

6 January 2020

Dear Parents,

Now that your son is coming to the latter stages of Key Stage 3, he will need to choose his GCSE options. On **Friday 24 January** he will bring home the booklet ‘**Middle School Years**’ which explains the curriculum for Years 10 and 11 and gives detailed information about each subject.

You may have questions, of a general nature, about choosing subjects, Key Stage 4 or GCSE exams. We would like to invite you and your son (in his School uniform) to attend a short meeting on **Wednesday 29 January** from 6.00pm in the Queen’s Hall. The evening will run as follows:

- 6.00-7.00pm Option subject staff will be available to speak about the content of that subject (The Space, Queen’s Hall, Junior Block First Floor)
- 7.00-7.30pm Presentations:
The Curriculum in the Middle School (Miss Munday)
Moving into Year 10 (Mr Durning)
- 7.30pm Individual Q&A

We are using our usual parents’ meeting online booking system to enable you to reserve places at this meeting. It is available now and can be accessed using the following link:
<https://rgshw.parentseveningsystem.co.uk/>

Your son will study Mathematics, English Language and Literature, a Modern Foreign Language, a Humanity (History and Geography), Physics, Chemistry, Biology and two other optional subjects. He will take the full course GCSE exam in these ten subjects in May/June 2022. All subjects are taught in mixed ability groups except for Mathematics and French (please refer to the booklet for more details).

GCSE options are listed below:

Art	Geography	Music
Classical Civilisation	German	Physical Education
Computer Science	History	Religious Studies
Design Technology	Latin	Spanish
French		

The following points must be considered and/or adhered to so that your son ensures he has a well-balanced curriculum:

- All boys must choose **at least** one of French, German or Spanish (Modern Foreign Language)
- All boys must choose **at least** one of History or Geography (Humanity)
- No pupil can begin French, German, Spanish or Latin at this stage
- A boy **can** choose Classical Civilisation, even if he has not studied it in Year 9

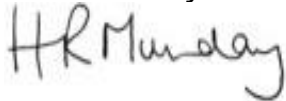
Immediately after the event your son will be able to enter his GCSE Option Choices online using the link via his SIMS Student App. If he does not currently have access to the Student App, he should go to his RGS email account where he will find an email inviting him to register. Once registered he will receive an account confirmation email with a link to both the Student App and Options online.

It is important that he, with your advice, enters his choices **by 9.00am on Monday 3 February 2020** when the online system will close. At that point we will start processing and organising subjects into columns.

We will try to ensure that as many boys as possible are able to do the first three subjects they have opted for, **but we are unable to guarantee this**, and some will inevitably be disappointed. This is due to the limits of set size in specialist rooms and the restraints on the timetable from staffing resources. It is for this reason that we ask boys to choose carefully their order of preference.

Please also note that if an option choice is oversubscribed we will be looking at Attitude to Learning and Attainment grades awarded during Years 8 and 9 in the first instance. The end of year exam (if taken in the subject) will also be used if we are still oversubscribed at that point. It is important your son realises this and shows us by his enthusiasm, commitment and achievement that his choices are the right one for him.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Hilary Munday". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "H" and "M".

Hilary Munday
Assistant Head