King Arthur's School

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Headteacher – Mrs J Jacklin

12 February 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

I write to share information with you about our Year 9 Parents' Evening, but also the plan for the Options process this year. Please see this laid out below in two sections of this letter.

Year 9 Parents' Evening 25th February 2021 - Online Appointment Booking

I would like to invite you to attend our online Parents' Evening on 25th February 2021, between 4pm and 6.30pm. This is an important evening and provides you with an opportunity to discuss how your child has settled back into this year. It is also a chance to find out what they need to do to ensure their success and satisfaction before completing their time with us.

We are always delighted that the vast majority of students are represented at parents' evenings and ask for your attendance at this online event – no appointments will take place in school. We are certain that your involvement and support makes a difference to student success, both academically and emotionally.

We strongly believe that if parents/carers are aware of the aspects of learning and behaviour for learning students need to focus upon, along with the resources they have to assist their progress, they will have a much greater chance of achieving.

In light of the restrictions in place and to support Covid safety, the school is continuing to use the online appointment booking system. This allows you to choose your own appointment times with teachers and receive an email confirming your appointments. We are confident this will be an improvement to the previous system and welcome any feedback.

As you did for the Year 9 Parents' Evening in October, you will be able to access the School Cloud booking system through the Parent Portal. You will need to use the Parent Portal login details from October and can access the app via the following link https://intranet.kingarthurs.org.uk . You can click on the icon entitled Parents' Evening (as per the graphic) to start booking your appointments. Simply click the icon to view available teacher and time slots.



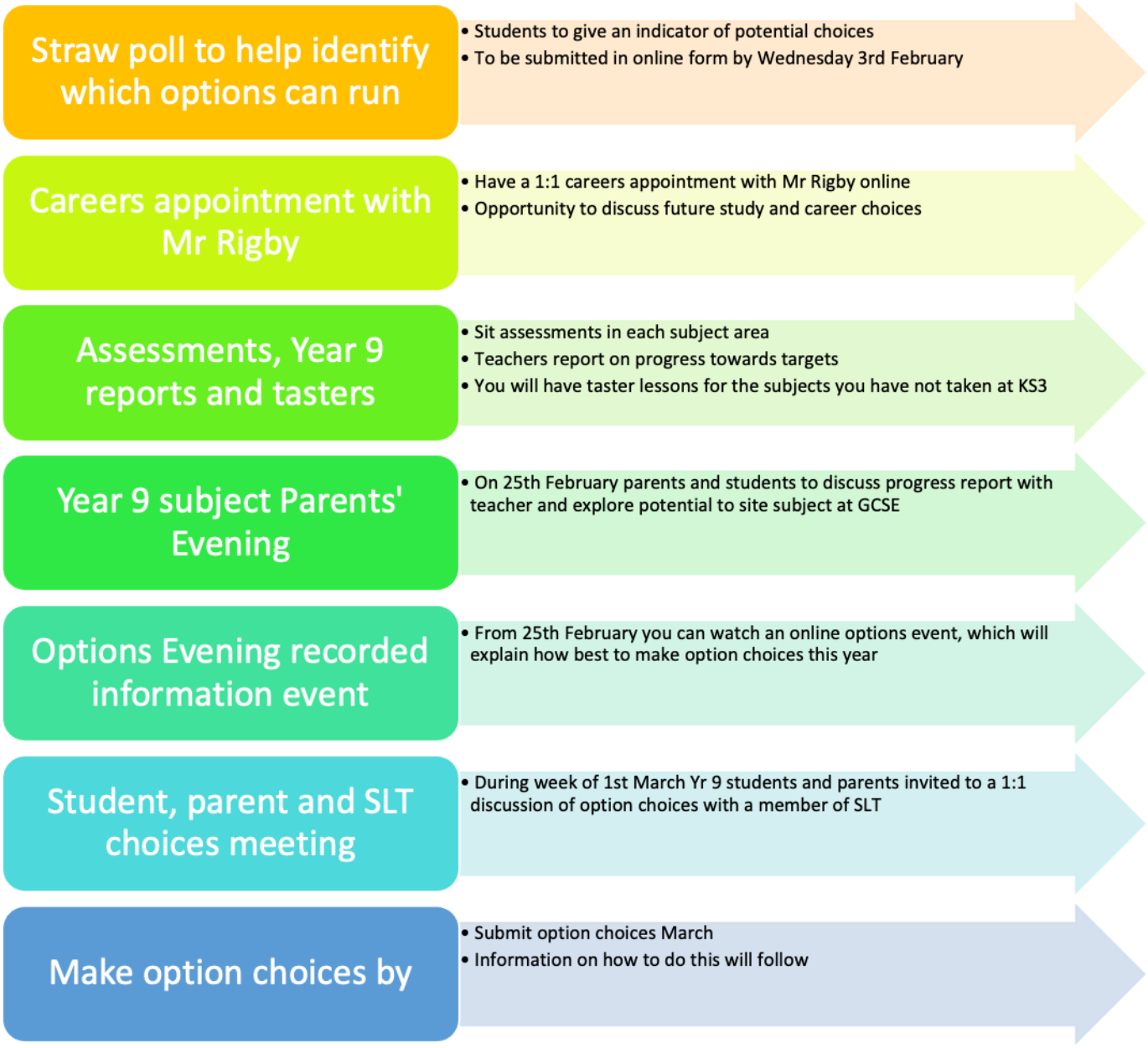
Appointments can be made from Friday 12th February and will close on Wednesday 24th February. Should you wish to make any changes after this date, please contact the school office.

