

## To the Parents of all Students in Year 9

July 2010

Dear Parents and Students,

### Choice of subjects for GCSE

As you know, Year 9 is quite a small class this year. A small number of students will be joining us in Year 10 in September but the class will remain comparatively small. Therefore, when the question of subject choices is raised, there is potential for more flexibility than usual.

In a normal year, students and parents are presented with a pre-determined selection of choices. For example, students would be asked to select one subject from this block, two from that block and so on. Very often, this does not satisfy every student. There may, for example, be a student who would have preferred to take two subjects from Block A and none from Block B but is not allowed to select this.

This year, with a smaller number of students, we are approaching the matter in a different way. Rather than pre-defining the lists of subjects you have to choose from, we are asking for your input in helping us decide which subjects to place in each list.

Some subjects are compulsory. These are English and English Literature, Mathematics and French. It is also compulsory to take at least two of the Science subjects, Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Art can be taken only by special arrangement on Wednesday afternoons in place of Games. This is NOT an opportunity for Year 10 students to escape from games but is only available to those students who are particularly able in Art.

The subjects to select from are, therefore, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Geography, Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and Business Studies.

I would now like you to make a selection of exactly five subjects from this list. From your selections, I will compile the final lists so that as many of you as possible are able to study the subjects you would like.

Please note that it may become necessary to withdraw a subject if not enough students select it.

You may need to seek advice, especially regarding the subjects needed for particular careers. The new Headmaster, Dr Nazran, will be available some of the time during the school holidays. Please telephone the school to make an appointment.

Please now complete the attached form and return it to the school by post as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Christopher Morris,  
Headmaster.