



ND/Preferences/2024

GCSE Subject Choices for September 2024 onwards for current Year 9 students

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to inform you of several important dates in the forthcoming weeks for your child in Year 9.

As we prepare for Years 10 & 11, all students need to refine their curriculum by selecting subjects they wish to continue with through to the end of Year 11. These will be their GCSE qualifications.

All students will continue to follow our Core curriculum which includes English, Mathematics, Science, Philosophy & Ethics, Physical Education and PSHCEe. The remainder of their taught curriculum is made up of their four Preference subjects i.e. subjects which the student chooses.

Assembly

On Wednesday 28th February students will have a Preferences Assembly in school time setting out the stages of the Preferences Process.

Preferences evening **Wednesday 28 February**

This is a vital evening for both you and your child to attend in person.

Starting in the Hall, promptly at 5.30, this will provide an opportunity to speak with teaching staff and current Key Stage 4 students about the subject choices they need to make. The evening will finish at 7.30pm.

Key Dates

1. Students will select their Preference subjects online, via a short survey.
2. Students will be sent a practice link which they can complete as many times as they like on Thursday 14th March.
3. From 18th March to 21st March a new live survey link will be issued. Students will have one chance to make their final Preferences selection.
4. The final deadline for students to submit their Preferences is on 21st March. Students who miss the deadline are at risk of missing out on their preferred subjects and instead will be allocated subjects based on spaces available.

Parents Evening

These evenings will take place in person with bookings made via our online system SchoolCloud. Details of how to book your appointments will follow in due course.

Headteacher Mrs Colette O'Dwyer

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- Wednesday March 6th Groups A-E
- Thursday March 14th Groups F-I

Please use this opportunity to support your child in their decision process and to enable them to feel confident that the decisions they make are the right ones for them. Your child's teachers will discuss their strengths and development points as we move towards the start of formal qualifications in September.

Resources

On our website, you can find our [Preferences Booklet](#) which takes you through the subject-level detail or the subjects we offer. Please engage with your child about their experiences and discuss what courses may best suit them in the next two years of their educational journey. It will be helpful to support them make great decisions that will allow them to both enjoy school, and experience educational success.

When Progress Check information is published in Arbor, please use this information in the decision-making process.

Careers Support

We have a wonderful careers provision at Park High, which we are incredibly proud of. Our team will be working closely with Year 9 over the coming weeks and are available to support. Students can access this via their Form Tutor or directly to dfoster4.310@parkhighstanmore.org.uk

EBacc Information

The government has informed schools that they should move towards 90% of all students following EBacc courses and as a school, we support this. EBacc (English Baccalaureate) is a suite of subjects which beyond the core offer includes either Geography or History, and a Modern Foreign Language.

If you have any questions regarding this process, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Fowler rfowler4.310@parkhighstanmore.org.uk

Yours sincerely



N Darby
Deputy Headteacher