

11 March 2024



Smestow Academy
www.smestowacademy.co.uk

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Year 9 Subject Choices Guidance Event and Parents' Evening – English, Maths and Science

I wish to invite you to the above event, which will take place on Thursday 21 March 2024: 4pm – 7pm. This event will provide an excellent opportunity to discuss your child's progress in their core subjects and to find out and ask questions about the subjects on offer as option subjects for your child in Year 10 and 11.

During the evening, there will be a Parent/Carer presentation to give key information regarding the options process, which will be held in the Interactive Theatre at 4.30pm and 5.30pm.

Pupils will be allocated onto one of two pathways, which will support them to make the best choices dependent on their progress through Key Stage 3. Each subject preference will be reviewed to ensure the pupils' suitability to study the course. Pupils are not guaranteed their initial subject preferences and courses will only run if there are a sufficient number of pupils opting for them. Pupils will receive further guidance on how their selected options will best support their futures.

On the evening, appointments will be available with your child's teacher in English, Maths and Science. Pupils should book these with staff in lessons and record them on the appointment sheet enclosed with this letter (pupils will also be issued hard copies of these by Form Tutors). Maths, English and Science are core subjects which are mandatory and will be studied by all pupils in Year 10 and 11, along with Physical Education.

On Friday 22 March, you will receive a link via the Matrix Academy Trust app to a Microsoft Form to complete your child's Option preferences. We ask that all forms are completed by Friday 12 April.

Following initial subject preferences, members of the leadership team will meet with your child to offer advice and guidance on the options they have made and support your child in making choices that will maximise their potential. These discussions will take place from the week commencing 15 April. There will be an opportunity for parents/carers to join this meeting if they wish. Parents may opt for this when completing the options form online.

We look forward to seeing you on Thursday 21 March and appreciate your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Roberts'.

Ms J Roberts
Assistant Headteacher

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'I Chamberlain'.

Mr I Chamberlain
Headteacher