



PRESDALES SCHOOL

Achievement for all

Headteacher: Mr M Warren

Hoe Lane

Ware, Herts

SG12 9NX

Tel: 01920 462210

Email: admin@presdales.herts.sch.uk

9th December 2020

Dear Yr 9 Parents/Carers

GCSE Options 2021

In the Spring Term you will be asked to specify which GCSE subjects your daughter would definitely like to study at Key Stage 4 in addition to the Core Curriculum. Details of all the subjects studied in the Core Curriculum, as well as those offered as Option Choices are given in the Year 9 Options Booklet which is available on the website.

[Year 9 Options Booklet 2021](#)

As outlined in the booklet all students will study the following Core GCSE Curriculum:

English Language	Mathematics
English Literature	Physical Education (non-examination)
Science	

Your daughter is being asked to choose four other subjects which should comprise one Modern Foreign Language Option, one Humanity Option and two Free Options. A small number of students, however, will be advised at their senior management consultation (see schedule in the powerpoint presentation attached which was presented to students in form this week) that they are eligible to make slightly different curriculum choices from this if they wish. In order to structure the option blocks in a way that will allow as many students as possible to be able to select their 4 preferred subjects from the four blocks, we are asking you to indicate your daughter's preferred GCSE option choices following the GCSE Virtual Option Forum on Wednesday 20th January. These 2 free choices should be inputted in order of preference, together with a Free Option reserve choice, from the list of subjects given in the dropdown.

Once all these Option indications have been received, the subjects will be allocated to four option blocks for timetabling purposes. Your daughter will receive these blocks week commencing 29th February, when she will be asked to confirm her choices.

Your daughter is able to take separate sciences (3 Science GCSEs) if she is selected based on attainment. The final decision will be made after the year 9 end of year examinations. All other students will take the combined science GCSE. Students may only take one of the two Technology subjects (Graphic Products and Textiles). She may only choose German, Italian, Russian or Spanish as a Modern Foreign Language Option if she has studied it previously in Year 9.

I would emphasise that your daughter is not committed to these choices and may make different choices at the end of February on the option block form. In addition, one or more of these subjects may not be available in the blocks if insufficient demand exists for the subject. There is also a class size limit in some subjects such as Food Preparation and Nutrition but we may put on an extra class if demand and staffing allow.

The electronic application form will be available on the website following the GCSE Virtual Option Forum where you will be able to discuss her choices and core curriculum with subject staff. The deadline for all option indications is 12th February.

Yours sincerely

Julie Stephenson
DHT Curriculum