

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

Tuesday 28th February 2022

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 2022 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.

We are delighted to invite you to our **Options Evening on Tuesday 8th March 6-8pm** in person at Shenley Academy. At this event, we will give you the opportunity to speak to our subject leaders and careers advisors to ensure that we guide your child to make informed choices. This is also an opportunity to sample some of our fantastic school dinners, so please arrive at 6pm as not to miss out!

Prior to attending the Options 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

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Many of our students will wish to follow the English Baccalaureate as this is a prestigious set of qualifications that demonstrate a wide range of academic skills.

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. Choose 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 Child Development Music Food Preparation and Nutrition Health and Social care Design Technology Art Religious Studies Enterprise and Marketing Sport Studies Performing Arts Computer Science

Should you require any further information please don't hesitate to contact the Academy: SHNOptions202@E-ACT.org.uk

Yours sincerely,

Miss M Wardle
Assistant Principal