

## OPTIONS INFORMATION EVENING

This information sheet will hopefully help you understand the information you will receive during the Option Information presentation available on the school website from Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> January 2021

- Your child will receive an Option Information Booklet that includes information about all the courses available to study at GCSE level and an Option Block sheet during their Options Assembly in the first week of term. This is also available on our website.
- All students study English, Mathematics and Science (Core Subjects). The exact Science course students will follow within the core will be decided later in the year, informed by students' achievements at KS2 and the information we have about their progress in Year 9 and potential achievement. Teachers' recommendations and students' expressed preferences will be considered as part of this process.
- In addition to the core subjects, students can select a number of other option subjects. In the Option Information Booklet, each Head of Department has included details of the syllabus and assessment and some comments from students about the types of learning in their subject.
- Students select one subject from each option block (vertical column) – see attached Option Block sheet. Students therefore select 4 option subjects.
- Almost all students take at least one of the subjects highlighted in green.
- Students who opt for the Applied Studies Course will have the opportunity to sample, alongside their academic studies, many different types of career, for example plumbing, electrical work, construction, hair and beauty, in order to develop skills to help them access higher-level courses at a later date. Applied Studies takes up 2 of their 4 option choices and we will advise students for whom this is an appropriate course to consider.
- The choice of courses is decided after a guidance meeting and further discussions if needed. However, we reserve the right to make an informed professional decision about which package of core and option courses is most appropriate and most likely to lead to success.

- The aim of this process is to help students go on to study courses they will enjoy, be successful in and which will allow them to progress on to their chosen Post 16 and Post 18 career or degree intention.

The approach we adopt has been very successful over a number of years.