

Our Ref: ANO/FSC-2203OPT

Monday 22nd March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Year 8 Options Pathway B

Further to my recent letter introducing the Options process for Year 8 students, and following a very successful Options Fair on Friday, we are now progressing along the timeline towards students choosing their Key Stage 4 subjects which they will begin studying next year. As explained previously, this is a crucial point in your child's education and we want to provide as much support and guidance throughout this process as possible. For this reason, we have built a dedicated Options website, containing a presentation from myself explaining each Pathway and videos containing information about each of our Options subjects, along with some frequently asked questions to help you navigate through the process. We hope you and your child find this useful – you can access the website [here](#).

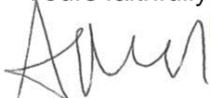
The curriculum at Key Stage 4 is based around a series of 'Pathways', and your child will be on **Pathway B – English Baccalaureate**. The Pathway allows your child to achieve the English Baccalaureate Award, which covers courses in GCSE English Language and English Literature, Mathematics, Double Award Science, a Language and **either** History **or** Geography. To qualify for this Award, students will need to select the right combination of subjects listed above for them, however, they are free to choose different subjects should they wish. Students will also have one hour of compulsory PE per week.

To support your child in making the right choices for them, I would recommend you watch the Pathway B presentation, which outlines the Option process, looks at the full range of courses available, and includes a brief demonstration on how to complete the online form to submit your child's Option choices. The link for the Pathway B video can be found [here](#).

The Options form, whereby you child will be able to submit their subject choices, will be accessible from Wednesday, after students have taken part in their four Options taster lessons. The form can be found at <https://www.sims-options.co.uk/> and will also be linked on the Options website.

Should you have any questions around the Options process, or wish to discuss your child's needs, please do not hesitate to contact me at the school.

Yours faithfully



Mr A North
Assistant Head Teacher