



Year 9 Guided Options 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

As you may be aware we are approaching a very important time in your child's academic career. Across this half term we will be undertaking our Year 9 Guided Options process which will help to prepare your child for their Key Stage 4 studies from September 2026 onwards. Below I have outlined exactly what we will be doing during this period so that you can see how we will be supporting your child to make these important decisions.

Key Dates

Wednesday 18th March

Year 9 Guided Options Open Evening (4.30-6.30pm)

This event is always well attended, giving students and parents/carers the chance to speak directly with subject leaders. Student work will be on display, and there will be talks explaining our Guided Options process at the times listed below.

- Talk 1 – 5.00pm
- Talk 2 – 5.30pm
- Talk 3 – 6.00pm

Parents are welcome to attend any of the talks, as all sessions provide the same information however, we kindly ask that you arrive 30 minutes early to allow sufficient time to speak with subject leaders.

Miss Winter, our careers adviser, will also be present, along with representatives from local colleges. Students will receive an Options Booklet before the event, containing key details about each of the courses we offer.



Thursday 26th March

Option Interviews

Every child in Year 9 will be interviewed by a member of our Guided Options Team. We will look at a range of performance and attendance data and will discuss with your child what courses they may be interested in doing and what they may be best suited to. They will be issued with their Options Form at this interview.

Wednesday 1st April

Deadline for handing in Options Forms

All forms can be handed in earlier but must be submitted to student services no later than 9am on Wednesday 1st April. Any student handing in a late form may miss out on their preferred option choices.

Information on the school website

The school website offers an information video from myself explaining how the process is undertaken along with a range of videos on the subjects offered by each faculty. Students will be watching these in school over the next few weeks, but I would encourage you to have a look at the website along with your child to see what courses they may be interested in. You can access these by clicking on the link below.

<https://www.acklamgrange.org.uk/year-9-options/>

If you have any questions in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me 01642 277700 or indeed by email using the address below.

Regards

Mr D Grainger (Assistant Headteacher)

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