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Dear Parents and Carers

### YEAR 8 TO 9 KS4 OPTION CHOICES PROCESS - SPRING 2019 INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS, PARENTS AND CARERS

Please find below details of the Year 8 to 9 KS4 option choices process. Following Parents Evening on Wednesday 6 February, a varied programme of activities has been organised to make sure that students are fully informed before making their final option choices.

Commencing Friday 8 March 2019	Leadership Group Guidance meetings	The Leadership Group will be conducting group support sessions to help students with their decision making process. We will discuss what options interest them, the careers they would like to undertake in the future and offer guidance and support in making the best decisions now to ensure a very successful future.
Wednesday 20 March 2019  15:45 - 18:30	KS4 Option Choices Event	Parents, carers and students are invited to our Transition Information Event when students will be able to actively engage with curriculum areas. Parents and carers have an opportunity to ask subject specific questions and gain a good insight into what is studied, what knowledge and skills their child will learn and how they will help in the crucial post-GCSE period. You will also have the opportunity to find out how the options process works and what qualifications your child will leave with in a presentation given by the Head, Deputy Head and Head of Year.
Wednesday 20 March 2019	Options Form issued	Students will be given their Options Form on Wednesday 20 March at the Option Choices Event. They have until Wednesday 03 April 2019 to complete this form and hand it in to their form tutor.
w/c Monday 25 March 2019	Drop in sessions by curriculum areas	After the KS4 Option Choices Event on Wednesday 20 March, a variety of drop in sessions have been organised during lunchtimes for students to speak with subject teacher specialists. We want to make sure students are fully informed before making their decisions.
Wednesday 03 April 2019	Deadline for Option Choices	Students will need to have made their decisions and handed in their Options Form to their form tutor by Wednesday 03 April 2019.

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OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION	
Website and Options Booklet	The Options page on the website ( <a href="https://www.thomastallischool.com/tallis-choices.html">https://www.thomastallischool.com/tallis-choices.html</a> ) is continually updated and the options booklet will be given out with the options form during this process. This is an essential source of information on the course content, skills, expectations and potential pathways for each subject area as well as some general advice on how to choose their options.
Registration and Tutorial sessions	Students will have the opportunity in registration time to explore and ask questions about the wide variety of options available to them. It is crucial in this time that students are also made aware of the core offering at Thomas Tallis. Your child's tutor will be a vital person in guiding your child in this process. During the fortnightly tutorial slot led by the Year 8 tutor team, students will have the opportunity to interview Year 9 students selected from all the option curriculum areas, to get a real insight into taking that subject at KS4. There will also be a specially designed PSHCE lesson focusing on life skills, aspirational thinking and acting and pathways into further education, apprenticeships and the world of work.

We hope that you find this information helpful and we look forward to seeing you at the Options Evening on Wednesday 20 March.

Yours sincerely



Ms M. Dedman  
Head of Year 8



Mr J. Curtis-Brignell  
Deputy Headteacher: Curriculum