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Dear Parent/Carer/ Student,

RE: Year 8 Options Process and Subject Evening

As you are already aware, this term students will have the opportunity to select their KS4 options subjects in preparation for September and we want to take this opportunity to outline the activities on offer to support the students, and the key dates you need to be aware of.

From September when they move into year 9, all students will continue to study Maths, English, Science, Games, RE and PSHE for approx. 60% of the week. These lessons will feel very similar to their current experience in Year 8. For the remainder of the week, students have the opportunity to select option subjects from the wide variety of choices we offer. The vast majority of students will select 4 subjects, including an EBACC subject (Geography, History, Triple Science, Computer Science or Modern Foreign Language). The exception to this is those students who will be allocated time to work with the IEN faculty and the IEN team will contact those families directly to discuss this. As part of our curriculum ethos we will also continue to offer wider enrichment opportunities wherever possible.

All information on what courses are available, the criteria for choosing options and links to helpful resources will be launched on the website and explained to students in assembly on Monday 14 March. We would encourage everyone to visit this site so that you can fully support your child in making their choices. If you still have queries following this, then please contact your child's Form Tutor or relevant subject teacher as appropriate.

We are fully aware that choosing Key Stage 4 Options is an exciting yet big decision for students. It is important to us that students make informed decisions about the options subjects they will be studying over the coming 3 years, and thus we are able to confirm that the following will be in place to support these important decisions over the coming weeks:

Date	Activity
Monday 14 March	Launch of Options information on the website and to students via assembly <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Information video for each subject - Subject information - Information on what criteria there are for choosing options
Monday 21 March – Friday 1 April	All subjects will share information around their courses at KS4 with students during lessons. For Health and Social Care and Business Studies, students will have the option to sign up to taster lessons via their Form Tutor.

Monday 4 April	Year 8 Subject Evening- face to face subject evening with Library market place. Opportunity to book appointments with staff who currently teach your child to discuss progress and options in those subject areas. Booking open Tuesday 22 March 4pm on School cloud Subjects which are new to KS4 will have marketplace stalls with an opportunity to drop-in and speak to staff.
Tues 5 April	Parents will receive login information for the options website, where choices will be made.
Friday 29 April 9AM	Deadline for Options choices to be made online
July	Students will be informed which options choices we have been able to allocate them within the timetable.

Subject Evening – Monday 4 April 4pm-8pm

All bookings for subject evening will be done via School Cloud, where you can select which subject staff you would like to have a discussion with. **Appointments can be made from Tuesday 22 March, 4pm and will close on Monday 4 April, 9am.**

The attached guide will step you through the process of booking appointments.

There will be the possibility to see teachers in all 13 areas of their timetable, although we would encourage you to prioritise making appointments where you have specific questions regarding progress this year or suitability for options. In some subjects the number of students taught by each member of staff is significant and appointments may fill up. If this is the case, please use the waiting list facility on School cloud and we will ensure that you receive appropriate contact.

A number of students may have two teachers in some subjects, and where this is the case, the system will allocate you one of these to book with.

As this is a subject evening, you will be unable to book appointments with your child's Form Tutor due to their subject commitments. If you do wish to speak to them at any point during the year then please contact them directly via email.

All appointment lengths are 5 minutes, and we would encourage you revisit the attainment and engagement information shared via Go4Schools and to start with any specific questions to ensure there is sufficient time for these to be answered. We would advise that if you need longer with a member of staff they may ask you to make an appointment to speak to them at another time, in order to keep the evening running smoothly. Members of the Senior Leadership team will be available for any general questions in the student services area.

If you have any issues or queries with booking appointments then please contact data@northleamington.co.uk.

Options Online Portal

After the year 8 Subject Evening, we will launch information on how to access and use the Options online portal to select your child's options. **This will be sent to the individual emails where you receive school group calls, and we will alert you when it is issued in April.**

Kind regards,



Ms. Michelle Foy
Deputy Head Teacher – Curriculum



Miss Paige Murphy
Year 8 Lead