



# Washington Academy

*Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions*

19<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Dear parent/carer,

I hope you and your families have had a great start to the New Year. I write to you as we enter a very exciting time for your Year 9 child in the fact that we will very shortly be commencing the options process.

The options process is where your child is able to choose the courses they wish to complete at Key Stage 4 and gain formal qualifications in at the end of Year 11. The courses that are not core, and your child does not choose will end at the end of this academic year.

There are subjects that students do not have a choice about as these are directed by our Government as “core” subjects that all students must study. These include English Language, English Literature, Mathematics and Science and all students will sit exams in these at the end of Year 11. It is also directed that students must participate in personal development and Physical Education lessons, but these are not examined at the end of Year 11.

You will be informed at each stage, and both your child and yourselves will be guided through the process. Please see below some key dates:

Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	Year 9 Options launch assembly to students Options information on the school website goes live.
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> January 2024	Students can choose some “taster sessions” to attend.
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> February 2024	Year 9 Parents evening and Year 9 Options evening.
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	Students submit options forms into school.

Students should return home on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January with an options booklet. Please take time to go through this with your child in advance of the evening on 1<sup>st</sup> February. Any questions you have can be noted on this as it is your child’s to keep.

Attendance at the parents evening on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February is crucial as important options information will also be presented and staff will be on hand to offer any advice and guidance.

We look forward to supporting your child in their next stage of school life!

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Carter  
Headteacher