

King's Academy **Easthampstead Park** It takes a whole community to raise a child.

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21 January 2025

Dear Parents/Carers

Year 9 Foundation Pathway Subject Evening - Wednesday 5th February - 4:30pm - 6:30pm

We would like to inform you that our GCSE Options Evening will take place on Wednesday, 5th February. This important event will provide you with valuable insights into the GCSE options available to your child as they begin planning for their next stage of education.

Ahead of the evening, we will share a presentation that outlines the GCSE options process, which will give you an overview of the choices and how to approach selecting the right subjects.

During the evening itself, you will have the opportunity to visit various subject departments to learn more about the courses they offer at GCSE level. This will allow you to speak with subject teachers, ask questions, and gather further information to support your child's decision-making process. Departments will be open for visitors from 4:30pm and the evening will end at 6:30pm. There is no need to stay for the full two hours you just visit the subjects of interest.

It is crucial that students choose the right subjects for themselves, as while choices made at this stage are not entirely final, it will be difficult to make changes once courses have started. Additionally, class sizes vary depending on the subject, and students' choices shape the academic timetable for 2025-26.

If a student decides to switch subjects later, there may not be space in the desired class, and catching up on missed content can be challenging. Therefore, it's important that students approach this process thoughtfully and avoid selecting subjects based solely on their friends' choices or the teacher assigned to the course.

Parents Evening on Wednesday 22nd January provides an excellent opportunity to have an initial discussion with your child's subject teacher about suitability at GCSE level. Over the next half-term, all students will have an informal discussion with their Tutor about the subjects that are of interest to them and how their interests might be supported within the choices on offer, as part of this process they will also review their Full Progress 1 (FP1) reports. Mr Clark will then deliver an options assembly to the year group which will summarise the support we have given.

For many students, the opportunity to choose subjects to study is an exciting yet daunting one. I ask you to begin having discussions with your child about their Foundation choices and any future career plans.

We strongly encourage all Year 9 students and their parents to attend, as this is an excellent opportunity to ensure that you are well-informed when making important decisions that align with their interests, abilities, and future aspirations. The choices made during this period will play a crucial role in shaping their academic journey.

Further details regarding the schedule for the evening and the presentation will be shared in the coming weeks.

We look forward to welcoming you and your child on Wednesday 5th February Year 9 Foundation Pathway Subject Evening.

Yours faithfully

Miss L Preston Assistant Headteacher- Behaviour and Culture









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