



January 2026

**Dear Parent / Carer,**

We are writing to update you on the options and guidance process that our current year 9 students are following as they make important individual learning pathways decisions over the coming months.

If you have not yet viewed the year 9 options launch presentations or the KS4 prospectus, they can be found at the following location on the school website:

[Year 10 & 11 Subject Information - Whitchurch High School](#)

The following timeline provides an overview of the option process:

- COMPLETION OF ILPP: September 2025 to June 2026
- YEAR 9 OPTIONS LAUNCH: Week beginning 17th November 2025
- UPDATED OPTION SUBJECT INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE: December 2025
- KEY STAGE 4 SUBJECT OPTION TALKS IN LESSONS AND ASSEMBLY: December 2025 onwards
- KEY STAGE 4 OPTIONS OPEN EVENING / Yr9 PARENT/ CARER ENGAGEMENT EVENING: 22nd January 2026 – 5pm till 7pm
- **FREE CHOICE SURVEY: 26th January – 9th February 2026 – the decisions made by pupils at this stage are used to help formulate the Key Stage 4 option grid.**
- OPTION GRID AVAILABLE: 2nd March 2026
- INDIVIDUAL PUPIL INTERVIEWS: 3rd, 4th and 5th March 2026
- OPTION FORMS SUBMITTED: 16th March 2026

We were pleased to welcome so many of you to our KS4 Open / Engagement evening last night, we hope you found it informative. We now look forward to launching the free choice survey to all our students on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January.

On Monday, each student will be sent a link via their school e-mail address to a Microsoft form. The form will ask them to pick three subject choices that they would like to take next year from the whole list of subjects offered. Once all students have completed the survey, the final KS4 option grid will be produced offering as many students as possible their first-choice options. This will be available from 2nd March until 16<sup>th</sup> March. More details will follow about this.



You will also notice from the timeline above that the support and guidance does not stop there. Before the options deadline, all students will receive a one-to-one interview with a senior member of staff to help discuss option choices and individual learning pathways.

Whilst students will be able to change their mind following the free choice survey and after application forms are submitted until the deadline date, it is important that the decisions that they make over the coming weeks are as informed and as accurate as possible to avoid disappointment. With this in mind, we would encourage you to discuss these decisions carefully with your child.

Can we take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support at this important time for your child.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us on 02920 629700

Yours faithfully,

**Mrs C Robson**

**Assistant Headteacher - KS2-3**

**Mrs C Evans**

**Year 9 Progress Leader**

**Mrs L Jones**

**Year 9 pastoral assistant**

**Miss A Howells**

**Year 9 Assistant Progress Leader**

**Mr D Duncan**

**Key Stage 3 Pastoral support and Transition co-ordinator**

**Mr J W Davies**

**Assistant Headteacher -Curriculum**