



## PARK HIGH SCHOOL

27 January 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to confirm a number of important dates for the Spring Term for your child in Year 8.

We are very much of the opinion that a wide experience of subjects, for as long as possible, will offer our students the best possible education in our ever changing world.

This means that your child will begin their GCSE and vocational studies in Year 10 (2023-24) which will be completed in two years completing terminal exams in the summer of 2025. For the next academic year, starting in September 2022, all students will follow a curriculum that includes English, mathematics, science, geography, history, a modern foreign language, philosophy and ethics, physical education and PSHCEe.

In addition to this, and to increase their curriculum experience, they will need to make a choice from three additional subjects from the following list:

*Art (Fine, Graphics & Photography combined), business, computing & ICT (combined), design & technology, dance, drama, media studies, music, sport studies.*

Choices should be made based on personal interest, potential for success and with an eye to the future. At this relatively early age it is vital that students keep their range of subjects as wide as possible and we would urge them to have breadth in their curriculum.

Overleaf is a timeline of events which all students will receive which will help them to make informed decisions which courses to identify. Please engage with your child about their experiences and discuss with them what courses may best suit them in Year 9, prior to them selecting subjects that they will be examined in during Key Stage 4 (Years 10 & 11).

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Headteacher Mrs Colette O'Dwyer

Thistlecroft Gardens, Stanmore, Middlesex HA7 1PL Tel: [020 8952 2803](tel:02089522803) Fax: 020 8952 6975 [www.parkhighstanmore.org.uk](http://www.parkhighstanmore.org.uk)

Twitter: [@ParkHighNews](https://twitter.com/ParkHighNews) Facebook: [@ParkHighStanmoreOfficial](https://www.facebook.com/ParkHighStanmoreOfficial) Email: [info@parkhighstanmore.org.uk](mailto:info@parkhighstanmore.org.uk)

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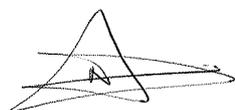
Thursday 27 January	Assembly	An introduction to the process for students to start considering decisions about their curriculum in Year 9.
w/b Mon 31.1.22	Subject experiences	In relevant subject areas, students will be given a clear understanding of the type of content and learning they will receive if they choose a particular subject for Year 9 study.
w/b Mon 7 February	PC 1	PC 1 data to parent/carers of Year 8 students.
Thursday 10 February	Parent/Teacher consultations	Staff dialogue with tutees to confirm appropriate choices are being made.
Half term		Students to trial subject experiences on SharePoint to help make informed decisions.
Thursday 24 February (1600) until Wednesday 2 March (1600)	Choices window	<p>Choices will be made online via SurveyMonkey.</p> <p><a href="https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/2022Year8Choices">https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/2022Year8Choices</a></p> <p>It is not a first come first served basis. Students just need to meet the deadline.</p> <p>Students who do not meet the deadline will sit with senior staff and complete the form.</p>

In the Spring term of Year 9 we will be inviting you into school for a Preferences Evening which will enable you to discuss subject choices for Years 10 & 11 with subject specialists.

I would urge you to attend the virtual Parent Teacher Consultation Evening to support your child in this process and to enable them to feel confident that the decisions they make are the right ones for them.

If you have any questions regarding this process, please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

Yours sincerely



Neil Darby  
**Deputy Headteacher**