

10 January 2024

**To all Year 9 Parents/Guardians**

Dear Parent/Guardian

**Re: Key Stage 4 Curriculum Evening: Choices at 14 on Wednesday 24 January 2024 from 6.00pm starting with a Presentation in the Main Hall**

As you are aware your child is currently in Year 9 and this term they will have the opportunity to make their subject preferences for Key Stage 4. To inform this process, I invite you and your child to our **Key Stage 4 Curriculum Evening: Choices at 14 on Wednesday 24 January 2024**, where there will be an opportunity for you and your child to talk to our team of subject teachers who will be on hand to give you more detailed information about the courses on offer, after a short introductory presentation about the options process at 6.00pm in the Main Hall. Upon arrival you will receive a copy of the Key Stage 4 Curriculum Guide: Choices at 14. This will also be available as a PDF file on our website.

Following the Curriculum Evening, the **Choices at 14 preference form** will go out via Satchel:One Show My Homework the following week on **Wednesday 31 January 2024** and this needs to be completed by the end of **Tuesday 20 February 2024**. Choices at 14 are not done on a first come first served basis as we would encourage your child to think carefully about their preferences.

As you are aware, pupils in Year 9 at Deer Park start all of their Key Stage 4 courses in June when they will 'move up' to Year 10 from Tuesday 4 June 2024. Our pupils will therefore have two full years in which to make good progress in Key Stage 4 before sitting their GCSEs in May/June 2026.

The GCSE qualifications which have been introduced over the last few years place much more emphasis on final exams and less on coursework. To support pupils in preparation for Key Stage 4 we will continue to assess your child through written assessments and practice exams during the remainder of Year 9, to promote effective revision strategies and to give the pupils exam experience prior to sitting their formal GCSE exams.

I look forward to seeing you and your child on Thursday 24 January 2024 for this important Curriculum Evening.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R Clutterbuck', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Richard Clutterbuck  
**Headteacher**