

13 January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Key Stage 4 Options Process

Today, Year 9 students attended an assembly led by Miss Jacklin, Vice Principal, introducing them to the Key Stage 4 Options process. This is an exciting stage in your child's academic journey, as they begin to make decisions about the subjects they will study in Years 10 and 11, starting in September 2026.

During the assembly, students were reminded of their learning journey so far and informed about the importance of choosing subjects that they enjoy and that will help them succeed. The process was explained clearly, and students were reassured that they will receive extensive support throughout to ensure they make informed decisions.

Planned Events and Timeline

The options process includes several key events to support students and families:

- **Tuesday 13 January** – Assembly to launch the straw poll and share the options timeline
- **Week commencing 19 January** – Students complete the straw poll in **Computing lessons** with Miss Jacklin and Mr Catherine
- **Tuesday 10 February** – Assembly to launch the formal options process and provide feedback on the straw poll
- **Thursday 12 March** – Year 9 Parents' and Carers' Evening
- **Tuesday 17 March** – Assembly with guest speaker on Making Informed Decisions
- **Wednesday 18 March** – Year 9 Options Evening
- **Monday 16 – Friday 20 March** – Individual student meetings with SLT and key staff
- **Week commencing 16 March** – Link shared for submitting option choices
- **Monday 23 March** – Deadline for submitting option choices
- **Late June** – Students informed of their allocated options

This year, the Options Pathway Booklet will be available both as a paper copy at the Options Evening and electronically on the academy website.

What's Next?

Today's assembly introduced the straw poll, which is designed to help us understand initial preferences and guide the creation of option 'buckets' for later in the process. This is an important first step, and we encourage you to discuss possible choices with your child.

Please note:

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- The straw poll is **not** a final selection of options
- Some options included in the straw poll **may not be offered** later if interest is low

Thank you for your continued support in helping your child make these important decisions. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the academy.

Yours sincerely



Miss Jacklin
Vice Principal

Subjects listed on the straw poll

1. Art
2. Business
3. Child Development
4. Computer Science
5. Construction
6. Drama
7. Engineering
8. Food Preparation and Nutrition
9. Geography
10. Health and Social Care
11. History
12. iMedia
13. Performing Arts Specialising in Acting or Dance
14. Photography
15. Physical Education
16. Religious Studies
17. Sports Science
18. Triple Science