



23 January 2023

Dear Parent or Carer

**Re: Key Stage 4 Curriculum Evening - 22 February 2023**

At St Martin's School we are committed to providing a curriculum that we believe will engage, motivate and challenge our young people. Through our options process, we firmly believe that your son or daughter will be well placed to achieve success, both in learning and through the qualifications gained, that will open doors to choice and opportunity at sixteen and allow them to transfer with confidence between schooling, further education and adult life.

The decisions to be made at the end of Year 9 are very important. You will have the chance to find out more about the courses being offered to your child through the enclosed Curriculum Booklet and the Key Stage Curriculum event. If students are to be as successful as they can be over the next two years, it is important that they understand that the courses they will be following are demanding and will require consistent effort.

There are two pathways which include core subjects of English Language, English Literature Mathematics, Science and PE (non-examined). Students also have a choice of options from a full complement of GCSEs and BTECs which are appropriate for each student. The options available on each pathway ensure there is a wide choice of subjects and the right programme of study is available for all.

Essentially, all students have four option choices and depending on which pathway your child is placed on will determine the choices available to them. Below are two tables that highlight the options available on these two pathways.

Full English Baccalaureate Pathway Two directed choices		Traditional Pathway One directed choice	
Option Choice EBacc One	Option Choice EBacc Two	Option Choice EBacc One	
Geography	French	Separate Science	Computer Science
History	German	History	Geography
Option Choices Three and Four Students select <u>any two</u> subjects from the below list of option choices		Option Choices Two, Three and Four Students select <u>any three</u> subjects from the below list of option choices	
GCSEs in Separate Science, Computer Science, History, Geography, French, German, Art, Business Studies, Drama, PE, Food, Graphics, Media Studies, Music, PRE, Resistant Materials, Sociology and Textiles. BTEC in Health and Social Care.		GCSEs in Separate Science, Computer Science, History, Geography, French, German, Art, Business Studies, Drama, PE, Food, Graphics, Media Studies, Music, PRE, Resistant Materials, Sociology, Textiles. BTEC in Health and Social Care.	



Please do not be overly concerned about this at this time as we are just giving you information so that you and your child can make informed choices in plenty of time.

The Curriculum Booklet for Years 10 and 11 gives descriptions of all the courses available to your son or daughter from September 2023 to June 2025 and how they are assessed and examined.

At this important stage in your son or daughter's academic career we believe that it is essential to provide help and guidance when planning for the future. As such, we would like to invite you and your son or daughter to a meeting to discuss the curriculum for Years 10 and 11 (2023-2025) on Wednesday 22 February from 4.00pm – 6.00pm in the South and North Halls.

Please note that students are expected to **wear full school uniform** when attending this event.

The programme for the evening will include:

- The opportunity to discuss courses with Heads of Departments or their representatives and see the type of work that is expected in Years 10 and 11 (North Hall).
- A formal meeting when members of staff will make short presentations about the new GCSE grading system and offer advice regarding the options process (South Hall).

***The Options Form should be completed and returned to your son or daughter's form tutor by 8.45am on Monday 13 March 2023.***

If you have any further questions about your son or daughter's upper school curriculum, then please do not hesitate to contact the year 9 office. We hope the information that will be made available to you will be useful.

Yours sincerely



Mrs K Corbett  
***Deputy Headteacher, Curriculum and Assessment***