

Contact: Mrs Fernando

Ref: SST/RFE

23rd February 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

I write to you regarding Year 9 parents evening and the GCSE options process.

Due to COVID-19 I am sure that you will understand that, for the safety of all, the consultation evening will be done remotely via our virtual parents' evening system. We will be using the same online appointment booking system that was used for parents evening last year. Year 9 parents evening will take place remotely on the earlier date of **Thursday 8th April 2021**.

More details regarding how to book your appointment will follow nearer the time.

Year 9 parents evening serves as an important aid in helping your son/daughter chose their GCSE Options. Parents evening will give you the opportunity to speak to your child's subject teachers to guide them in making the correct decisions.

We will be collecting options choices from your son/daughter online. More details regarding the online form will follow, however please be aware that the deadline for all options choices is **Friday 16th April 2021**. This will allow us adequate time to timetable ready for the new academic year.

Detailed options information can be found on our website [here](#) along with curriculum structure. We would advise you to go through all of the information on our website with your son/daughter ahead of parents evening so you have a clear idea of the subjects we offer. To help support your discussions with your child we have provided:

- The Brooke Weston Key Stage 4 Options Booklet detailing all the courses we offer
- Videos from the Principal and Senior Assistant Principal providing information on the options process and expectations from our students
- A range of videos from our Heads of Departments outlining each course, information about whether it would suit your son/daughter and future career prospects

Please refer to the wealth of information provided on our website, but in summary the following will need to be considered and chosen by your son/daughter in discussions with you. If they require further support and advice then please contact your child's tutor. Your child will also be given a careers appointment with our careers advisor on the week commencing 29th March to help support them with their decision.

The main areas that need to be considered are the following:

1. We have an Academic curriculum based on the English Baccalaureate (English, maths, science, humanities and languages). This will continue into Year 10 and your child will continue to study the language that they currently study (either French or Spanish) but will need to **choose** whether to continue studying either History or Geography.
2. If students choose to study triple science, only **one** other optional subject may be selected.

3. All Students will continue to study Religious Education and Physical Education.

4. Students need to select **TWO optional subjects** for their GCSE study and will study these chosen subjects throughout year 10 and year 11. Although we always work hard to ensure students get their choices, there is always a small chance that due to subject numbers and/or option blocks we will be unable to. If this happens, we will be in contact with your son/daughter in order to finalise their choices.

I would like to reiterate the importance of you taking the time to have these conversations with your child regarding their GCSE Options. Year 10 and 11 is an important time for students and it is essential that they have selected the right subjects in order to access appropriate further education, training and/or apprenticeships.

As mentioned earlier in this letter, more information regarding parents evening booking and the online options form will follow early in term 4. However, if you have any further questions in the meantime please contact rfernando@brookeweston.org.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shaun Strydom', written in a cursive style.

Shaun Strydom
Associate Principal