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**ELLIS  
GUILFORD  
SCHOOL**  
*Creative  
Education  
Trust*

11 March 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Year 9: Key Stage 4 Curriculum**

In September 2019, your child will start their **Key Stage 4 Curriculum**.

Our aim is for your child to continue to study a broad and balanced curriculum and this includes some new subject choices. The option of subjects is an important process and we are now ready to start this, beginning with our KS4 curriculum options evening on **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2019 at 5:00pm**

#### **What subjects will my child be studying?**

When your child enters Year 9 in September they will start GCSE English, GCSE Maths and GCSE Combined Science. These are the core subjects for all students and they will study them for three years. They will also continue with one hour a week of Physical Education and a lesson in Skills for Life.

Your child will then select a preferred EBacc choice from Geography, Spanish, French, History or Computer Science and this will also be studied for three years and lead to their examination results at the end of Year 11.

There will also be an opportunity to select a further 2 preferred subjects to study from September for three years. This could include another EBacc subject above and all High ability students are encouraged to study a language and Geography or History, as this represents the full breadth and stretch of a broad curriculum and supports their transition onto A-Levels and later University.

The selection of the final two courses is broad and it is very important to work together to ensure students follow an appropriately challenging and balanced curriculum and one that allows them to achieve their best.

I believe a parent's role is central to these decisions and so you are warmly invited to attend our options evening on **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2019**, starting at **5.00pm** in the main hall for a short presentation and later you will have the opportunity to speak to teachers about the different courses in the Guilford Building.



Key Dates in the process:

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2019: Key Stage 4 Curriculum option evening**

**The evening will start at 5:00pm** in the main hall for a presentation about the curriculum. There will be a repeat of this presentation again at **6.00pm** in the main hall. You will then have an opportunity to speak to subject staff about the Year 9 curriculum courses that your child can choose. This is essential to ensure your child has the right skills and aptitude for the qualification. The evening will end by 7:00pm, but you are free to leave at any time.

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2019: Deadline for returning Key Stage 4 curriculum option forms**

Option forms will be issued by your child's tutor and must be completed carefully and include reserve choices, as although we endeavour to offer each child their first choice it is not always possible. Option forms must be signed by a parent or carer and by your child's tutor.

Any option forms that are handed in late will be dealt with after forms that have been handed in on time. You will receive a letter confirming your child's Key Stage 4 curriculum courses before the end of the summer term.

We look forward to seeing you at the **Key Stage 4 Curriculum Option Evening**.

Yours faithfully

Mrs H Mumford  
Vice Principal