

## Head of Year Introduction

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By February half term Year 9 students will have expressed their preferences for subjects and pathways at Key Stage Four.

Our aim is to provide the necessary information to help guide you towards the pathway that is best for you and therefore enable you to maximise your potential. With that in mind a number of things will be happening over the next few weeks.

Included in this booklet is a preference form to aid your discussions but the actual forms will be issued directly to students before the Pathways Evening. These forms will need to be returned by **MONDAY 10 FEBRUARY** marked for the attention of **Mr Doyle**. **Please note** that there will be three different pathways and forms. These will be issued based on performance data. Only **the form issued to you** should be completed. Forms submitted after the above date will be processed only after all other students have been allocated their choices.

On Wednesday 22 January at 7pm the Pathways Evening will take place. This evening will focus on the specific pathways and then give time for students and parents to discuss subject choices with teachers. The important things to remember in this process are to get as much information as you can to aid your decision and to think carefully about what you want to do, where are you heading, what you enjoy and where your strengths lie?

Please bear in mind that the timetable must be planned in such a way as to make reasonably economic use of staff and accommodation. We shall attempt to create sensible groups based on your stated preferences. Inevitably there will be some disappointments, but please bear with us. The final decision must rest with the school.

Form tutors and myself will discuss the provisional allocations with you and your parents/carers, where necessary, in the spring term. The final offer will be sent to parents in writing in June 2014

Mr Doyle

## Overview of Progression to Key Stage 4

### CURRICULUM

All students will study:

- English
- Maths
- Science

**(The level of entry in English, Maths and Science will be determined by attainment in these subjects)**

- Religious Education GCSE
- Games – non examination.

### COMPULSORY Subjects

Subject and Board	Award	Assessment	Advanced Level / Level 3
GCSE English and English Literature will be studied together and will result in two separate qualifications.			English, English Literature
Mathematics AQA	GCSE	100% Exam	Maths Further Maths
Science Board - AQA  Core Science in Year 10 then either Double or Triple Science in Year 11.  Cambridge National Science is studied by some students in 10 and 11 and is equivalent to double science.	GCSE	Core Science: 75% Exam, 25% Controlled Assessments.  Cambridge National Science is 25% controlled assessment and 75% portfolio based.	Biology Chemistry Physics  Applied Science
Religious Education AQA	GCSE	100% Exam	Philosophy and Ethics
Core Support	Not examined	This course provides study support to increase results.	

## Technology Preference

Subject and Board	Award	Assessment	Advanced Level / Level 3
Food Technology AQA	GCSE	60% Controlled Assessment 40% Exam	Food Technology
Product design: Graphic Products Technology AQA	GCSE	60% Controlled Assessment 40% Exam	Product Design Graphic Products
Product Design Resistant Materials AQA	GCSE	60% Controlled Assessment 40% Exam	Product Design Resistant Materials
ICT OCR	GCSE	60% Controlled Assessment 40% Exam	

## Btec Preferences

Subject and Board	Award	Assessment	Advanced Level / Level 3
Business Edexcel	Btec	Project based + 25% Exam	Level 3 Business
Physical Education	Btec	Project based + 25% Exam	Level 3 Sport

## Subject Preferences

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Subject and Board	Award	Assessment	Advanced Level / Level 3
Art & Design – Edexcel	GCSE	60% Coursework 40% Exam	Art & Design, Photography, Applied Art
Drama - Edexcel	GCSE	75% practical 25% written controlled assessment based on the practical exam and a response to a live performance.	Drama
Music - Edexcel	GCSE	60% Coursework (Performing and Composition) 40% Exam (Listening & Appraising)	Music, Music Technology



# KEY STAGE 4: Yellow Pathway – Preferences Form



**Student Name :** .....

**Form :** .....

**Compulsory Subjects –**

English, Maths, Science, Core Support and Games.

**Technology Preference.**

Product Design contains the same core units for 60% of the course, students need to tick their preference for the material in which they make their product. The choice being Graphics, Resistant Materials or Electronics.

Indicate which is your 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> preference. You may choose a 1<sup>st</sup> and second preference from Product Design.

Food Technology	
Product Design : Graphic Products	
Product Design: Resistant Materials	
Product Design: Electronics	
ICT	

**Btec Preference**

Tick one or both – our recommendation is that you do both of these.

Btec Business	
Btec Sport	

**Subject Preferences**

Indicate which is your 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> preference

Art	
Music	
Drama	

**Parent Signature**

**Parent Contact Number**

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## Contacts

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Mr. Doyle

01727 766100

owen.doyle@verulam.herts.sch.uk

<http://www.verulamschool.net/>

Examination Board Websites.

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/>

<http://www.edexcel.com>

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/>