

NEWARK

ACADEMY

January 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

Our Year 8 students are about to begin their Option choice process over the coming weeks and have already started to consider the subjects that they may wish to study for the next 3 years whilst here at Newark Academy. As you will appreciate, this is a very important process as the choices made now can often influence future career and progression pathways. Whilst we appreciate that many students may not know what they wish to study at this point in their school journey, we are determined to provide your child and you as parents and carers, with as many opportunities as possible to make informed choices that lead to happy and successful experiences. We are holding a number of events to support this process, which are outlined below.

Year 8 GCSE taster day - Friday 3rd February

This experience provides all Year 8 students with an opportunity to take part in a range of lessons that could be on offer to students via our Guided Choice programme. Students will receive a short experience, delivered by a subject specialist and 'taste' what that particular option could look like at GCSE level. All taster subjects will be on offer as part of our options process but it is important to note that some subjects may not secure viable numbers to run.

Tailored careers sessions

During the options process Year 8 students will partake in a number of sessions during tutor time that focus on Careers Education Information Advice and Guidance and how different subjects can lead students along specific pathways. These sessions will enable students to develop their understanding of a range of careers as well as the skills that are required to be successful. In addition, students will develop an awareness of the different kinds of qualifications that are needed to secure the opportunities that lead to successful progression.

Year 8 parents evening - Tuesday 28th February

Our annual parents evening is an excellent opportunity for you to discuss your son/daughters progress in the subjects they are currently studying. This is also an opportunity to have initial discussions with teachers about your son/daughters suitability for some option subjects that will be on offer.

Year 8 options evening – Tuesday 7th March

Please note this is a rearranged date. This is a very important event and we would strongly advise all parents and carers that they attend this evening. This informative evening will provide advice and guidance from subject specialists as well as specific details about our Guided Choice process. Whilst a number of presentations will take place on the evening, families will have opportunity to explore subjects and discuss any questions or concerns with subject specialists. By attending the event, you will receive an advanced copy of our Options brochure and associated application forms, which will be used to apply for specific subjects.


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We understand that this is a very important process and we value the support of parents, carers and families as we continue to work in partnership to support our young people. To support the event prior to attending we would ask that parents and families discuss future career aspirations and current performance prior to making option choices. If you like an informal discussion regarding any aspect of this letter then please do not hesitate to contact me at the Academy. Alternatively, please contact Mr Cruse (Head of Year 8) or your child's tutor.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Brown', written in a cursive style.

Mr S. Brown

Associate School Leader: Curriculum