

January 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Key Stage 4 Options Process 2026-27

In the Spring term of year 9, your child will begin their options process. This is an exciting time for your child, as they select the subjects they will study and gain qualifications in during years 10 and 11.

These are important decisions and we recommend that they take time to think carefully about their choices and that you have regular discussions at home, engaging in all of the advice and support sessions that we provide.

There are two pathways that our students may follow. The EBACC (E) pathway will be followed if your child is in Set 1 for their Modern Foreign Language lessons. Children placed on the E pathway will be required to take the current language they are studying (French or German) **and** at least 1 humanities subject (history or geography) as part of their options. Pupils who are not in set 1 for their Modern Foreign Language will be placed on the T pathway. Pupils on the T Pathway will be required to take at least **one** of the EBACC subjects (single sciences, geography, history, French/German or computer science).

Chase Terrace Academy believes that taking a language and a humanity subject provides a balanced and academically challenging curriculum. All students that are placed on this pathway are high attainers in history or geography and the language they currently study. Simply put, there are no down sides to getting good grades in these subjects; the advantage of achieving a GCSE in a language can't be overstated.

The first stage in the process will be an information evening for you and your child on **Monday 2nd February from 5pm until 6.30pm** where key staff will go through a short presentation about what the options process entails. There will then be an opportunity for you to visit subject staff who will be able to give more detailed and specific information regarding their subject and answer any queries that you may have.

More information will also be available from the Options Booklet that will be available from this time on our school website.

Your child will receive an email on their school account on **Thursday 5th February** which will contain a link to a Microsoft form for them to complete their options choices. These must be submitted by **9am on Friday 13rd February**.

Once all option choices are received, students will have a short interview, which you are free to attend with them (via teams), with a senior member of staff to go through their choices and ensure that they are clear about them before confirming. Interviews are likely to take place in March.

Once all of the interviews have taken place, the timetable is constructed and your child will then be notified of their final options in the summer term during the last half term. It is important to note that whilst every effort is made to accommodate all students' first choices, there are limited numbers on some courses and some students may receive their reserve. This will be explained during the information evening.

Kind regards

Mrs Thombs