

 **The Garibaldi School**
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10th January 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 9 Curriculum Information Evening **Thursday 26th January – 6-8pm**

Over the coming weeks Year 9 students will be making their Key Stage 4 GCSE options choices, ahead of starting their study towards these in September 2022. To facilitate this process, we will be holding our Year 9 Curriculum Information Evening on **Thursday 26th January 2023**; the event will run from 6pm-8pm. Please click on the following link: <https://www.garibaldischool.co.uk/y9curriculum> to confirm your attendance.

Please find enclosed a copy of the Key Stage 4 options booklet, which provides information on the options process and a summary of the courses available will be available to your child. The options booklet contains a QR code which, when scanned, will take you to the Key Stage 4 course guide on The Garibaldi School website. Here you can view detailed information about each of the subjects available. Alternatively, if you are unable to scan the QR code you can view the course guide by typing in the following URL:

www.garibaldischool.co.uk/ks4-options

The online guide is fully desktop, tablet and mobile compatible. If you are unable to access the internet from any device, a printed copy of the course information is available from the school upon request.

In addition to the information contained in the options booklet and through the course guide, I would also like to draw your attention to the English Baccalaureate. This is not a qualification in its own right but is a combination of subjects including English, Maths, Science, a humanities subject (History or Geography) and a language (Spanish) that offer an important range of knowledge and skills to young people.

While your child may not have decided on their future career path yet, attaining the EBacc at GCSE gives them access to a full range of employment options when they leave secondary school and the broad knowledge that employers are looking for. If they are thinking of going to university, the EBacc is also recommended by Britain's most prestigious universities.

Further information about the English Baccalaureate and how this combination of subjects can open doors to post 16/18 education opportunities, can be found by searching for DfE EBacc Leaflet or: <https://bit.ly/3iE8aME>

Options choices will be made through the online form which is located on the KS4 options page by clicking on the link www.garibaldischool.co.uk/options-form Please note that this link will 'go live' on the day of the event. A printed copy of the Options Choices form is available upon request. Options Choices forms need to be submitted by Friday **17th March 2022**. Where forms are not returned by this deadline, students may have options allocated to them. Up to this deadline an updated form could be submitted if required. Please note subject specifications are subject to change and the provision of option subjects is dependent on viable numbers of students opting for them.

Year 9 Parents' Evening will be held on Wednesday 22nd February. This event gives a further opportunity to ask any final questions relating to the options process or course suitability before the deadline date arrives for handing in options forms. Further correspondence will be sent with details of the parents' evening in the near future.

If you wish to submit a question prior to the event please use the school email address office@garibaldischool.co.uk We will endeavour to address all questions raised as part of the event.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ms M Stevenson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ms M Stevenson
Assistant Head Teacher