

Friday 29th January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Year 9 Options for September 2021

We are approaching the time when our year 9 learners select their options for KS4 in an option column structure. We have had to adapt the way we normally facilitate our options selection slightly this year, due to the National Lockdown. I have asked each Team Leader to produce a video presentation for their subject which will outline the skills and expectations of the course. There is a PDF within the year group google classroom. This will allow our Year 9 learners to be able to view the subject videos at their leisure and take the time to watch them with you and discuss them together.

The purpose of the presentations is to give our learners a clear outline of what each subject will involve in Year 10 and 11. Once they have viewed the presentations they will then have time to consider their final 3 option choices and select these on the google form survey that I have posted in the google classroom (The link is also below) . A copy of the option column structure is included in this letter.

As you can see we have tried to get the best combination possible with duplicate subjects where we can to widen the opportunities for our learners. Our learners carried out a selection of subjects back in November from a free choice full list of subjects. This was used to help us design the best combination of subjects within the columns. There is a good balance of GCSE and BTEC vocational courses. All of our BTEC courses have been revised to enable learners to access the full range of grades from A* to G with the exception of the Equality and Diversity Level 2 course which is capped at a B grade but with no exam.

For Welsh Language we have 2 pathways. We have the full course GCSE Welsh studied on its own and Entry level Welsh Language and Communication which is studied alongside a Workskills qualification which prepares learners for the world of work with CV writing etc. This workskills qualification is worth 2 B grades and is non examined, please watch the video for an explanation of this. There is a section on the form to make an initial selection on this but this will be looked at carefully by myself, the Welsh Team and Mr Franklyn Pastoral Leader so we can ensure the appropriate pathway is followed by each learner.

My advice would be for your child to select their option subjects based on their enjoyment of the subject, and to consider the skills they have now and would like to develop. They can access the Careers Wales website to link subjects with possible careers. A combination of GCSE's and BTEC's is advised so they can keep their possibilities for the future open.

Please remind them to look through the options information booklet which we gave out in November and is also available as a PDF from our CCYD website in the curriculum year 9 options section.

The deadline for them to select their options using the online Google Form Survey is FRIDAY 12th FEBRUARY. This gives them a fortnight to really consider it and to complete the survey.

[Year 9 options selection survey link - click here](#)

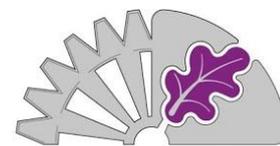
If you have any further queries please contact Mr Franklyn (paul.franklyn@ccyd.org.uk) or myself.

Yours sincerely



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Assistant Headteacher

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Option A	Option B	Option C
Art GCSE	Art GCSE	Photography GCSE
ICT GCSE	ICT GCSE	Computer Science GCSE
History GCSE	History GCSE	Sport BTEC
Religion Philosophy and Ethics GCSE	Religion Philosophy & Ethics	PE GCSE
Triple Science GCSE	Geography GCSE	Business Studies
Engineering BTEC	Equality & Diversity Level 2	Travel & Tourism Level 2
Product Design D&T GCSE	Engineering BTEC	Engineering BTEC
Health & Social Care GCSE	Textiles GCSE	Product Design GCSE
Public Services BTEC	French GCSE	Health & Social Care GCSE
Media GCSE	Music GCSE	Public Services BTEC
	Music BTEC	Hospitality & Catering BTEC
	Global Business Communication (French Language)	Food & Nutrition GCSE

*You will also study Core lessons in: English, Maths, Science, Health & Wellbeing, Skills Challenge, Personal Social Development, Welsh

*Welsh will either be studied as Full course GCSE OR as Welsh Communication Entry Level with a Work skills qualification (Worth a B grade).

You will indicate your preference when you select your options and your Teachers will then decide if this is the best suited pathway for you by the end of year 9