

Headteacher: Dr. J Bartlett – NPQH, PGCE, D.Phil, M.Chem **Specialisms:** Mathematics

8.2.21

Dear Parents/Carers,

During the next few weeks, year 9 students are invited to choose the courses they will study in years 10 and 11. This letter outlines some of the key information about the process.

All students will study English, Mathematics and Science in years 10 and 11. They will then choose three additional subjects as well as continuing to study physical education and PHSE.

In order to support students in making an informed choice, we enclose the Academy's options booklet 2021 to accompany this letter. The options booklet provides further detail on each subject including a brief overview, course structure, career progression and the examination details.

When making their option choices we advise students to consider;

- Which subjects they are achieving in.
- Which subjects they enjoy.
- How a specific subject will support the next steps in educational and career pathways.

This year is very different as we are unable to host our normal options evening. In order for us to give your child the guidance they need to make an informed choice, we will be hosting a virtual parents evening. This will take place on the 3rd March for X band and the 4th March for Y band students. We will provide further details in due course.

Prior to attending the virtual parent's evening, we will be placing a series of short presentations on the Academy's website and a link will be sent to you via text and email. The presentations will include:

1. An overview of the option process
2. Presentations from each of the subject areas

These presentations will describe which topics are studied and how they will be assessed within the qualification. We politely ask that you watch these prior to attending the virtual option evening.

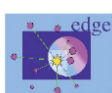
English Baccalaureate:

The English Baccalaureate (EBacc) is a set of subjects at GCSE that keeps young people's options open for further study and future careers.

The EBacc is:

- English Language and Literature
- Mathematics
- The Sciences
- Geography or History
- A Language

Many of our students will wish to follow the English Baccalaureate.



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Students wanting to achieve the EBACC must:

1. Choose a language from table A (French or Spanish, this will be the language they studied at KS3)
2. History or Geography from table B

Please note our option structure allows our students to study History and Geography if they wish to do so.

For Example: A student wishing to study French, History and Geography will do the following

1. For Option A choose French
2. For option B choose:
 - a. First choice History
 - b. Second choice Geography

Choosing your options

Your child will choose one subject from table A and make 4 choices from table B. When making the choices from table B they will be asked to choose them in order of preference. We will endeavour to offer your child 1st and 2nd choice, however this may not always be possible. Please ensure their 3rd and 4th choices are in a subject they may wish to study further. Your child's option choices will be submitted online following the virtual options evening via Microsoft forms.

Table A	Table B
Geography History Spanish French	Geography History Dance Drama Music Food Preparation and Nutrition Health and Social care Design Technology Art Religious Studies Enterprise and Marketing Sport Studies Performing Arts

Should you require any further information please don't hesitate to contact the Academy: SHNOptions2021@E-ACT.org.uk

Yours sincerely,

Mr R Pearce
Assistant Headteacher