In order to best support a productive conversation, the system allows for the appointments to be held as online calls. This is simple to use and already set up. On the 25th February, you will log in to Parent Portal, access the Parents' Evening icon and access your parents' evening appointment. You will need to click to 'Join Video Appointments' to access your appointments and each one will start a call automatically at the time you have booked, across each subject. Please see the link to a guide, should you need further support.
https://support.parentseveningsystem.co.uk/article/801-video-parents-how-to-attend-appointments-over-video-call

If you do not have access to the internet, please contact the school office who will be happy to add appointments on your behalf.

Options 2021

As we are unable to have parents onsite at present, we have designed a new plan for our Options event this year. Below, I share with you the process we will be using this year, some of which has already started.



The diagram above shows the steps of the process this year. With this letter, you will also have a copy of the Options Booklet, with a further explanation of the process and what you need to do. Please do read the subject information in the booklet and how the choices should be made.

After half term, your child will be able to experience a taster lesson for each of the Option choices and as listed below. We would recommend they attend as many as possible to ensure they know what they are choosing and what the course entails. Each year 9 student will receive an electronic Teams invite to attend.

Tues 23rd Feb:	Catering, followed by iMedia
Wed 24th:	Travel & Tourism, followed by Photography
Thurs 25th:	Art or Art3D, followed by Drama
Fri 26th:	French, followed by BTEC Sport

The recorded Options Information event will also be online after the half term holiday, for you and child to view. There will be individual subject videos available for students from this point onwards as well. Please view them with your child and discuss the best route of subjects.

Finally, across the 1st, 2nd 3rd and 4th of March, you will have the chance to book a meeting with either Miss Andrews, Mr Chapman, Mrs Jacklin, Mrs Huggins (Careers Lead) or Mrs Mason, to discuss and decide on the Options choices you would like to make. You will make your decisions on this evening and submit your choices in this meeting. It is therefore imperative that you book a slot. You will be able to do this through the Parent Portal, using the School Cloud app. **Details of this will be published on 22nd February** – to avoid any confusion with the Parents' Evening event! Students who miss this meeting opportunity will have a lower chance of getting their first choices.

Please do not hesitate to email me should you have any questions about the Options process, or the Year 9 Parents' Evening - jen.jacklin@kingarthurs.org.uk

Yours faithfully,



Mrs Jen Jacklin
Headteacher