20th April 2023

Dear Parents/ Carers

Year 9 GCSE Pathways

I would like to take this opportunity to outline the GCSE Pathway process. We have started to communicate this process with year 9 pupils through assembly, but I want to share with you a timeline of how this will look in college and what the whole process is about.

Currently KS3 pupils study a wealth of subjects in preparation for GCSE. During KS3 we gather lots of information on each pupil in order that we can use our professional knowledge and expertise to assign each child to a suitable pathway. We have four Pathways as outlined below:

- Scholar Pathway
- EBacc Pathway
- Open Pathway
- Personalised Pathway

Each child will be assigned a Pathway, and this will determine the subjects they will study and the choices they have left to choose from a selection of subjects. Each child at GCSE will study the following subjects as a full GCSE taken at the end of year 11.

- **Religious Education**
- **English Language**
- **English Literature**
- **Maths**
- **Science X2**
- **History or Geography**

This equates to 7 GCSEs in total. **Most pupils will study French**. All pupils will have a choice of adding one or two additional subjects to take their full GCSE subjects to 9.

 What to expect?
1. **19th April 2023 pupils will be informed of Pathways in assembly led by Mrs Foley.**
2. **WC 24th April 2023, during form time, pupils will receive further information about other subjects they can choose. This will be in the format of short videos by subject leaders explaining content, assessment and future learning and employment choices.**
3. **Pupil information event Wednesday 3rd May in the MPH 15:15-16:00**
4. **May: Letter about chosen Pathway and Pathway form with a video to explain the process.**
5. **Wednesday 24th May 2023: Deadline for Pathways forms to be returned.**
6. **June: Confirmation of the Pathway including chosen subjects to be studied in year 10 and 11.**

Yours sincerely,

Mrs N Foley – Assistant Headteacher of Key Stage 3