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Dear Parent,

Year 9 Curriculum 2018 - 2019

Thank you for choosing Whitley Bay High School for the next stage of your child's education and we are looking forward to meeting you and your daughter/son as they begin their High School career. We want this to be the start of a partnership which allows your daughter/son to enjoy all aspects of school and then go on to fulfil/exceed their potential.

Now that you have received confirmation of your child's place I would like to tell you a little more about our curriculum offer in Year 9.

Students at Whitley Bay High School follow a compulsory curriculum and they also choose one option subject.

Compulsory Subjects: Students in Year 9 study a number of compulsory subjects already studied in Years 7 and 8. These subjects are English, Mathematics, Science, Technology, Physical Education, Life, Enquiry and Values (including Religious Education, Health Education, Careers, Critical Thinking and British Citizenship), History, Geography, Art, French or German.

Option Choice: You may be aware that in addition to the compulsory subjects, students in Year 9 at Whitley Bay High School also choose one optional subject from Drama, German, PE, Jewellery, Robotics, Music or Philosophy and Ethics.

Students choose German or French as one of their Compulsory Subjects. Students may then continue this subject in Years 10 and 11 for a GCSE Language qualification if they wish to do so. German may also be chosen as an Option Choice allowing two Modern Foreign Languages in Year 9, but only if it has been studied in Year 8.

It is important that students also select a reserve choice, as it is not always possible to accommodate all students' choices due to constraints of staffing and specialist facilities. However, we do try to meet their individual needs.

Please can your daughter/son complete the option form and can you countersign it and return it to the Head of Year 8 by Friday, 20th April 2018. Ian Short (Assistant Headteacher, responsible for the timetable, at Whitley Bay High School) will collect completed option forms on that date.

I have also enclosed an Admission Form which we would like to collect at the same time as the option form.

If you do not hear from us, your daughter/son has secured their first choice option subject. If the reserve choice has been allocated I will write to you to let you know at the beginning of May. If you have any queries or concerns please contact me or Ian Short on 0191 731 7070.

As a final point I know that many families have special circumstances or sensitive issues which you would wish to discuss prior to your child joining the school. If this is so in your case please contact Sarah Lackenby (Assistant Headteacher) for an informal chat or to arrange a meeting.

I hope your daughter/son enjoys the rest of Year 8 at her/his current school and we look forward to working in partnership with you during the transition to High School.

Yours faithfully,

STEVE WILSON
Headteacher

Whitley Bay High School

Option Choice Form

Please return this completed form by Friday, 20th April 2018 to your Head of Year 8

Name: _____ Middle School: _____

PLEASE WRITE IN CAPITAL LETTERS

In Year 9 you must study all of the subjects listed below:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Art
- Geography
- History
- French or German
- Physical Education
- Technology
- Life, Enquiry and Values (including Religious Education, Health Education, Careers, Critical Thinking and British Citizenship)

Your Compulsory Modern Foreign Language Choice

Please choose the Compulsory Modern Foreign Language you wish to study

in Year 9



Tick one box only

French

German (only if studied in Year 8)

Your First Choice Option Subject

Please read the Option Booklet carefully, talk with your parents, teachers and friends and then choose one of these additional options. ✓ Tick one box only.

Drama

German

Music

Philosophy and Ethics

Physical Education

Jewellery Technology

Robotics

Your Reserve Choice _____

Sometimes it is not possible to allocate everyone their first choice option. Please write down your reserve choice.

Signature of Parent

Please sign to indicate that you agree with the choices made.

Signature: _____

Daytime Telephone: _____

Parent's Name: _____

(Block Capitals)