

17 March 2023

Dear Parent/Carer of a Year 8 pupil

As you may be aware, your child has the opportunity of choosing their options during the course of Year 8. This is with the aim of ensuring that pupils start Year 9 with purpose, challenge and enjoyment. I am writing to you at this time to explain the timeline for choosing options this year and alerting you to some key dates.

Year 8 pupils will receive their options path information during tutor time in the next week. Alternatively, the main options booklet can be found on the school's website under the 'Learning' tab by selecting 'Options' (<https://springfield.uk.net/index.php/learning/options>). Hopefully my introduction will make it clear which subjects are compulsory and which subjects can be optional. We ask that pupils follow a core selection of subjects so that the curriculum they experience is broad and balanced. We ask that parents and pupils consider all subjects included over Easter.

Before the Easter holidays Year 8 pupils will have two weeks of 'taster' sessions during normal lessons. This is so that they can experience what some of the new GCSEs are like before making their choices. I would encourage them to ask questions of their teachers so that they are fully informed.

Finally, a reminder to parents/carers that our information evening is on Tuesday, 25 April commencing at 5.30pm. The process by which pupils make their choices will be explained at the information evening on 25 April 2023.

I know that there is a lot to consider here but please feel free to contact me at the school should you have specific queries. The main thing to do now is for you to consider with your son/daughter the information contained in the Options booklet mentioned at the beginning and found on the school's website.

Yours faithfully



Mr W Wharton
Deputy Headteacher