

12 May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to inform you of an important curriculum change for our Year 8 students as we prepare them for the transition to Key Stage 4 (KS4) at the end of Year 9.

To ensure that students are ready for KS4 study, we are asking all Year 8 students to choose one subject to study in Year 9 from either Design & Technology *or* Food & Nutrition. As a result of this change, students will study their chosen subject for two lessons per fortnight, rather than having one lesson per fortnight in each subject as they have done throughout Year 7 and 8.

Students will make this choice as part of their tutor time programme next week. However, we strongly encourage you, as parents and carers, to discuss this decision with your child beforehand so that they feel confident about the choice they make.

When deciding, students should consider:

- What they enjoy most
- Where their strengths and talents lie
- How the subject may support their future plans after leaving school

Students should not base their decision on wanting to be taught by a particular teacher or to be in lessons with their friends.

It is important to note that this choice does not commit students to studying their selected subject throughout KS4. However, once the decision is made, students will not be able to take up the subject they do not choose during the Year 9 Options Process.

Once students have completed their selection, I will write to you to confirm the subject they have chosen.

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions regarding this process, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Yours sincerely,



Chris Andrews
Vice Principal