



1st February 2019

Year 9 Options Process and Parents’/Carers’ Information Evening

Dear Parent/Carer

Headteacher: Mr S Haigh BSc

At Whickham School pupils start their Key Stage 4 GCSE and BTEC options in Year 9. In order to support your son/daughter in choosing a set of options that suits their needs and aspirations, and prepare them for the transition, we run a series of briefings and evenings for pupils and parents.

For parents, the first important evening is the initial briefing to parents on **Tuesday 5 March 2019** in the Main Hall starting at **4pm and finishing at 6.30pm**. The event consists of a briefing from myself and Mr Haigh on the range of pathways available at Whickham School and an explanation of the core curriculum that pupils follow, along with the range of choices they can choose from. The briefing will run at **4pm** and again at **5.30pm**. Alongside the briefing, each subject area will have a stall in the Sixth Form where you and your son/daughter can find out more information about each of the subject options.

So that we can manage numbers and seating effectively in the main hall, parents/carers need to book seats for either the 4pm or 5.30pm presentation. In order to book seats please follow this link: <https://whickhamschool.parentseveningsystem.co.uk/> to our on-line events and Parents’ Evening portal. As with Parents’/Carers’ Evenings you will need to enter your child’s first name, surname and date of birth. If you do not have access to the internet or experience any issues with accessing the system, please contact the school office who will be happy to add a booking on your behalf.

Key Dates

Date	Time	Activity	Location
Friday 15 February	-	Y8 Reports posted home (to help inform)	-
Monday 25 February	8.45 - 9.10am	Initial briefing to all Y8 Pupils. Pupils given options booklet.	Main Hall
Tuesday 26 to Friday 1 March	8.45 - 9.10am	Pupils given presentations about their subject choices	Main Hall
Monday 4 March	8.55-9.10am	Pupils given their option form	Tutor rooms
Tuesday 5 March	4.00-6.30pm	Y8 Parents’/Carers’ Options Information Evening (for parents and pupils).	Sixth Form
From Wednesday 6 March	On-going	Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) interviews with Y8 pupils	School
From Thursday 7 March until Friday 15 March	-	Return of option forms. Forms that are returned on-time (by 15 March) will be considered first when considering option choices.	via Tutor

Yours sincerely

Mr P Wheatley
Deputy Headteacher

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