

Pound Road, Oldbury, West Midlands, B68 8NE
Telephone: 0121 533 3750 Fax: 0121 533 3799

Our Ref: NTH

Date: 24th January 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

Year 9 Pathways 2022/2023

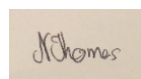
I am writing to you concerning the GCSE options evening which will be conducted at Oldbury academy on the 16th of February 2023 from 5pm to 6:30pm. This evening's events will consist of a speech in the hall at 5:15pm and then repeated at 5:55pm. Parents/careers and students will also have an opportunity to meet representatives from each faculty to discuss the various subjects available at our school. Each subject will provide key information about exam boards, course content, information regarding what to expect on the course and careers linked to the respective subject. The information provided endeavours to give students an understanding of what they need to do to succeed at a GCSE level and also prepare them for their future career progression. We will also have some representatives from colleges present to give further guidance to students.

At Oldbury, we support students in their selection of GCSE subjects, by consulting their class teachers in all subjects and using a series of assessment data to identify students' strengths. Based on this wealth of data collected on each student, they are assigned to one of the Pathways most suited to their areas of strength. Students' are able to select subjects of their preference from their bespoke Pathway. Although we try our best to ensure that all students get to study the subjects that they have chosen through this process, there may be situations where students may not be offered a course, for example due to restrictions on class sizes. We strongly encourage students to select a reserve subject in the event this occurs so that they can still pursue a subject of their choice.

Form tutors have been sharing information about Pathways to students during form time to ensure that they are fully informed about the process. The process for selecting GCSE subjects is conducted online using a platform called Sims Options. Information regarding students accessing this website will be to students' school accounts. Details on how to access this system will be shared with students in February. Once registration for this website is complete, students will then be able to select their GCSE subjects when the information goes live this Monday the 27th February. Students will have access to this website for one week and the **deadline for selecting their subjects for GCSE is on Friday the 3rd March 2023.**

We hope that you will find all the information provided from the various subjects useful in supporting decisions regarding selecting subjects for GCSE. In the event that you have any queries please send an email to pathways@oldburyacademy.org.uk.

Yours Sincerely,



Ms Thomas
Assistant Headteacher – Curriculum
Oldbury Academy