



## Lode Heath School

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ASSOCIATE HEADTEACHER:

MS L SUDDON

01 February 2024

Dear parents/ carers

### Year 9 Options Event – Tuesday 20 February 2023

We recognise that the options process can be a daunting one and so we invite you to attend our Options Event on **Tuesday 20 February from 6pm–8pm.**

This event will provide you and your child with an opportunity to hear formal presentations in the large hall about the curriculum your child could study in Years 10 and 11, as well as an opportunity for Q&A with representatives from our 'optional' subject areas in their bases. There will also be the opportunity on the evening to discuss any queries and questions you may have regarding pathway queries, SEND, careers and any pastoral questions.

Prior to the Options Event, we will publish an electronic 'options booklet' which fully explains all aspects of our curriculum offer for Years 10 and 11, thus allowing you to read the detail at your leisure and formulate any questions you may have in advance. You will be able to access this via our website or link here: [Options](#). We will let you know when this is live and ready for you. You will also find videos, FAQs, a dedicated email address for support and the option to submit any question in advance via the parent survey link. A timeline is provided alongside this letter to outline to you the process and key dates.

On **Monday 19 February**, you will be informed, via Synergy, whether your child will be required to study a Modern Foreign Language option at GCSE. For those where this is compulsory, they will be allocated the green pathway. For those where a Modern Foreign Language is optional, they will be allocated the yellow pathway. At the same time, you will also receive letters from subjects that offer both a GCSE and a vocational qualification informing you of the most suitable option for your child if they were to choose this area of study.

Students will experience a range of 'taster sessions' during over the next few weeks during normal school hours to supplement this.

In addition, we invite you to attend our Consultation Evening on **Tuesday 5 March**. This event will allow you to have conversations with staff who can help advise and support you and your child in making the most informed choices to support their preferred post-16 routes and future careers. You may also wish to refer to your child's assessment data found on Synergy too.

Advance notice: your child's option subject preferences will be collected via SIMS Options so we advise that on the evening of the event you visit our IT technicians for any questions you may have in accessing this platform. Your parent/ carer logins for SIMS will be sent prior to the event via email. You should contact our IT team directly if you need help with access to SIMS Options. You can contact them via email: [helpdesk@lodeheath.org.uk](mailto:helpdesk@lodeheath.org.uk) or via telephone on 0121 711 1219. SIMS Options will be open to submit option choices from **Wednesday 6 March midday until Monday 18 March midday**. Failure to meet the deadline will affect the availability of option choices. Further information will be available inside the options booklet and on the evening.

We thank you for your support and look forward to seeing you at both our Options Event and Consultation Evening.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Summers  
Deputy head teacher

