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Chief Executive: Mr D Judson, BEd, NPQH
Head of School: Mrs R Somerville, BA Hons, MA

9th January 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

On Thursday 18th January 2024 from 5.00pm - 7.00pm, we will be holding our Year 9 Options Evening. This is one of the most important decisions of your child's educational career as the choices they make will help shape their future and the subjects they can go on to study at Sixth Form, College or University. Whilst this can feel like a daunting decision, we hope this evening and our future support programme will help you to make the right choices.

During the evening there will be a talk in the main school hall at 5.00pm, repeated at 6.00pm where we will talk through the options process and how it will work at Hurworth School in the coming months. This will take approximately 20 minutes after which (or before and after if you attend the later session) there will then be an opportunity for you and your child to visit each of the different subject areas that offer courses at Key Stage 4. During these visits you will be able to ask any questions you may have about particular subject areas and see work previously undertaken by students at our school in these subjects. Penny Hudson, our Careers Advisor, and key post-16 providers will also be present throughout the evening to offer advice and guidance should you require.

Students will also be taking part in a taster activity on Monday 22nd January. This will allow students to take part in a lesson in four subjects that they have not previously studied at Key Stage 3, such as Health and Social Care, Business Studies/Enterprise, Engineering, Design Technology, Hospitality and Catering, GCSE PE, and Sports Studies. This will allow them to get a feel for the subject content and help make an informed decision as to whether they wish to pursue these as option choices or not.

Our Year 9 Progress Review is on Thursday 25th January which will provide you with another opportunity to discuss option choices and ask any questions you have to your child's teachers.

At the Options Evening students will be issued with their option choices forms, to be completed and returned to school by Monday 29th January. Following this we will be in touch to confirm your child's option choices ready for Year 10. Students will also be able to have further discussions with our Careers Advisor during this time if required and in their 1-1 meetings during the Summer Term.

We look forward to seeing you on the evening and if you require any further help with this process please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "S. Reilly". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the "Yours sincerely" text.

Mrs Reilly
Assistant Head of Progress