



Year 9 Options Evening

23rd March 2023

“Every day brings new choices”. –

Martha Beck

Options Evening: Aims

- To revisit some of the **changes to the assessment system** within schools.
- To inform you about the **Key Stage Four Curriculum** that your child will follow – and the reasons behind that.
- To explain to you the **Options Process** and provide you with the relevant paperwork for you to support your child through the process.
- To provide you with an **opportunity to speak with Subject Leaders** to gain further information.

Curriculum and Assessment

- Increased amount of content.
- Greater level of difficulty.
- Terminal examinations for traditional GCSE qualifications.
- Fewer Controlled Assessments
- Two Year Key Stage 4



Curriculum and Assessment

9 to 1 Grading

| New GCSE Grades | Current GCSE Grades |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| 9 | |
| | A* |
| 8 | |
| 7 | A |
| 6 | |
| | B |
| 5 | |
| | C |
| 4 | |
| | D |
| 3 | |
| | E |
| 2 | |
| | F |
| 1 | |
| | G |
| U | U |

GOOD PASS (DFE)
5 AND ABOVE = TOP C AND ABOVE

Awarding
4 AND ABOVE = BOTTOM OF C OR ABOVE

Philosophy behind the Curriculum

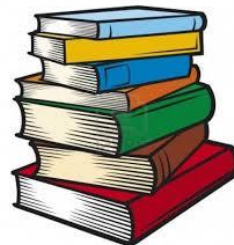
The curriculum is defined as all the planned learning activities which the school offers in order for us to achieve our educational purpose.

- All pupils given opportunity to fulfil their potential – academically, spiritually, morally, emotionally and physically.
- All pupils given an appropriate level of challenge.
- Curriculum reflects Catholic ethos; *Religious Education* part of 'core' offer alongside *English, Mathematics and Science*.



Aims of the Curriculum

- To offer a **broad and balanced** curriculum which develops pupils' **knowledge and understanding** of all subject areas.
- To ensure that Curriculum design **embeds powerful knowledge** and this **empowers** our young people to participate fully in society.
- To develop pupils' key skills in **literacy, numeracy and ICT**.
- To foster the ability of pupils to work both **independently** and **collaboratively**.
- To ensure the curriculum is **relevant and personalised** to meet pupils' learning needs.



Aims of the Curriculum

- To ensure that by the end of their journey at The Barlow, our pupils have learnt not only **powerful knowledge, skills and understanding of the subjects taught** but also the ability to show **compassion, kindness and respect** to all members of society.
- To help pupils develop **responsibility for their own learning and progress.**
- To secure the ***highest possible achievement*** in ***all areas of the curriculum.***



Setting them off on the right path...

- Your child will follow a **pathway** best suited to meet their needs.
- A **range of courses** offered to them, depending on their academic ability, interests and current progress.
- This is in order to best meet their current and future **learning needs** and to secure **optimum attainment** for them.



'Inspire' Pathway

'Core'

- Religious Studies, English, English Literature, Mathematics, Combined Science, Spanish, Core P.E. (non-examined).

'Extended Core'

- Humanity (History or Geography).

'Free Choice'

- **One subject** from the Options Form (information about these subject areas can be found in the Options Booklet).



'Endeavour' Pathway

'Core'

- Religious Studies, English, English Literature, Mathematics, Combined Science, Core P.E. (non-examined).

'Extended Core'

- **Either** Spanish **or** a Humanity (History or Geography).

'Free Choice'

- **Two subjects** from the Options Form (information about these subject areas can be found in the Options Booklet).



'Challenge' Pathway

'Core'

- Religious Studies, English, English Literature, Mathematics, Combined Science, Core P.E. (non-examined).

'Vocational Qualification'

- A Level 1/2 Technical Award in Food and Cookery

'Free Choice'

- **One choice** from the Options Form
(information about these subject areas can be found in the Options Booklet).

'Literacy & Numeracy'



Changes: Triple Science

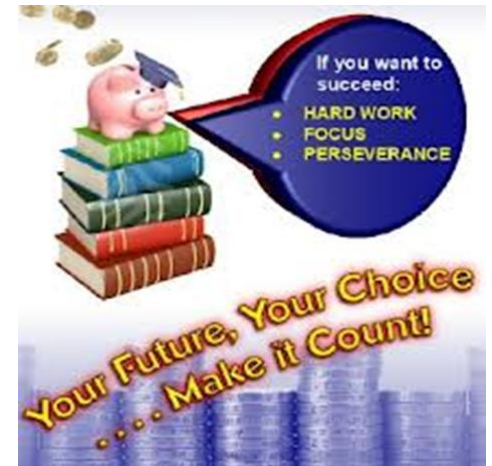
- Part of '**Free Choice**' on the Options' Form
- **Demanding** and **Challenging**
- Careers in **Science**
- **Enjoyment** and **engagement**
- **Mr Sirett**

Changes: Vocational Qualification

- **Challenge Pathway** – Technical Award in Food and Cookery
- Life Skills
- Opportunity to gain a **level 2** qualification
- Meet the **individual** needs of pupils
- Miss Lukeson

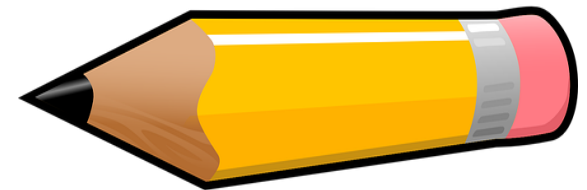
Why is the Options Process important?

- Your child will be studying the subjects they choose for the **next two years**.
- Subjects chosen will help to shape **future choices** – further and higher education and their career pathway.



Completing the Paperwork

- Your child has a 'personalised' Options Form.
- Please read guidance carefully.
- Where it asks for a first choice and 'reserve' choices please make clear these choices with a '1' and an 'R1 and R2'.
- ***Deadline: Thursday 27th April.***



Key Dates...

| DATE | EVENT |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Thursday 23rd March | Year 9 Options Evening |
| Thursday 20 th April | Pupils to have 1:1 interview with HOY/SLT |
| Thursday 27 th April | Option Forms to be returned to Family Tutor |

How can you best support your child?

- **Options Evening on 23rd March 2023:** speak to Faculty Leaders.
- Talk to them about the Options Process and what will happen. Look at the Options Booklet together.
- Discuss with them the possible subject areas they might select – and make sure they are choosing subjects for the right reasons!
- Attend the 1:1 interview your child will be given with a member of the SLT/Pastoral Team/Key Staff **20th April 2023**.
- **Fill in the Options Form together.** Please ensure it is returned to Family Tutors by the deadline of **Thursday 27th April 2023**.

What's Next?

- Go and talk to Subject Leaders and teachers.
- Collect any information from Subject Leaders.
- Encourage your child to ask questions!
- Investigate Post-16 options available.
- options@thebarlowrchigh.co.uk

