

March 2021
Year 9 options update

Dear Parent/Career

At the end of this academic year your child will reach the end of Key Stage Three. In September 2021, she/he will begin the final phase of compulsory schooling - Key Stage Four which will lead to examinations at GCSE level, in some cases vocational qualifications and entry to our sixth form, Further Education Colleges or Apprenticeships.

This year we will have to run things a little differently. Our usual open evening where parents have the opportunity to ask about subjects will have to be held virtually and we will rely on recorded videos from subjects to provide more information. You can view the videos that teachers have created [here](#). Whilst this is not ideal, it does give us the opportunity to ensure that all subjects are able to give all parents the same message.

On this evening, you would have had an opportunity to hear about the arrangements for the Key Stage Four Curriculum. This is also a recorded video on the website.

This booklet, found on our website, provides information on the shape of the curriculum at Key Stage Four. It gives information about subjects which must be studied by all students; as well as details about those subjects where students have a choice. There is an Ebacc subjects option block following directives from the Government to ensure that students continue to study a broad range of subjects. Your son/daughter will have to choose one subject from the Ebacc option block and two from the Additional Choices options block. We recommend that students who are considering going on to University or Higher Education take a language and a humanities EBacc option.

The information given is addressed to you and your daughter/son. We know that you will wish to discuss choices with them, and with us, so that wise decisions are made. You are able to make appointments with teachers through our [SchoolCloud](https://glossopdale.schoolcloud.co.uk/) (https://glossopdale.schoolcloud.co.uk/) parents evening system on the 11th of March, you can book straight away. Please ensure that you have watched the video for each subject before you make an appointment.

We also have our Careers Day on the 11th of March. This would usually be in school, this year Mrs Dunkerley has arranged for guest speakers from industry to deliver 30 minutes' online presentations to the students. Students can log into these presentations throughout the day on the 11th of March. We would expect all students to watch one of the session each hour. They will find the links for the day on the year [9 Google classroom](#) ([here](#)).

We will also hold a day for students to have taster sessions in their possible options subjects. We will try to arrange this before Easter and we will let you know in advance.

Please do not hesitate to contact Mr Kettle, Mr Lownes, Mr Clark or Ms Smith at any time if you would like further advice.

We will make every attempt to ensure that the process run as smoothly as possible and we will endeavour to have every child on a course that is appropriate to them.

Yours sincerely
Mr P Clark
Deputy Headteacher