

Beacon Hill Academy

High Arcal Drive, Sedgley, Dudley, West Midlands, DY3 1BP
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 W: www.beaconhillacademy.org.uk
 Principal: Mr S Dhani



25/02/25

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Year 9 Options: One-to-One Meetings with SLT:

We are writing to inform you about the next steps for the **Year 9 Options process**. As you are aware, prior to the half term break, learners attended subject specific assemblies aimed at giving them a flavour of the different qualifications on offer to them to select at Key Stage 4.

The next stage of this process will be the one-to-one meetings with a member of our Senior Leadership Team where your child will select their options. These one-to-one meetings have been scheduled to take place in the **Main Hall** on either **Tuesday 4th March** or **Thursday 6th March (4pm to 6pm)**. It is incredibly important that you attend these one-to-one sessions as during this meeting your child will select their **final options choices**. Thank you to those who have already made appointments.

If you haven't booked already your one-one meeting you will need to access the **'School Cloud Parent's Evening'** system. The link below will take you directly to this booking system. Once logged on, you will be able to see which member of SLT that you have been allocated alongside the available appointment slots. Please select the appointment that is most suitable for you and your child. Meetings will last a total of 10 minutes. <https://beaconhillacademy.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

Block A		1st	2nd	Block B		1st	2nd	Block C		1st	2nd
GCSE	History			GCSE	History			GCSE	History		
GCSE	Geography			GCSE	Business Studies			GCSE	Geography		
GCSE	Business Studies			GCSE	Computer Science			GCSE	French		
GCSE	DT			GCSE	Art and Design: Fine Art			GCSE	Spanish		
GCSE	Drama			TECH	Engineering			GCSE	German		
GCSE	Art and Design: Fine Art			TECH	iMedia			GCSE	Business Studies		
GCSE	Art and Design: 3D Design			TECH	Child Development			GCSE	Art and Design: Fine Art		
GCSE	Art and Design: Textiles			TECH	Hospitality and Catering			TECH	Dance		
TECH	Hospitality and Catering			TECH	Sports Studies			TECH	Child Development		
TECH	Health and Social Care							TECH	Health and Social Care		
TECH	Engineering							TECH	BTEC IT		
TECH	Music										

Please see above the options blocks that have been created for this academic year, based on the responses gathered from the options questionnaire that all learners completed after the assemblies. To further support with this process and to ensure you feel fully prepared when attending these important meetings, please see below a link to a presentation which outlines the key information about the options process and factors to consider when supporting your child to make their options choices. <https://www.facebook.com/share/v/15vumaueBz/?mibextid=wwXlfr>. Copies of the subject presentations & information can all be accessed on our school website by following the pathway: **Curriculum > Options > Options Assemblies**

If you have any follow up questions following on from watching the presentation, please get in touch with us by sending an email to our options@beaconhillacademy.org.uk account where a member of the team will get back to you with any additional information or support that you require.



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We will also be giving learners a hard copy of our Options booklet for this academic year alongside this letter which we hope will be a helpful tool to guide some of the discussions you will have at home in preparation for your one-to-one meeting.

Please see below some additional information that will be useful when selecting your options:

- **EBacc Qualifications:** All learners must select **at least one EBacc subject**. The EBacc qualifications on offer this academic year are; History, Geography, French, Spanish, German and Computer Science.
- **Fine Art, Textiles and 3D Design:** Fine Art, Textiles and 3D Design are all the same qualification with the difference being the materials learners use to complete the course objectives. Due to this, learners are only able to select one of these qualifications as an option.
- **Separate Sciences:** Due to the difficulty of this course, learners have been targeted separately for this qualification based on their current performance in Science. If your child has been given information about this qualification, this is something that we will discuss with you further as part of the one-to-one meetings.
- **Computer Science:** Learners who are interested in taking the Computer Science qualification were asked to attend the two taster sessions that were recently hosted by Mrs Perkins. To select this as an option in Block B, you must have attended both of these sessions.

Whilst our aim is to be able to offer all the courses included in the options blocks, the decision on whether all courses are able to run will depend on their popularity. Once all learners have made their options choices, we will then be in a position to be able to confirm your child's options. If for any reason your child does not get their first choice, we will always consult your child and arrange a follow-up discussion.

If your child is interested in applying for King Edward's College, please be advised that they require a minimum of six GCSE's at grade 5 or above as a minimum entry requirement for their three-subject programme. Please note that BTECs and CNATs do not form part of this minimum entry requirement. These stipulations do not apply to either Dudley or Halesowen Colleges.

We look forward to seeing you in school when you attend your one-to-one meeting on either **4th or 6th March**. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us directly via Options Process helpline, options@beaconhillacademy.org.uk for any further information.

Thank you again for your ongoing support.

Yours faithfully

Mr A Lynch
Assistant Principal – Pastoral & Achievement

