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4th January 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 8 Guided Choices

We will be inviting Year 8 students make their GCSE option choices this term. This letter is to give you a timeline of the differing stages of the process allowing them to choose their GCSE option subjects for the start of Year 9 in September 2024.

In the **week commencing 5th February**, the Guided Choices booklets will be handed to students during form time. This gives an overview of the process and where additional information to help make decisions can be found. The selection of courses on offer are designed to best ensure both achievement through Key Stage 4 and access to appropriate post-16 courses beyond Year 11.

On **Tuesday 13th February** I invite you to the Guided Choices evening. This will take place in college and there will be 2 sessions:

5.30pm – 6.30pm: Students with surnames starting A - K

6.30pm – 7.30pm: Students with surnames starting L – Z

At the event there will be a presentation by myself explaining the process in more detail and the opportunity to ask questions. There are no subject staff available during the evening; if you have subject specific questions regarding suitability or details about the course, then please contact your child's teachers directly.

On **Wednesday 14th February** the Options Online system will go live and at this point students can start choosing their options. The deadline for this is **Monday 25th March**. More detail about the Options Online system will be given during the Guided Choices evening.

On **Tuesday 19th March** the Year 8 'Meet the Tutor Evening' will take place. This will give you an opportunity to talk to your child's tutor about their progress and thoughts on GCSE choices. More information on how to book your appointment will come out in February.

On **Monday 25th March** the Options Online system will close at 1pm and on **Wednesday 27th March** you will be emailed with the choices we have recorded for your child. To be clear, this is not the final allocation of choices but the ones we currently have recorded for them.

Final allocations will be communicated in early June 2024.

Should you have any questions about the Guided Choices process contact me by email:

guidedchoices@elycollege.co.uk

Yours faithfully

KJ Norton-Berry
Assistant Principal



Meridian
Trust



Artsmark
Silver Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England



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MUSIC MARK
SCHOOL