

7/1/21

Dear Year 9 Students (and Parents for information)

## Year 9 GCSE Options

I do hope that you are looking forward to starting your full GCSE programme in September 2022. It's a different experience to being in Years 7-9 and marks what we hope will be the middle period of your time at RGS.

Due to the ongoing high levels of Covid, we are unable to run the Open Evening scheduled for Thursday 27 January. However, in order to make sure that you have maximum information on which to base your choices there will be various things happening in the run up to the opening of the online Options programme.

In the week prior to making your choices all GCSE option subjects will be taking the time in lessons to talk to you about what you can expect from the GCSE.

In the week beginning Monday 24 January you will be issued with the important booklet *MIDDLE SCHOOL YEARS An Introduction to GCSE Courses*. This gives details of all GCSE subjects (both core and options) that are available to you at RGS. You should read the booklet carefully and talk to your form tutor, Mr Zair, the relevant subject leader or me ([hrm@rgshw.com](mailto:hrm@rgshw.com)) if you have any queries before making your choices.

On **Thursday 27 January at 1105 (Period 4)** you must attend a session in the Queen's Hall where we will go through the things you need to remember about making your option choices. There will also be an opportunity to ask questions. Parents: I will be sending home a copy of the powerpoint from this presentation.

On **Thursday 27 January at 4pm** the Options programme will be opened, and you will be able to enter your GCSE Option Choices using the link via your SIMS Student App or by going to [www.sims-options.co.uk](http://www.sims-options.co.uk) and logging on with your RGS email account. Although the form includes a tick box for parental approval, **this is not required.**

It is important that you, after discussion with your parents, enter your choices **by 9.00am on Monday 31 January** when the online system will close. At that point we start processing and organising subjects into columns. Please note that not all subject combinations will be possible, but this changes each year so at this stage we cannot say what won't work. Please be assured that 99% of requests will work!

If you have any further questions about GCSE option choices, please come and see me or contact me via email.

Yours sincerely



Hilary Munday  
Assistant Head