

19th April 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: Year 9 GCSE Options

I am writing to inform you that Year 9 students are being interviewed by members of the Senior Leadership team over the next two weeks to discuss their provisional GCSE options choices. The interviews will give every student the chance to ask questions and seek further advice if needed.

Please can I take this opportunity to remind you of some key points in the GCSE options process:

- We aim to accommodate as many choices as possible. We have surveyed students twice now and built the options blocks according to what they have told us that they would like to do.
- However, some subjects may not run due to very small numbers. Groups that only have 3 or 4 students are very unlikely to run. Where this is the case, a member of the Senior Leadership Team will contact you to discuss the alternatives.
- Some choices may be oversubscribed. Where this is the case, we will work to decide students best suited for the qualification. This will be discussed with students during their interview and where necessary, a student's second choice or alternative may be offered. Things that will be considered are:
 - Reasons for selecting the option.
 - Other options selected.
 - Whether the form was submitted by the deadline
 - Behaviour and attitude, especially in the subject selected.
- Communication is very important in resolving queries. We understand that students are keen to know exactly what they will be studying. However, until everyone has been seen, we cannot send out the confirmation letters. We aim to do this by Friday 30th April.

Please do reassure your child if they feel they have not been seen. We will get round to everyone so that they have the same chance to ask questions or raise queries. If you requested a phone call when you completed the form, this will happen before final offers are sent.

If you would like to discuss anything relating to your son or daughter's Year 9 GCSE options, please call the school or write to me at hrichtley@leaf.bournemouth.sch.uk

Yours sincerely



Hayley Richley
Vice Principal – Standards and Curriculum

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