

Tapton SCHOOL

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 9 Options - Virtual Information Presentation Wednesday 19th January 2022

Tapton aims to offer a broad and balanced academic curriculum throughout all key stages. We are proud to be one of the few schools that has consistently offered a strong Technology, Performing and Creative Arts offer.

As you may be aware, the Government expectation is that the vast majority of students in England will now study all subjects within the English Baccalaureate (EBacc). These are English Language and Literature, Maths, Science, at least one Humanities subject (Geography or History) and a Modern Foreign Language (Spanish, French or German). This has led to some schools not being able to offer the same breadth of creative subjects previously available at GCSE.

Our aim is to always support students in making the right subject choices whilst at the same time staying true to our ethos of valuing everyone. We strive to provide students with a deep and rich curriculum experience which keeps all doors open for future career pathways. With this in mind we give our students the opportunity to make the decision to choose the subjects they wish to specialise in at GCSE.

To further explain the EBacc, its impact and the GCSE Options process we would like to take this opportunity to invite you and your child to watch the Year 9 GCSE Options Virtual Information Evening on **Wednesday 19th January 2022 at 6:30pm**. This can be accessed through our school website www.taptonschool.co.uk. During the presentation we will explain the different pathways available to your child, the support that is in place to help students make their decisions and how to access additional advice and guidance.

Further to the Information Presentation you and your child will also have a virtual pathway meeting, at a later date, with a member of the Senior Leadership Team to inform them of the pathway we feel is most suitable and provide you and your child a chance to ask any further questions. A separate letter will follow with details of the dates of the pathway meetings and how to book an appointment online.

Your child will receive their Options booklet and Options form on Wednesday 2nd February. **The deadline for the Option form to be completed and returned to their Form Tutor is Friday 11th February 2022.** This is the day we break up for half term. Failure to return completed Options forms by the deadline could disadvantage students as courses fill up.

Yours sincerely,



Kat Rhodes
Headteacher



Holly Morris
Assistant Headteacher



Valuing everyone, Caring for each other, Achieving excellence