



April 2021

Dear Parent / Carer

RE: Guided Choices Evening and Options Process

During the course of Year 9 your child has had a number of opportunities to start considering their next steps for the future. It is now time for your child to decide on their next steps at GCSE.

We are delighted to invite you to our Guided Choices Evening on **Thursday 29th April starting at 5.30pm**. This will be a virtual evening on Microsoft Teams. The evening will commence with information about how the options process will run, the structure of the GCSEs and information relating to Post-16 opportunities. You will then be invited to leave the main room and join presentations of option subjects so you can find out more about the different subjects your child could study next year. You will have the opportunity to hear four different option presentations. Your child will be E-mailed a Microsoft Teams invitation next week so that you can take part in the evening together via your child's iPad.

We have also provided a booklet which would be useful to discuss with your child to help you decide which subjects you would like more information about on the evening and to use after the event to fine tune the options they are considering.

During the **week beginning 10th May**, you and your child will be invited to a Microsoft Teams meeting by their tutor or member of SLT. During the course of this meeting, you will discuss with that member of staff the options that you have chosen and the suitability for your child. This will be a further opportunity to raise any questions or concerns that you have moving into Years 10 and 11.

Principal - Claire Taylor

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What can I do to support my child with their understanding of Post-16 options?

Your involvement is important to ensuring that your child makes decisions that are challenging, aspirational and crucially, are right for them. We have listed some resources below that you can access for free which will support your conversations with your students:

- **To Infinity, choices and beyond! A Parents' Guide** – A handy online booklet which explains every step of education from Year 9 through to University. This can be accessed here: <http://online.fliphtml5.com/okfun/czdo/#p=6>
- **Making a plan for the future** – A website with resources and quizzes that can be used with your child to consider their skills, strengths and how to make their desired career a reality. This can be accessed here: <https://www.sunoutreach.org/flying-start/making-a-plan-for-your-future-soton/>
- **Oasis Academy Mayfield; Careers Guidance** – Our website has a Careers Guidance section which is regularly updated with information, resources and clips for you to access. You can also join our Oasis Southampton Careers Facebook page with information from colleges and universities regarding Open Days and other opportunities. This can be accessed here: <https://www.oasisacademymayfield.org/curriculum/careers-guidance>

We hope that these resources will support you in facilitating conversations with your child about their future and we look forward to informing you of further opportunities that we will be running over the course of the year.

Yours faithfully,

Ms H Staton
Head of Year – Year 9

Ms T Baxendale
Assistant Principal

Principal - Claire Taylor

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