



S V Pritt-Roberts M.Ed.
Deputy Head Academic
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3rd January 2018

Dear Parent,

Academic Options at Ellesmere College: Years 8 to 9

The curriculum consists of core subjects for all pupils in Year 9. These are English, Mathematics, the three sciences of Biology, Chemistry and Physics, History, Geography, Religious Studies and Physical Education.

Although the choices for GCSE options are not made until Lent term in Year 9 we do introduce some limited choice, at the end of Year 8, as pupils move from Lower to Senior School. Clearly if a subject is dropped at this stage it will be difficult to pick it up again for GCSE.

Pre-GCSE introduction courses are available as optional subjects. They are: Art and Design, Business Studies, Computer Science, Design and Technology, Drama, French, Latin, Media Studies, Music, P.E. (academic), pre GCSE Religious Studies and Spanish.

Performance in the Summer exams will be examined to ensure choices made are sensible. Some subjects are only available in senior school and are offered in Year 9 as a pre-GCSE introduction, which will assist GCSE decisions for Year 10.

It is anticipated that these subjects will be available in five option blocks. Pupils will choose one subject from each block. Support for Learning and English as an Additional Language, as a chargeable extra, will continue to be available and it is strongly recommended that these be chosen as one of the four so they can be timetabled into the school day.

The enclosed form is to enable the collation of data and it would be appreciated if you could complete it and return it by Friday 23rd February 2018. If there are uncertainties about your son or daughter's choices please indicate in the comment box.

The Parents' Meeting scheduled on Friday 16th February will provide an opportunity to discuss with teachers and tutors the appropriate choice for your daughter/son. This meeting is preceded by a presentation on the transition from Year 8 to 9 and will include information about the options and the pastoral system. This will take place in the Arts Centre at 5.15pm.

I hope you can attend and look forward to seeing you there. If you are not able to attend then please contact your son or daughter's tutor for any information you need.

Yours sincerely,

Ellesmere College, Ellesmere, Shropshire SY12 9AB

Tel: 01691 622321 Fax: 01691 623286

www.ellesmere.com

A Woodard School

Registered Charity number 1103049

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Academic Options at Ellesmere College 2018 Year 9 Entry

Compulsory subjects are; English Language, English Literature, Mathematics,
Sciences: Biology, Chemistry and Physics, Geography, History, Religious Studies, Physical Education

Option Subjects: Return by 23rd February, 2018

Name: _____ **Tutor:** _____ (if known)

If a new pupil, please provide email address _____

Please tick FIVE choices

Art & Design	
*Business Studies	
Computer Science	
Design & Technology	
*Drama	
French	
Latin	
*Media Studies	
Music	
*P.E. (Academic – pre-GCSE course	
*Religious Studies – pre-GCSE course	
Spanish	
Extra Support English as an Additional Language EAL	
Support for Learning: English	
Support for Learning: Maths	

- Extra English as an Additional Language (EAL) is available for International pupils and chosen as one of the five.
- Support for learning (SfL) is to be ticked as one of the five
- All subjects not starred were studied in Lower School, therefore performance in the end of year 8 examinations in May will determine if the choice is suitable.
- Subjects starred are new to pupils joining senior school and serve to provide a pre-GCSE introductory course – with a view to probably pursuing it at GCSE in year 10.
- Pre-GCSE PE and Pre-GCSE RS are different courses to the compulsory elements of core PE and RS and should be chosen if considering taking them at GCSE in year 10.

New Pupils: Please return this form to Admissions as quickly as possible. If you need clarification please email Admissions.

S V Pritt-Roberts
Deputy Head Academic, January
2018

Comment

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