



# Year 8 / 9 Options Parent / Carer Information Meeting



# Aims of the Meeting

- Introduce Parents / Carers to the Swanlea School Curriculum from Years 9-11
- Introduce Swanlea School's Options Process
- Signpost the support available for students when selecting their option choices

# Swanlea School Curriculum



- Universities and employers want to see a ‘balanced’ curriculum
- Our new 11-16 curriculum programme enables students to meet the challenges of the more challenging GCSE programmes of study, whilst retaining a broad and balanced curriculum
- Our curriculum supports this, providing a ‘core’ academic provision, alongside the ability to specialise

# Curriculum Overview Year 8



In years 7 and 8, students study all subjects below.

<b>Subjects studied in Year 7 and 8</b>	
<b>English</b>	<b>Maths</b>
<b>Science</b>	<b>German/French</b>
<b>Geography</b>	<b>History</b>
<b>Physical Education</b>	<b>Music</b>
<b>Drama</b>	<b>Art</b>
<b>Design &amp; Technology</b>	<b>Religious Education</b>
<b>Computer Science</b>	

This is to give students a rounded curriculum and to allow them to make an informed choice when choosing their options.

# Curriculum Overview Year 9



## CORE SUBJECTS

<b>English</b>	<b>Maths</b>
<b>Science</b>	<b>French / German</b>
<b>Geography</b>	<b>History</b>
<b>Computer Science</b>	<b>Physical Education</b>
<b>Music</b>	<b>Drama</b>
<b>Personal Development</b>	<b>Design Technology</b>

## Exam Subjects – Examined in Year 10

<b>Religious Education (GCSE)</b>	<b>Optional ‘Creative’ Examination Subject</b>
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# Curriculum Year 9



- Students move into Black uniform at the end of Year 8 to formalise their progression through the school
- Humanities remains a core subject – students continue to study Geography & History in Year 9
- MFL at Swanlea is a high value subject and so students continue to study this in Year 9
- Performing Arts is key in developing our students confidence and resilience and so this also remains a core subject in Year 9

# Curriculum Year 9



- Early entry subjects are a key part of supporting our students' confidence, allowing them to experience success early
- Consequently, all students study GCSE RE in Years 9-10 & also select one 'Creative subject' alongside this
- We have a wide range of GCSE & BTEC pathways of equal value to GCSEs, to meet the differing needs of our students

# What choices does your child have?



- In Year 8, your child will have the opportunity to select one option choice, as well as another when they reach year 9.
- The subject choices your child has to choose from in Year 8 are below:

<b>Subject choices</b>	
<b>Art</b>	<b>Classical Civilisations</b>
<b>Computer Science</b>	<b>Creative iMedia</b>
<b>Design Technology</b>	<b>Drama</b>
<b>Enterprise &amp; Marketing (BTEC)</b>	<b>Physical Education (GCSE &amp; BTEC)</b>
<b>Music</b>	



# What support are we providing your child?



- We have provided an informative Year 8 options assembly, discussing the importance of year 8 options and the factors to consider when making a choice.
- Students have been looking at careers and how to make informed choices through our Aspire week programme, as well as PSHEE and leadership lessons.
- Pupils will be watching a short narrated PowerPoint from all Heads of Departments, where each subject will be discussed in depth and students can review their suitability for them as learners.
- We are also providing drop-in sessions where students and Heads of Department attend in order for HODs to answer any questions your child might have about their subject.

# Curriculum Overview Year 10



<b>CORE SUBJECTS</b>	<b>OPTIONAL SUBJECTS</b>
<b>ENGLISH LANGUAGE</b>	<b>CREATIVE Subject (Examined Yr 10)</b>
<b>ENGLISH LITERATURE</b>	<b>HUMANITIES Subject</b>
<b>MATHEMATICS</b>	<b>MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGE / VOCATIONAL COURSE</b>
<b>COMBINED / SEPARATE SCIENCES</b>	
<b>RE (Examined Yr 10)</b>	
<b>PHSEE (Non-Exam)</b>	
<b>PHYSICAL EDUCATION (Non-Exam)</b>	



# Curriculum Year 10

- Students formally move to Key Stage 4 at the start of Year 10
- To retain a 'broad and balanced curriculum' students continue to study a 'core' offer
- To support student interest, there is the opportunity to further specialise in key subjects

# Curriculum Year 10



- As an EBAC, high-status facilitating subject, students select one Humanities subject – History or Geography (Option A)
- Option B is a guided pathway, the majority of students will continue with their Modern Foreign Language
- Some students will be invited onto a vocational pathway, based on their best interests

