



6<sup>th</sup> January, 2023

Dear Parents / Carers

### Year 9 Timeline of Key Events - Options Pathways

I am writing to provide a timeline for the remainder of the year ahead for our Year 9 students. This is an exciting time for the students as they start to consider their options and choose the subjects that they want to study at GCSE in Years 10 & 11. I trust that this letter will help explain the process but also highlight the opportunities that you will have to gain information and advice to support your child.

I would like to congratulate all year 9 students for their hard work and commitment demonstrated during their recent exam series, before the Christmas break. The examination results will inform the discussions that you will have with subject teachers both at the upcoming parents evening and options information evening (details below). During the options process, the school will allocate pathways to individual children, please note that these are not solely based upon the recent Year 9 exams. We look at each child individually and also consider their ability level, current and prior progress, aspirations, and literacy levels. Our intent is to ensure success at GCSEs and prepare each child for their next steps post 16. More information will be provided on the Options Microsite and at the Options Evening to ensure that both your child and yourself are fully equipped with all the information to make an informed decision. However, our [curriculum intent](#) can currently be viewed on our website.

**Please find below a timeline of key events to be aware of during this important time in your child's 7- year journey at RVHS:**

- **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January-** Report sent home to all Parents outlining progress in all subjects' areas.
- **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> January-** Year 9 Parents evening (Virtual). Instructions to be sent via email.
- **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February** - Year 9 Options microsite to be updated for this cohort ([2022 version](#)) to all parents & students. The site contains information on subject choices, pathways and details of the curriculum offer. Students will also be provided with individual pathway details by individual letter.
- **Week beginning 6<sup>th</sup> February** - Year 9 Taster week during lessons - an opportunity for students to experience GCSE subjects not previously studied at KS3, these subjects include Media & Social Sciences.
- **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February** - All Year 9 Parents are invited into school for the Options Evening. The evening will explain the **Options Pathways**. It will also provide



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INVESTORS  
IN PEOPLE | Bronze

Parents with an opportunity to meet subject leads to gain information on the GCSE courses offered and studied. (Timings 5.30 - 7.30pm - details to be sent via email)

- **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February & Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February** - Optional support clinics will be held after school for parents to book appointments to discuss any queries face to face, if you have queries/concerns regarding your individual child. (An email with a Google form to request a meeting will be sent to all parents/carers)
- **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March** - options form 'hand in deadline' for all students.

I really hope that the timeline above gives you an indication of all of the support that is planned for you and your child during this most important process. We will provide numerous opportunities for your child to engage in the process and seek information to help them make their choices for KS4 study.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully



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