



Friday 27 February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Spring 2 term welcomes Year 9 students back to a key part of their learning journey as they begin the process of choosing their GCSE options. Please find information about this process below as well as the process of booking appointments for the Year 9 subject evening. The Tutor Team will be on hand to support you throughout both processes to ensure that students are making the best possible decisions for their futures.

Students start this half term with College Assemblies providing a great opportunity for Colleges to come together to review college competitions from last term and what's coming up this term. They will continue their Digital Literacy journey and revisit the International School Project during tutor time sessions. Within the career related learning sessions there an opportunity to look in greater depth at the Labour Market and opportunities to examine Prejudice and Discrimination in a range of settings. With the RE mock exam just over two months away, tutors will continue to support students with the development of their revision strategies. Data 2 is just around the corner therefore students will be looking at their current progress and attitude to learning, evaluate whether the actions they set following Data 1 has had an impact on moving their progress on, and perhaps set new targets as they strive to achieve their personal goals.

Year 9 Options Process

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 10, all students will continue to study Maths, English, Science, Core PE, RE and PSHE for approx. 60% of the week. These lessons will feel very similar to their current experience in Year 9. 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 four 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, how to inform us of the choices and links to helpful resources are now on the website in the Learn zone, Key Stage 4 Options, [here](#) and will be explained to students in assembly on Monday 9 March. We would encourage everyone to visit this site as soon as possible so that you are aware of the options available and can fully support your child in making their choices. If you still have questions about a subject then please speak to your child's teacher at subject evening or via e-mail.

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 two 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
March	Launch of Options information to students via assembly (Monday 9 March) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Subject information - Information on what criteria there are for choosing options
Tuesday 10 March – Thursday 19 March	All subjects will share information around their courses at KS4 with students during lessons. For Health and Social Care and Business, students will have the option to sign up to taster lessons in advance via their Form Tutor.
Monday 16 March	Year 9 Subject Evening - face to face subject evening. Opportunity to book appointments with staff who currently teach your child to discuss progress and options in those subject areas. Booking via School cloud. Business, and Health and Social Care will have an information stand in the Student Services area where you can speak to subject staff. There will also be opportunity to speak with Ms. Foy if you have any general options queries.
Tuesday 17 March	Parents will receive login information for the options website, where choices will be made.
Friday 27 March 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.

Options Online Portal

After the Year 9 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 correspondence, and we will alert you when it is issued.**

Year 9 Subject Evening for Parents/Carers

Monday 16 March 2026 from 4.00 – 8.00pm

It is with pleasure that I write to inform you of the arrangements for the Year 9 Subject Evening, which will take place face-to-face in school. It is strongly advised that your child also attends the evening to allow them to hear the feedback their teachers provide.

All bookings for the subject evening will be done via SchoolCloud. Appointments can be made from Monday 2 March at 5pm and will close on Monday 16 March at 9am.

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.

Appointments are available for all students in the core subjects of Maths, English and Science. In other subject areas some teachers teach a large proportion of the students in the year and appointments are offered on a first come first served basis. If you are unable to get an appointment with one of these staff and have a specific question, please contact them directly.

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 e-mail.

The attached guide will step you through the process of booking appointments and includes the link that you need to follow.

All appointment lengths are 5 minutes, and we would encourage you to start with any specific questions to ensure there is sufficient time for these to be answered. 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.

The most recent attainment and engagement data will be available via GO 4 Schools in advance of the evening and we would encourage you to re-visit this prior to the appointment and to be ready to ask any specific questions you have.

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

Autism Awareness event to celebrate World Autism Day -Tuesday 24 March 2026, 5.30-6.30pm

We are holding an Autism Awareness event on March 24 from 5.30-6.30pm here at NLS in the library. The event is for parents/carers with a child at NLS who has a diagnosis of autism or is on the pathway for assessment. The event, hosted by our NLS SEND team, will provide advice and signposting around autism support, mental health and anxiety and sensory needs. In order for us to plan for the event please register your interest or to find out more information, please email send@northleamington.co.uk

Talking Teens Programme here at NLS

Our Family Support Team are supporting Warwickshire Families First in a Talking Teens Workshop being run here at NLS which may be of interest.

Starting on Tuesday 14 April, the programme will run weekly, each Tuesday from 1 to 3.00pm for four weeks and is at no cost.

Topics that the workshops will cover include:

- Help gain confidence and insights in understanding why teenagers behave as they do
- Learn how teenage brains develop
- Explore positive parenting strategies to help behaviours
- Explore different ways to communicate and connect with teenagers
- The importance of parents in teenage years

To book a place please scan the QR code on the flyer on our website [Talking Teens Flyer on NLS Website](#) or you can email ehparenttrainers@warwickshire.gov.uk

Information re clinics for missed immunisations from Public Health Warwickshire

Public Health Warwickshire have asked us to remind parents/carers that they can rebook for vaccinations their child may have missed. This is not facilitated at NLS but at clinics held by the School Aged Immunisation Service (SAIS) and a list of clinic details they have provided is attached. Appointments are booked via the [Swiftqueue link](#).

We have no further information here at NLS regarding vaccines your child may have had or regarding the clinics so please use the [Swiftqueue link](#) and click on the contact tab if you require any further help or have any questions regarding this. We are unable to provide any further information regarding this.

It is going to be a short but busy half term and I'm sure a successful one as we step ever closer towards Year 10.

Mrs Sarah Barley-Morey
AHT Y9 Lead, Careers & Student Self Reflection Lead