



19th March 2025

Dear Parent/Guardian

RE: REMINDER - YEAR 9 OPTIONS EVENING – LETTER B

As outlined in previous communication on the 3rd March, our students in Year 9 will soon be asked to nominate the subjects that they hope to study in Years 10 and 11. To date students have had presentations from myself as well as Mr Thomas (Head of Year) to outline and explain the process ahead. They have also been asked to complete an initial survey indicating potential preferences. This has allowed the construction of the option blocks to help maximise and satisfy the expectations and wishes of pupils. In the coming week there will be a follow up assembly as well as a presentation from Mrs Claire O'Brien from Careers Wales. I have included a very basic outline overleaf.

To ensure that they make their choice optimally, Year 9 students and parents are warmly invited to attend our **Options Evening on Thursday, 27th March 2025.**

In those subjects that are part of the options system, teachers will be available to outline the nature of the courses and their expectations too. They will be available from 4.30pm. Visits may be made to as many subjects as pupils and parents choose.

Prior to visiting subject departments, **an opportunity will exist at 4.00pm (and repeated at 5.00pm)** in the Senior Hall for parents to receive an overview of the range of courses available for study in Years 10 and 11. We hope the information provided can support and guide our Year 9 students to make the right decisions on what they would like to study this September.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



Mr Beard
Deputy Headteacher



Brief Outline of Options Process

1. In Years 10 and 11 all pupils have to follow the CORE curriculum of:
 - ◇ Mathematics
 - ◇ English
 - ◇ Science
 - ◇ Welsh
 - ◇ PSE
 - ◇ WBQ (Skills Challenge Certificate)
 - ◇ Games
 - ◇ The CORE curriculum offers up to 8 Qualifications
2. The OPTIONS are the subjects that students can then choose in addition. Students will be able to choose up to THREE subjects that you wish to study in Years 10 and 11. The options are set out in option blocks and students need to pick one subject from each block.
3. Students should look to keep options as broad as possible! Their choice needs to reflect their strengths and interests, but also their potential future aspiration too.
4. Students cannot pick the same subject multiple times e.g. Art in options A and B
5. Whilst every effort has been made to maximise and satisfy the expectations and wishes of pupils with the arrangement of option choices, there is a limit to the resources that the school can provide.
6. Entry to any course will be decided on merit and availability of resources. It may be necessary and advisable for some pupils to be directed into an appropriate course of study.
7. The proposed arrangements may be amended in the light of changing circumstances. If pupil uptake for a particular course is insufficient then it is unlikely to run. In the event of this happening pupils receive guidance and advice as to the best possible alternative.

