



16 January 2025

Dear Parent/Guardian

Year 9 GCSE Options Process

The Spring term of Year 9 sees the formal launch of the GCSE Options process at Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge. I wanted to write to remind you of an outline the timeline.

Towards the end of the Autumn Term I shared some information about the wider educational landscape with respect to Key Stage 4 qualifications which can be found [here](#). Students in Year 9 also undertook a 'Straw Poll'. This is a non-binding survey which helps me identify which subjects are *likely* to be viable for GCSE option groups and indicates whether we may have a recruitment need. I would like to extend my thanks, again, to the students for completing these surveys promptly and maturely.

To facilitate the options process there will be a special online area set up for students. The **Year 9 Google classroom** can be accessed using the following code - **mllfk2z**

This will be a resource bank of information including information on the individual courses and links to external sites that can provide additional guidance for them.

Over the course of 3 weeks the following events will be taking place to provide students (and parents) with the relevant information and to offer students with the necessary support to make these decisions:

Event	Description	Date	Time	Location	Further information
'Decision making' workshop	A 1 hour workshop led by Mr Mount (Head of Year) on 'Thinking for our Future': what options lie ahead of us and how to start thinking about our choices.	Thursday 30 January	Period 4	AV Theatre	The workshop will run in place of students' timetabled period 1 lesson on this day.
Options launch for students	A 1 hour extended assembly to launch the 2023 Options process with students led by Miss Bliss (Head) & Mr Mount (HOY). There will be a presentation about the specifics of the 2025 options process including	Monday 3 February	Period 4	AV Theatre	This assembly will run in place of the timetabled period 4 lesson on this day



Event	Description	Date	Time	Location	Further information
	how to complete the Options form.				
Options launch for Parents	A 40-minute presentation to launch the Options process to parents led by Miss Bliss. Mr Mount (HOY) and Y9 tutors will also be present.	Monday 3 February	6pm	AV Theatre	This presentation will cover much of the same content on the process of Options at MECE. You are strongly encouraged to attend (but students are not required)
Year 9 Progress Report Issued	Spring Progress Report issued to parents & students	Thursday 6 February		By 4pm	MCAS App / Student App
Year 9 Parents' Evening (face to face)	An opportunity to speak to your son/daughter's teachers about current engagement and progress and suitability for GCSE courses (where appropriate)	Tuesday 11 February	4.30-7pm	Main School Hall	Information on booking appointments will be shared closer to the time.
Deadline for Options Forms	The deadline for students to have submitted their Options form.	Thursday 13 February	9am	Via Tutors	Forms will be shared with pupils on Thursday 6 February

Thank you in advance for your support over the next few weeks as Year 9 undertake their options process.

Kind regards,

Miss E Bliss
Headteacher

Mr A Mount
Head of year 9

