



24th March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

As I'm sure you are all aware, year 9 marks the end of your child's Key Stage 3 education. As they move into Key Stage 4, they now have more of a say as to the qualifications that they can choose from.

As with anything, we are not able to make this an entirely free choice as we have to ensure that we aim to increase the numbers of Scholars who take the English Baccalaureate. The Baccalaureate represents the suite of options that evidence tells us is most likely to lead to lifelong success at post-16, post-18 and beyond.

As with everything, our aim for Scholars is not for them to HAVE to attend University, but it is for 100% of them to have the chance, choice and ownership of any decisions they make in their future. It is a fact that strong academic performance will help give them this ownership and also help to insulate them against the changes in the labour market that seem to be becoming ever more frequent.

There are 2 parts to the Options process. Initially we have given Scholars experiences of multiple subjects through the Electives and Options rotation we have provided this year. We also ask you to read through the information you will find by clicking the link below.

<https://www.kirkhallamacademy.co.uk/page.php?d=curriculum&p=ks4choices>

When you have done this you will find the options form by clicking
https://kirkhallamacademy.co.uk/forms/ks4_choices_2021.php

The deadline for decisions is Friday April 16th. We will endeavor to match as many Scholars to their 1st choice, however, this will not always be possible, therefore we are also asking for back-up subjects.

The choices will run as follows:

1. Either history OR geography (unfortunately it will not be possible to offer both).
2. Scholar groups 1 and 2 choose either Spanish or German. Scholar Groups 3-5 choose from Animal Care, Child Development, ICT or Sport.
3. 2 free choices from Animal Care, Art, Business, Computing, Design and Technology, Drama, Music, GCSE Physical Education, Psychology, Religious Studies or Textiles.

Thank you all ever so much for your continued patience and understanding.

Damian Belshaw
Head of School