



Options Choices 2019-2020 – next steps

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Thank you for the support you have been giving to students as they have been thinking about their Options Choices over the past few weeks. I am writing to update you on the final parts of the process and important next steps. In the coming weeks students will be working towards finalising their choices.

Year 8 Parents Evening - Thursday 28th February 2019

Ideally students should book appointments with the subjects they are likely to pick to discuss their suitability for further GCSE level study.

As a reminder, they should have four ranked choices, and two high quality reserve choices. We hope that they will follow four out of these six choices. We will then assess the ranked order, prior attainment and engagement shown, alongside our knowledge of the students to help decide on the appropriate subjects to offer each individual. Most students will need to pick one from Computer Science, History, Geography, French or German – and the handful of students not affected by this guidance should already be aware.

The Options selection and approval process

Students should arrive to school on the week beginning 4th March 2019 with their six choices clear in their minds, and ideally written out in their planner. Over the following week, each student will submit their choices online during Form Time using the SIMS Student App in one of our computer suites. They will be fully guided through this process. Once students have completed this step, you will then need to log on to the SIMS Parent App to approve their selection. If you face difficulty with this please contact the school Reception to arrange for our Data Manager to contact you to help set up an account.

Next steps

Once all data is submitted and approved, we will then generate final allocations to check with subject leaders and pastoral staff before we contact you.

Once again, I would like to offer my thanks for your support and encouragement as we complete this process. It is often an uncertain time for students, and the support we jointly provide really helps them to focus and settle on a suitable set of choices. Once the process is complete, we will then be in touch later in the year to confirm exactly which subjects your child will be studying.

Yours faithfully,

D. Nicholls
Assistant Headteacher – Curriculum