



# THE BUCKINGHAM SCHOOL

## A SPECIALIST SPORTS COLLEGE

London Road  
Buckingham  
MK18 1AT  
Tel: 01280 812206  
Fax: 01280 822525

Email: [office@buckinghamschool.org](mailto:office@buckinghamschool.org)  
Website: [www.buckinghamschool.org](http://www.buckinghamschool.org)

Headteacher: Mr A McGinnes

10 January 2022

Dear Parent / Carer

### KS4 Options Choices

This is a very important and exciting time in your child's education at the Buckingham School.

Until now, students have had very little choice about which subjects they study as they have been required to follow the National Curriculum. As students move into Key Stage 4, they are now given choices of the subjects that they would like to study. All students will follow the core curriculum of English Language GCSE, English Literature GCSE, Mathematics GCSE, combined Science GCSE, PE for health and fitness, Personal Development and Philosophy and Ethics. They are then asked to pick four further subjects, as well as reserve choices. Details on the options choices available can be found in the Options Booklet attached.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, we are not able to hold an Options Evening in school, however, we will be running a virtual Options Evening on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> January at 6pm, where parents will be invited to an online presentation by myself and the Headteacher. We will also be providing you with videos which Curriculum Leaders have prepared about their subjects.

In order to help students decide on their options choices, we have put together a series of taster lessons that will run during the week beginning 17<sup>th</sup> January. Students will be able to sign up to these sessions at the end of this week.

Options choices will be made online via the SIMs online portal (<https://www.sims-options.co.uk>). Instructions on how to access the online portal will be sent out at a later date. The window for making options choices will open on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> January and close at 3pm on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> February.

#### KS4 OPTIONS PROCESS – KEY DATES

- Taster sessions will run the week of 17<sup>th</sup> January - 21<sup>st</sup> January 2022
- Virtual Options Evening will be held on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2022 - more details to follow.
- Students will make their option choices online
- Options choices need to be completed online by Friday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2022.

Where possible, a student's first choice will be offered but this cannot be guaranteed. Please note that sufficient numbers are required to run each Option offered.

Should you have any questions about the options process do not hesitate to contact myself, your child's Form Tutor or Head of Year.

Yours faithfully

Mr J Dunckley  
Assistant Headteacher – Curriculum  
[jdunckley@buckinghamschool.org](mailto:jdunckley@buckinghamschool.org)

*The Buckingham School is concerned that every student should have the opportunity to attend school activities/obtain equipment, regardless of their financial circumstances. As such, it may be possible to subsidise those students who would otherwise be unable to attend trips/purchase items. Please feel free to write in confidence to [finance@buckinghamschool.org](mailto:finance@buckinghamschool.org), if you wish to seek assistance, or obtain more information about Pupil Premium funding.*

