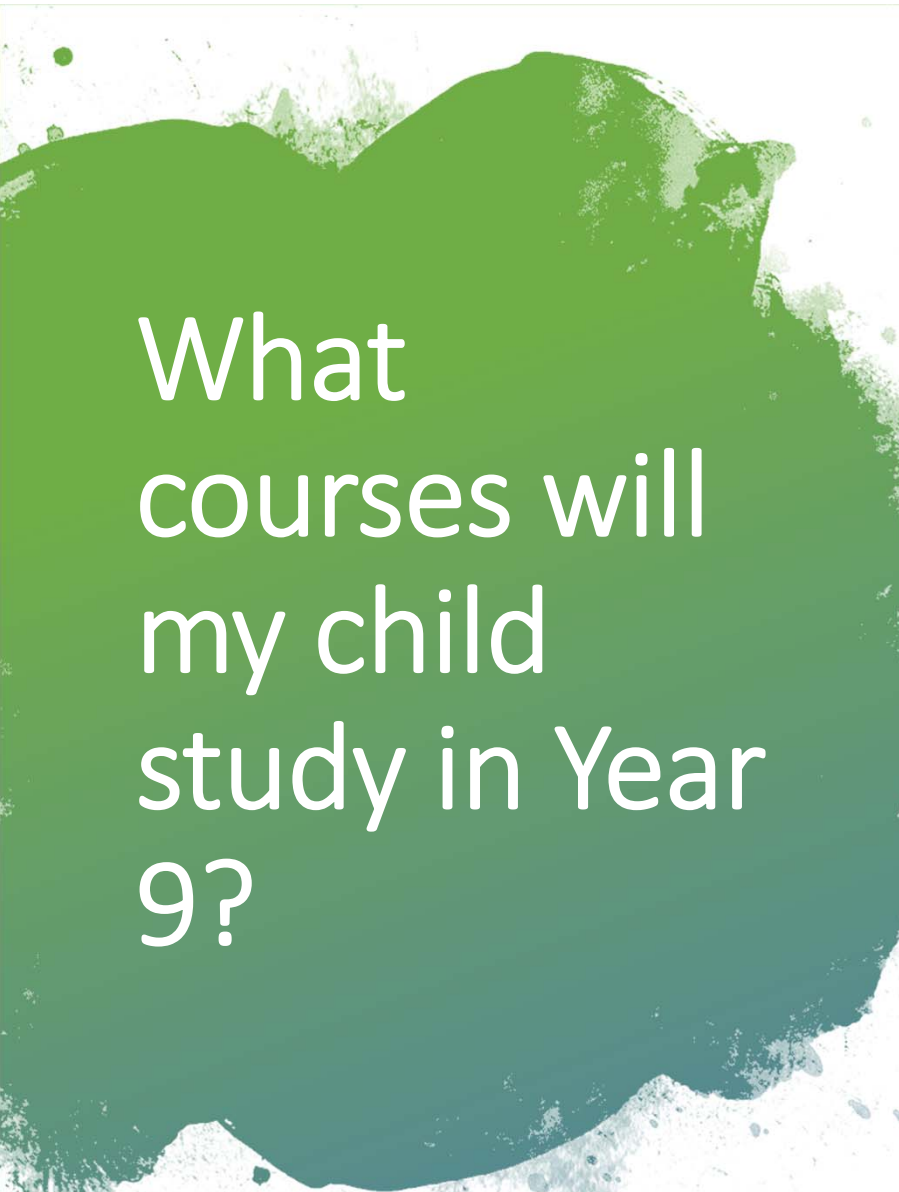
Wednesday is our Options Breakfast, run with CareerConnect. We would highly recommend you attend as this proved extremely popular and useful last year. We have many industries and employers who will be there from 7:45am to give you advice and guidance on which subjects to consider for various careers.

Options 2020 – the process

We will finish options week by using an assembly to answer any questions the students may have.

You will then have 2 weeks from today to make your choices.

You make your choices (including a reserve) by filling in a form on ParentMail. The deadline for making your choices is Thursday 2nd April.

What courses will my child study in Year 9?

All students follow the National Curriculum subjects.

English language,
English literature,
mathematics,
science,
religious education,
geography,
history,
art,
performing arts,
computing,
design & technology
Spanish
PE,
PSHCE (personal, social, health and citizenship education)

What courses will my child study in Years 10 and 11?

All students will do extra lessons in their three options choices which are outlined in the following slides.

The nine subjects studied to GCSE or equivalent are:

English language

English literature

Mathematics

Science (double GCSE)

History or Geography

Religious education

Option 1

Option 2

Option 3

What courses will are we required to follow but are not GCSEs?

There are some courses that all schools are required to cover:

Physical education

PSHCE (physical, social, health and citizenship education)

Choice 1

- History

or

- Geography

Choice 2

- Spanish (all Set 1 will do Spanish in this option choice)
- Health and Social Care
- Travel and Tourism
- Geography
- Art
- ICT
- Computing

Choice 3

- Health and Social Care BTEC
- Travel and Tourism BTEC
- ICT OCR National (GCSE equivalent)
- PE GCSE
- Computing GCSE
- History GCSE
- Drama GCSE
- Music BTEC
- Engineering BTEC
- Art GCSE
- Graphic Products GCSE

Reserve choice

We always work very hard to ensure students can be given their first choices. Sometimes, however, this proves impossible. For instance, if fewer than 12 students choose a subject it will usually not run.

After the choices are made.

We will process the choices as fast as we can and aim to have them confirmed by the end of the first week back after the Easter holiday – it does depend on how well the choices can be accommodated.

Subject concerns:
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