



GRETTON
SCHOOL

Friday 7th February 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are writing to invite you to our Options afternoon on **Tuesday 17 March 2020, 2:30-4:00pm**. At Gretton, we launch BTEC and GCSE subjects in Year 9. The rationale behind this is to give learners a greater number of guided learning hours towards the achievement of formalised qualifications, but it also allows them to refine their timetable to focus more on topics of their choosing, whilst maintaining opportunities to study a range of other topics.

Gretton School
Manor Farm Road
Girton
Cambridge
CB3 0RX

T +44 (0) 1223 277438
E info@grettonschool.com
www.grettonschool.com

Statutory Subjects

Like all Secondary schools, certain subjects are not optional. Your child will continue to study towards qualifications in:

- English
- Maths
- Science

These core subjects will be studied at GCSE, Entry Level or Functional Skills levels. Your child will be assessed throughout Year 9 in each of these subjects. Your child's Teacher and staff team will discuss and decide the most appropriate level of study for Years 10 and 11 and you will be informed of these decisions, with an opportunity to discuss this at the forthcoming Parents' Evening.

Your child will also take part in a number of subjects that do not attract qualifications.

- Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE)
- Physical Education
- Tutorials

As a 'bridging year' between Years 7 and 8 and Years 10 and 11, your child's timetable will also retain a number of additional subjects in order to provide them with a rich curriculum that also takes account of social, emotional and independence development. These include:

- Core ICT (working towards Functional Skills qualifications)
- Independent Travel
- Creative Carousel (Art, Drama, Music, DT)

The breadth of curriculum offered in Year 9 also removes the "Special Interest" and "Golden Reward" sessions from the timetable, with the intention of reflecting learners' increasing maturity levels and opportunities for development of independent skills. Learners will also continue to study Independence and Life skills, but these will be part of an ASDAN programme which covers a range of skills and allows learners' progress to be easily measurable in these areas.



CAVENDISH
EDUCATION

Gretton School (Cavendish Learning Ltd) is registered in England & Wales, number 06444280.
Registered office 5th Floor, 14 Waterloo Place, London SW1Y 4AR



**Artsmark
Silver Award**
Awarded by Arts
Council England



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Options Subjects

All options subjects will lead to either a GCSE, BTEC, Functional Skills, NCFE or Entry level qualification. This is dependent on continuing assessment of learner achievement and on each learner's social/emotional readiness to progress.

Your child will therefore need to choose **three** subjects to study across Years 9-11. We ask that students make a total of five choices, indicating their preference by numbering 1-5, with 1 being most preferred to study. Where timetabling allows, we will do our utmost to ensure that at least some first choices are available, but it is useful to have contingencies where there exist clashes in timetabling offers. In addition, with efficiency of resources in mind, it may also not be viable to run certain programmes, for example, where there is a limited interest in the subject area; any such decision that impacts on your child will be conveyed to you.

This letter is to invite you and your child to the Options afternoon on **Tuesday 17th March 2020 from 2:30-4:00pm**, where you will have the opportunity to discuss Options choices and core subjects with teachers and staff. The afternoon will commence with a brief introduction and you will also be able to take away a Subject Overview sheet for each subject area, to give you and your child a better understanding of the way in which each topic is delivered and assessed.

The attached form will then need to be completed and submitted **to Form Tutors by Friday 24th April 2020**, in order that we can start to plan the timetables for Year 9.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate in contacting us by phone or email; there will, of course, be opportunities to ask any questions at the Options Afternoon.

Yours faithfully

Mr R Thomas
Options Coordinator

Mr D Watkins
Key Stage 4 Coordinator

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Child's Name: _____

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- Please indicate five choices in order of preference (1-5), with 1-3 being your first choices and numbers 4 and 5 being the choices you would make if your first 3 options were not possible for any reason.
- Please note that we will endeavour to honour first choices wherever possible, but that choices may be subject to compatibility of timetable and efficient use of resources. In addition, teachers may guide learners if choices are made for which learners may not have the aptitude.
- Please note that, once a topic has been chosen and the programme commenced, it may not be possible for learners to change their minds and switch topics unless there is a strong indication to do so, as it is difficult to catch up on work missed and there may exist issues of compatibility.

Subject	Potential Qualification	Number choice
Art	GCSE	
Digital Information Technology	BTEC	
Computer Science	GCSE	
Creative Digital Media (CDM)	BTEC	
Design Technology	GCSE/NCFE	
Drama	GCSE/ESB/LAMDA	
History	GCSE	
Food Technology	BTEC	
Mandarin	Confucius L1- L2/GCSE	
Music	GCSE/BTEC	
Physical Education/Sport	GCSE/BTEC	
Psychology	GCSE	
Sociology	GCSE	
Triple Science	GCSE	

Please return this form to your child's class tutor by Friday 24th April 2020

Copies of this form will be available on the Options afternoon if you cannot print this out at home