

Options Evening

3rd February 2022

Mr McSweeney, Mr Whitehouse and Miss Cairns

Family

We support each other in everything that we do.

Ambition

We are determined to achieve excellence.

Integrity

We are always honest and do the right thing.

Respect

We treat everyone and everything with care.



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School

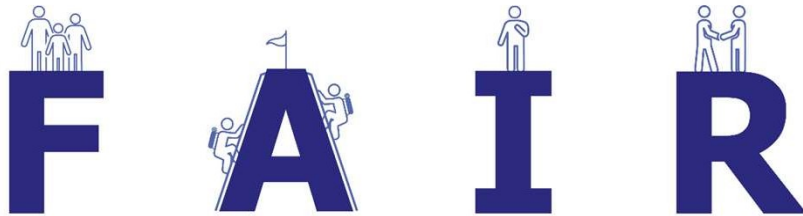


An exciting time...

Year 9 is an exciting year for our young people. It is the first time they get some choice in their education. I am sure they will be excited to drop the subjects they are less fond of and pick up some extra hours on the subjects they love.

At The Emmbrook School our pupils are lucky to have a lot of choice with their options.

However, it can also be a scary time as with any choice does come the fear of making a wrong decision. Therefore, we, as a school, are aiming to make the options choice process as smooth as possible by offering as much help and information to our Year 9 pupils as possible.



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What have we done in form time?

We have been talking a lot about options in form time. We have had three designated mornings to discuss them. These have been in the form of...

- An introduction to choosing my GCSEs. Do's and Don'ts of choosing!
- Where could my GCSE subjects take me? Busting myths about certain GCSE options.
- GCSE Options: Making the final decision. A tick list of things to consider before pushing the final button!



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What else are we doing to help?

- Tonight's virtual options evening for parents and pupils will hopefully aid the making of this decision.
- Friday 4th February. Tomorrow there will be an 'initial poll' where your child will be sent an email with a link to a Microsoft form. They will need to click on this and select the four options that they think they are most likely to choose come the 1st March.
 - Please note that this is NOT their final decision but will help us see if there are any pupils who need extra help in making the decision.



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What else are we doing to help?

- In tutor time next week, subjects that Year 9 are yet to study will be providing an overview of what the course entails.
- These include Business, Marketing and Enterprise, Hospitality and Catering, 3D Design, Media Studies, Creative Media Production and Classical Civilisation.
- In lessons next week, current subjects will also be putting some lesson time towards showcasing their subject and what this entails at GCSE.
- With the two initiatives above running side by side we are hoping that pupils will have a broad understanding of all the subjects from which they can choose from.



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What if my child needs more help?

- If your child needs any more help with making their decision or if you think of any questions that were not answered tonight, please do feel free to email myself (rcairns@Emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk) or your child's tutor.
- Mr Baker is also a useful contact if your child falls under our SEN department (sbaker@Emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk). Please do contact him if you have any questions in this regard.
- When will applications open? Pupils will be able to submit their final choices from the 11th February until the 1st March. Mr Whitehouse will explain the applications process in more detail shortly.



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