

S2 Course Choice Info Evening – Q and A

17 January 2023



Q. I don't know where to access things on the website

A. Hopefully the presentation made that clear and you can access it now. Slides on the presentation have screenshots to remind you.

Q. Why are the specialist musicians so restricted?

A. It is due to the depth of study required by the Music School. Happy to pass to Mr. Morris, head of the music school, for further clarification.

Q. Why is Fashion and Textiles Technology not included in the new form?

A. Apologies, that's an old form - the online form will have all of the courses on offer.

Q. You've shown which subjects go up to Nat5. Which go up to Highers?

A. Most if not, all go up to H level depending on uptake. Happy to add a progression pathway to the website for you as soon as I can.

Q. Does PE continue throughout?

A. Core PE continues throughout with the option to also take a National PE course.

Q. How can pupils get a sense of what some of the options are like in practice? can they sit in on a lesson or two? or speak to those taking those lessons? or something else?

A. I understand that many students would appreciate a taster of the new subjects. That hasn't happened this year, but we are looking to implement some kind of new subject "fair" for next year. In the meantime, I would encourage them to speak to their teachers or curriculum leaders.

Q. Will there be a parents night ahead of making the choices?

A. Unfortunately, parents' evening is after the first choice. However, students will have a chance to make changes after this date. We will look at the calendar for next session.

Q. Is computer science a new subject in S3?

A. No, pupils will have had 1 period of Computing in S1 and S2.

Q. How do you handle a scenario where a subject is oversubscribed?

A. We would hope that wasn't the case. If there were enough students looking to take a subject, we would do everything we could to run it. However, sometimes we are constrained by staffing, and we would look to be as fair as possible when offering additional options.

Q. When is the best time for students to talk to their teachers?

A. They can approach them at the beginning or end of lesson or agree an appropriate time for a chat.

Q. How do we book appointments for Parents Evening?

A. Information re parents evening will be sent out via email nearer the time.

Q. Are all the list's courses guaranteed to run? (e.g. if low numbers)

A. We do try to run all subjects offered - if not, students would be made aware after the first round of choices, and they can then make additional choices after that.

Q. What if a child is adamant they don't want to do any of expressive arts column C.

A. I'm sorry to hear that. However, we would expect a choice to be made from this column. A conversation with Guidance or the class teachers may be able to support them with the decision making and help them to find something they may enjoy.