

1st February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

RE: Year 9 Options

As your child approaches Year 10 and the exciting journey that leads to your child making personal choices about the subjects they will take next year in KS4. These choices will also support their future next steps when applying for Sixth Form College or apprenticeships. We are proud to be able to offer a wide range of GCSE and Vocational subjects for students to choose from.

At Royds Hall, all students will study our compulsory curriculum of: English Language; English Literature; Mathematics; Science (Dual Award); CORE PE (as part of promoting a healthy and active lifestyle) and ERIC (Ethics, Religion, Ideas and Citizenship which covers all aspects of SMSC, PSCHE and British values).

Over the next few weeks, to help prepare your child in the decision-making process, we have organised an Option Taster Week which will commence Monday 1st March. The aim of this week is to provide an opportunity to gain valuable information about the different option courses offered at Royds Hall, so students can make an informed decision about the subjects they may choose, particularly those they have not studied at KS3.

In addition to this, we are holding a virtual Options Information Evening on 4th March, where parents will have the opportunity to attend a live Q&A session as well as watching the options presentations from our teaching staff. Members of SLT will be available between 4-7pm to answer any questions you or your child may have. We encourage all parents to attend to help support their child in making an informed choice with regard to their options.

We have also attached an Option Booklet, which contains information on every subject that we offer. The following information is included in the booklet:

- The subjects we offer and an overview of each subject
- The qualification(s) awarded
- The curriculum that will be studied
- How the course will be assessed – coursework/exam elements

It is vital that you spend time reading through the booklet with your son/daughter before attending the virtual Option Evening. This is so you can ask additional questions on your child's potential choices. I would like to take this opportunity to inform you that your child has received a variety of assemblies which details the option process itself, along with subject specific assemblies by Subject Leaders.



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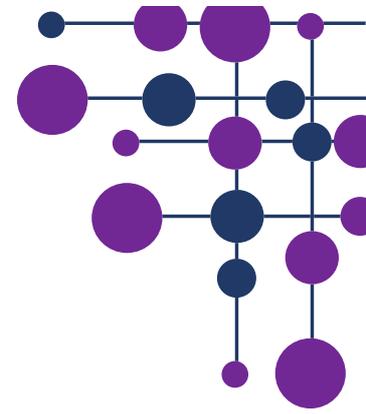
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roydshall.org

Valuing people, supporting personal best

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Students have been informed that they should consider options that:

- They enjoy and are likely to be successful at
- To choose options that link to their future aspirations, career or further education
- To make informed choices by speaking to their teachers
- To consider how each course is assessed and ensure that they can meet the assessment demands of that subject

Students have also been informed that they should not choose subjects based on:

- The choices their friends have made
- The class teacher (teachers change each year and there is no guarantee that member of staff will teach that class)

Here at Royds Hall, our key principles are '**valuing people, supporting personal best**' and it is this belief that we must ensure that all students choose subjects that will allow them to flourish and shine. We must, and will, support every student in the choices they make, as it is our goal to make sure that every door is open to them once they have completed their journey at Royds Hall. We ask that students and parents work with the school to ensure that appropriate choices are made.

I look forward to seeing you on 4th March.

Yours sincerely,

T. Woodhead

Tracy Woodhead
Director of Vocational and Careers Education