

11th January 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

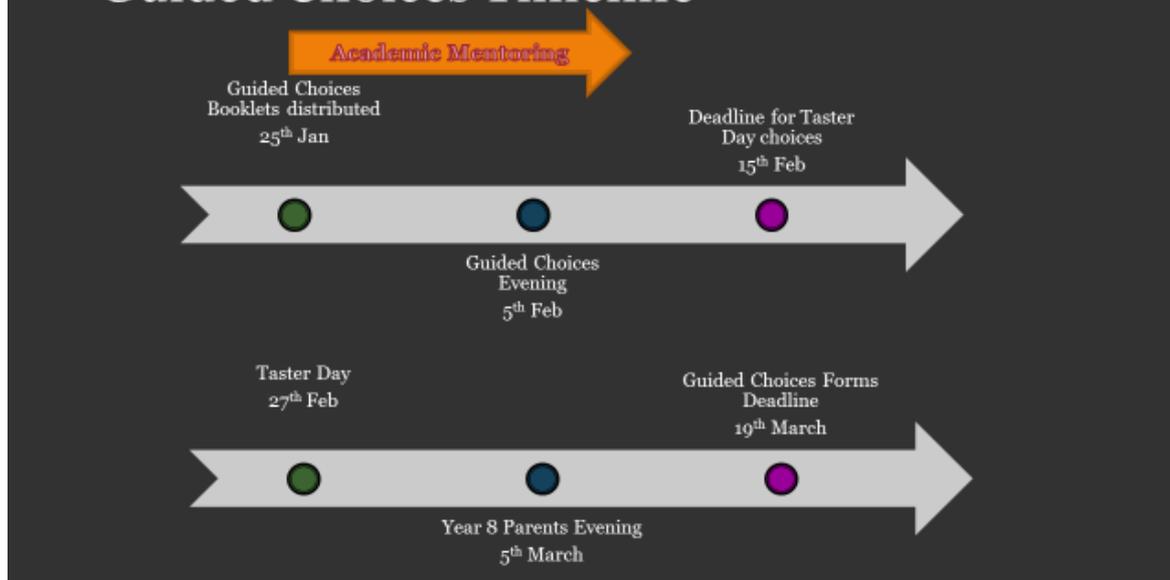
Year 8 Guided Choices

We are writing to you regarding the forthcoming GCSE Guided Pathways process that all Year 8 students will complete between now and March 2019. This is the starting point for dialogue and ultimately decisions over which GCSEs and other qualifications your son/daughter will study over the coming years. The aim is to give every student the best possible platform and foundations in knowledge to go forward into an ever changing Post 16 environment.

Please use this letter as a guide to the forthcoming weeks and months. We will provide detailed information to all students and parents as we move through this very important pathway process, as well as support and guidance in school and at our information evenings.

WHEN.....	WHAT.....
January and early February	Students will bring home their latest Learning Profile with their current performance data on. This is to be used to help guide students towards subjects they have strengths in and where they need to put in more effort, in order to achieve the best possible grades.
January and early February	Academic Mentoring: Form Tutors will use some of their academic mentoring time to discuss careers and possible GCSEs on a one-to-one basis with students.
January to March	Students will start to discuss careers and GCSE subjects during their academic mentoring slots, form time and relevant lessons during the school day. We advise that conversations regarding future careers continue at home. It is a good idea to look at desired jobs and work backwards to find out what qualifications maybe required or are preferable.
25 th January	Year 8 students will receive a Guided Choices Booklet which will contain details about each course we offer and how it is assessed. A subject choices form allowing students to make informed guided pathway choices will be inside.
5 th February 6.00pm – 8.00pm	Guided Choices Evening: Parents/Carers and students are invited to a formal presentation in the school hall by the Senior Leadership Team. Additionally, departmental staff are available to talk about the courses on offer and answer questions throughout the evening.
6 th – 15 th February	Subjects are chosen for the Taster Day held on 27th February . Choices to be completed during this time via SURVEY MONKEY . Deadline 15th February .
18 th – 22 nd February 2019	HALF TERM HOLIDAY
Taster Day 27 th February	This is an opportunity for students to experience lessons in subjects they have not studied before.
5 th March	Year 8 Parents' Evening. This is where parents/carers and students talk with individual class teachers as they did in Year 7. This is also an opportunity to talk about suitability for particular courses.
19 th March	Final Deadline for students to return their Guided Choices forms and select the courses they wish to follow.

Guided Choices Timeline



During the PLEDGES day on 7th February we will be launching the 'Unifrog' platform to students in Year 8. This is an online platform with a wealth of information about career paths. Another information source is the government run website: <https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/job-profiles/home> which allows students to find out more about the job and the entry requirements needed. Both of these resources can be used to help discussions in college and at home.

Should you have questions regarding the process please feel free to contact your child's form tutor in the first instance. Their email address is based on InitialSurname@elycollege.co.uk For example, Mrs J Edmunds-Grezio would be jedmunds-grezio@elycollege.co.uk

Yours faithfully

Mrs J Edmunds-Grezio (formerly Brown)
Vice Principal