

February 2022

Dear Parent and Carer

Year 9 Options

We had a successful day yesterday with the launch of the Year 9 Options Process.

The resources are now “live” on the website for you to view.

<https://www.budmouth-aspirations.org/our-curriculum/year-9-options/>

Online Options Booklet.

The online booklet provides details about the overall curriculum for Key Stage 4, including compulsory exam courses, as well as details about the optional subjects.

Online Presentation

I have also created an online presentation to talk you through the process and provide an overview of the support available. I hope you find this helpful. It is important that this presentation is viewed in order to undertake the options process.

Presentation/Video for each course.

There is a presentation/video for each individual course to replace the usual Options Evening. This will provide you with details of the course and help you make your final choices. The staff have been working hard to present their subjects in an interesting and informative way.

Personal contact with the course leader/teacher.

There is a link to communicate with staff in each department. This is not compulsory for you to use but it will enable you to ask individual questions if they have not been answered through the subject presentations and Options Booklet. This can be done via email, or via a virtual Options Evening discussion on 3rd March between 4pm and 7pm.

Links to Careers guidance and presentations.

Even at this age there are very few choices you can make that would completely close off your future opportunities. The choices you make at the end of Year 11 will be much more significant in terms of your long term plans. However, there are some links that you may find interesting to look at. They may even get you thinking about a change in career!

Online Options Form to submit your option choices by 16th March. (This Opens on March 3rd)

This form is quite straightforward but do get in touch if you have any questions. We advise that the form is only completed after all the presentations have been viewed to avoid choices being rushed.

Summary

Students are encouraged to discuss any questions you have with their teachers at school. I can guarantee if they have a question, it will also benefit others, so do ask. It is important that they get engaged with this process.

Now that the resources have gone 'live' on the website there are three weeks to look at all the information. We advise you to go through all of this information before emailing staff specific questions, as we hope that all key questions will be covered in the presentations. The virtual Options Evening will run in exactly the same format as the Parents' Evenings we hold which have proved to be a popular and enjoyable way to discuss children's progress. Appointments will be **available from 23rd February** and the evening **will take place on 3rd March**.

After this, if you do have further questions you can email the member of staff who leads the course you have a question about, their contact details can be found on the subject page within the Options Booklet. I hope that the students enjoy the process of beginning to make some choices about courses they want to study in Key Stage 4.

Thank you for supporting them in this process.

Yours sincerely



Peter Hudson
Vice Principal

Options Timeline :

Monday 14th February -	Online resources go live. Budmouth Website - Curriculum - Yr9 Options
Monday 14th February -	Year 9 spend the first two lessons with Tutors going through the options process and undertaking career activities.
Monday 14th - Weds 23rd -	Parents and students review the information - presentations and subject information and form ideas about their option choices. Compile any questions you may have for subject specialists.
Weds 23rd February -	Virtual Options Evening appointments open online.
Thursday 3rd March -	Virtual Options Evening 4pm - 7pm
Thursday 3rd March -	Online Options form available to be complete
Wednesday 16th March -	Deadline for the Options form to be returned via Google Form.