

JMD/lrr

23 March 2022

Hall Road, Northfleet
Kent DA11 8AQ
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Headteacher: *Mr Chris Norwood B.Ed (Hons) MA*

Dear Student

Pathway A

In September 2022, you will begin your General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE) and equivalent courses which will mostly be examined at the end of Year 11.

The GCSE Options process is an exciting time of your life and although part of the curriculum is compulsory for all students, there is also an element of choice. This allows you to have the opportunity to shape aspects of your own learning according to your personal interests and future education and career aspirations. You will have discussions with your parents and teachers, to select the subjects you will study during this time and will provide a useful reference during the next three years.

English Baccalaureate qualification;

At school we aim to provide you with a broad, balanced curriculum based on current National Curriculum guidelines. We are delighted to confirm you will be following a GCSE pathway A and in doing so will undertake the **English Baccalaureate qualification**. This will give you maximum flexibility in your future choices for academic study or career. Your choices, will allow you to study eight subjects at full GCSE level. In order to study the full English Baccalaureate students must study a modern foreign language and either History or Geography.

Ideas about possible A Level choices and future careers may help you to make your choices but if you do not have any firm ideas about your future, then a balanced choice of subjects is advised. You should speak to your base leader regarding your ability in option choice subjects and think carefully about the work load implications. There will be careers information via the PSHE programme, base time and year group assemblies. You and your parents will also have an opportunity to speak to subject staff and our in-school career advisor during the Options Evening to gather information on the GCSE Option choices available.

During the evening please make sure you carefully study all the information available to you and follow advice from your teachers and parents so that you can make informed choices.

Key dates for the options process:

- Thursday 24 March – Year 8 GCSE Options Evening
- Friday 1 April – deadline for students to submit their option choices.
- Term 5 – student in-school interviews to confirm option choices.
- Should a student wish to make any changes following the submission of their final options form these should be made formally in writing addressed to Mrs Dowden by 1 June. Requests will be considered in order of receipt.
- Term 6 - Option choices confirmation letters are issued.

Further details of all your pathway options and full instructions on how to select your options can be found on <https://www.nsfg.org.uk/options/>

Good luck with your decisions.

Mrs J Dowden

Assistant Headteacher

Curriculum and student reporting

Option Selection Process information

Attend up to five subject talks in the rooms below to gather information about the GCSE options on offer to you.

- Subject Talk 1 - 6.10pm
- Subject Talk 2 - 6.30pm
- Subject Talk 3 – 6.50pm
- Subject Talk 4 - 7.10pm
- Subject Talk 5 – 7.30pm

Pathway A - Instructions

Choice 1	Select Either French or Spanish
Choice 2	Select Either Geography or History
Choice 3	Select from full list of options
Choice 4	Select from full list of options

SUBJECT	VENUE
English Baccalaureate Talk	CD1 at 6.30pm ONLY
Animal Care	PW3
Art and Design	CD8
Art and Design – Textile Design	CD7
Business Studies	CC4
Computer Science	CC12
Childs play learning and Development	CC9
Dance	CC10
Drama	CD4
Design Technology	CD10
Ethics - Religious Studies	CC3
French	CC1
Geography	PW2
Hospitality and Catering	CC11
Health and Social Care	CC9
History	CC7
Information Technology	CC14
Media Studies	CD5
Music	CD6
Spanish	CC2
Sport, Activity and Fitness	CC8
Careers advise	CDMP Breakout area
English, Maths, Science (Core)	CDMP Breakout area
PE, PSHE (Core)	CDMP Breakout area

The Option selection form becomes available online from **Monday 28 March at 8am**

All Option choices must be submitted by **Friday 1 April 5pm**