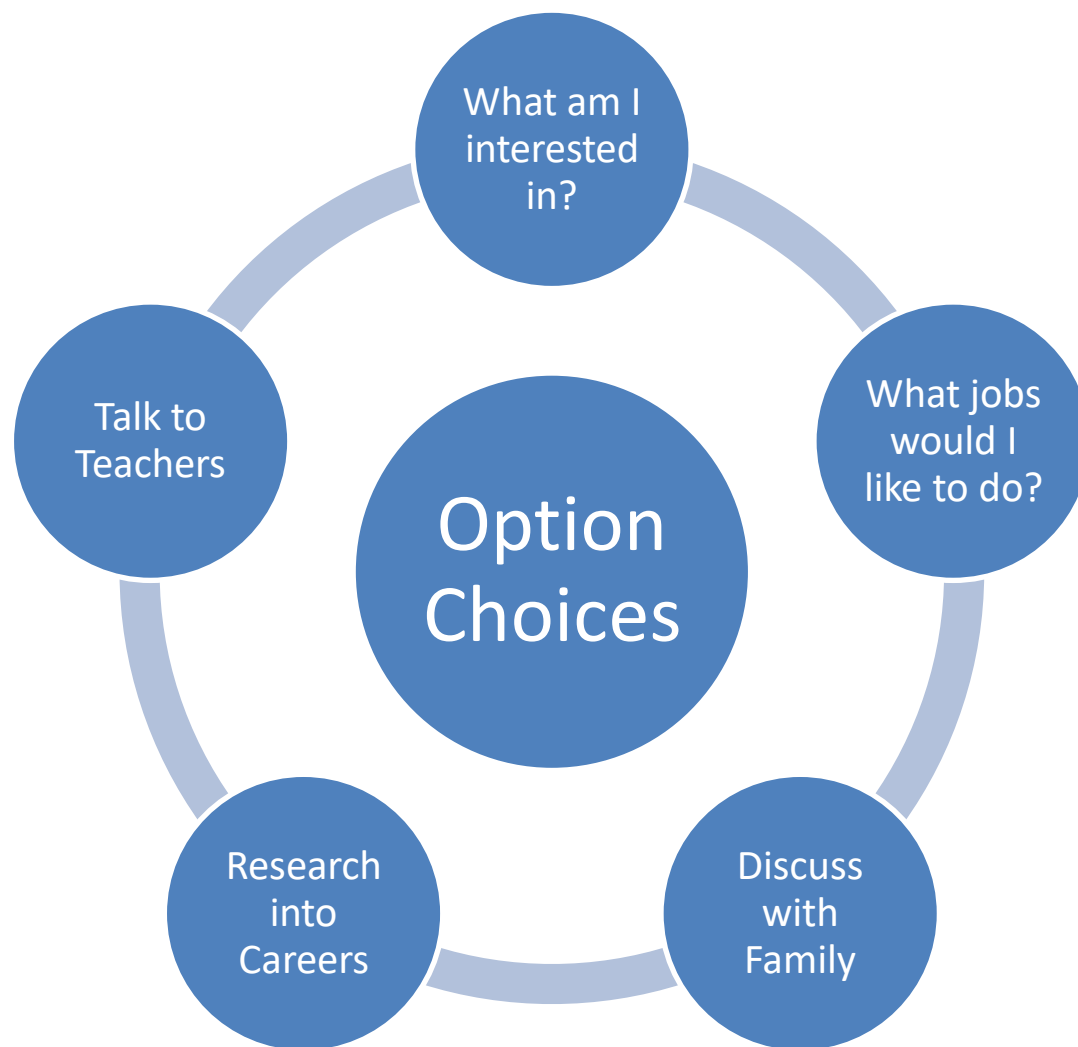


# Curriculum Year 10

- RE & the Creative Option subject selected last year will be examined in the summer of Year 10
- All other subjects will be examined at the end of Year 11



# How to Make Your Choices – Plan!





# How *not* to Choose Subjects

Because your  
friends are  
doing it

Because it  
sounds easy!

You like the  
teacher

Act on  
impulse

At the last  
minute

# Options Process – Next Steps



- Students receive their options booklet
- Link to online form sent out
- Read the booklet carefully
- On the online form, select one option choice giving 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> preferences from the subjects available
- Remember these are *preferred* choices – not guaranteed
- Most students will receive one of their top 2 choices and all should receive one from their top 3
- Completed online forms should be submitted by Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023



# Options Form Year 8



## Swanlea School - Year 8 Options

1. Student's Full name \*

Enter your answer

2. Form group \*

- 8S
- 8W
- 8A

# Options Form Year 9



## Swanlea School - Year 9 Options

1. Student's Full name \*

Enter your answer

2. Form group \*

- 9S
- 9W
- 9A
- 9N
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# Option's Process – Key Dates



Key Dates	Event / Action
March 2023	Subject Presentations on Options and Option Subjects in Assembly
22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2023	Year 8 Parents' / Carers Virtual Options Meeting
24 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	Options Booklet Circulated
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> April 2023	Options Form return deadline
September 2023	Students informed of subject allocation

# Some useful Careers websites



- <https://www.startprofile.com/>
- <https://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk/>
- <https://www.allaboutschoolleavers.co.uk/>
- <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/>
- <https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/>
- <https://www.milkround.com/>
- <https://www.ucas.com/careers-advice>

# Any Questions?

