



January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

RE: YEAR 8 OPTIONS PROCESS 2021

I am writing to inform you about the Year 8 Options Process, and how this will take shape this year. The first thing I would like to reassure you about is that all the students will get a comprehensive support programme that will enable them, with your help and guidance as well, to select the right courses.

The time line of activities is as follows:-

- This letter detailing the Options process and the Y8 Options Booklet
- SMSC recorded lesson detailing the process and giving guidance to students (parents/carers please watch too – will be delivered from W/C 18th January)
- Reference to Options within remote learning provided by all subjects throughout Spring 1 (Jan – Feb half term)
- Y8 Remote Parents Evening Thursday 4th February – opportunity to ask questions of subject specialists
- Y8 Virtual Options Evening Tuesday 2nd March – promotion and information about each subject available
- Application form for Y8 sent to students school e-mail on Wednesday 3rd March – Office 365 Forms by Mr Dowey
- Deadline for completion of Forms Y8 Options application is Friday 12th of March

The Subject Categories are as follows:-

| COMPULSORY | PREFERENCE 1 | PREFERENCE 2 |
|--|---|--|
| <i>All students study these</i> | <i>Students select ONE from here</i> | <i>Students rank order FIVE but study THREE. Where possible students are allocated their top three.</i> |
| English Language English Literature Mathematics Combined Science <i>Physical Education – non exam</i> <i>Learning 4 Life – non exam</i> | Computer Science (must have target of a 5 in Maths) French Geography History Separate Science (must have a Science target grade of minimum 5. If pick Sep Sci do not study Combined Sci – study Biology, Chemistry & Physics) | Acting Voc Art Computer Science (must have target of a 5 in Maths) Design Technology (Textiles or Product Design, prior attainment may influence allocated subject) Health & Social Care Voc Hospitality & Catering Voc French Geography History Creative I-Media Voc |

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|--|--|---|
| | | Music Voc Physical Education Religious Education Separate Science (must have a Science target grade of minimum 5. If pick Sep Sci do not study Combined Sci – study Biology, Chemistry & Physics) Sport Voc |
|--|--|---|

Note: All subjects are GCSE unless they say Voc, which means vocational qualification (BTEC or Cambridge Technical).

Once you have watched the SMSC lesson with your child/ren and have had an opportunity to read the enclosed Options Book, you will have a clearer idea about the Option Process and the subjects available. Please encourage your child/ren to ask questions of their subject teachers through the Satchel: One platform, and please feel free to contact Tim Dowey, Careers Lead tdowey@minsthorpe.cc, who will be happy to support you and answer your questions. The Virtual Options Evening on the 2nd of March will talk through everything and enable you to search additional information about the subjects your child/ren are interested in.

Thank you for your continued support, please do not hesitate to contact either myself for Mr Dowey if you require any additional information.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs S Lewis
Assistant Principal