



The Ripley Academy and Sixth Form



Executive Headteacher: **Mrs L Walton** BA (Hons)

www.ripleyacademy.org
01773 746334
enquiries@ripleyacademy.org

Head of School: **Mr J de Rijk** BA (Hons)
Deputy Headteacher: **Miss J Scattergood** BEd (Hons)
Deputy Headteacher: **Mrs J Thawley** BSc (Hons)
Assistant Headteacher: **Mr M Kirkland** BSc (Hons)

13th December 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Year 9 GCSE Options Process

As you are aware, your child will be starting their Key Stage 4 GCSE courses in September 2022. We will shortly be beginning the options process with your child. Unlike previous years, there will be no subjects blocked against each other and so students will have a free choice of six subjects to study in order of preference. These will then be reduced to four final choices based on the feasibility of groupings. It is hoped that this will enable students to study the subjects they genuinely want to, rather than from a limited combination of option blocks.

There are a number of important events relating to the option's process which are designed to give yourself and your child as much information, support and guidance in making the most appropriate choices for their future. Unfortunately, due to current restrictions we will not be able to run our Parent Options Information Evening in the usual way. Instead, all information regarding the options process will be available on the 'Year 9 Options' page of the school website throughout January. This includes a short presentation from myself explaining the procedures and application schedule as well as subject specific presentations sharing course information. The scheduled parents evening on February 2nd will provide an opportunity to speak with subject staff should you have any questions. Alternatively, our Heads of department's contact details can be found below if you have any subject-related queries in the meantime.

The Options Process Key dates and events are as follows:

WEDNESDAY 12 th JANUARY 2022	Curriculum booklets issued to Year 9 students. Year 9 Options Assembly
THROUGHOUT JANUARY	Subject specific information available on the school website
WEDNESDAY 2 nd FEBRUARY 2022	Year 9 Parents Evening: An opportunity to discuss the feasibility of options choices with subject teachers.
2 nd – 7 th FEBRUARY 2022	Options Application Forms available and returned <u>online</u> to Mrs Thawley.
MONDAY 7 th FEBRUARY 2022	<u>Deadline</u> for return of Options applications.

The Ripley Academy, Peasehill, Ripley, Derbyshire, DE5 3JQ.

Option subject contact details:

Science	wbrown@ripleyacademy.org
History Geography Religious Studies Travel and Tourism	ckenway@ripleyacademy.org
Computer Science	chudson@ripleyacademy.org
Art 3D Design Photography Design Technology Food & Nutrition	cgodard@ripleyacademy.org
Health and Social Care Psychology	mlipton@ripleyacademy.org
Business	etaylor@ripleyacademy.org
Music	ebyrne@ripleyacademy.org
Drama	lforster@ripleyacademy.org
Spanish	rpardoroques@ripleyacademy.org
Physical Education	jmctaggart@ripleyacademy.org

Please do not hesitate to get in touch should you have any queries. May I take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support throughout the options process.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs J Thawley
Deputy Headteacher