



THE ECCLESBOURNE SCHOOL

'Learning Together For The Future'

Head Teacher
James McNamara BA(Hons); NPQH

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Friday, 16 December 2022

Year 9 Options and Transition to Upper School

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to let you know that from the start of the spring Term Mr Harrison will be stepping down as Head of Year 9 and Mrs Stott is taking over as your child's new Head of Year. Mrs Stott is a highly experienced member of our pastoral leadership team. She will be assisted in her new role by Mrs Rachael Laughlin as Year 9 Progress Leader. Effective home school partnership is the key to an excellent pastoral experience for students and so Mrs Stott and Mrs Laughlin would like to encourage you to get in touch with them directly with any issues affecting your child now and through the rest of the year.

Mrs Emma Stott estott@ecclesbourne.derbyshire.sch.uk (01332 843256)

Mrs Rachael McLaughlin rlaughlin@ecclesbourne.derbyshire.sch.uk (01332 843256)

Year 9 will now move from Lower School to Upper School as we begin the options process and preparation for GCSE study. Mrs Stott will be working with Mr Duncker-Brown (Deputy Head Teacher - Head of Upper School) and Mrs Ourabi (Deputy Head Teacher – Pastoral Leadership Team). Please contact Mr Duncker- Brown if you have any Head of School concerns or communication.

Mr David Duncker-Brown dduncker-brown@ecclesbourne.derbyshire.sch.uk (01332 84312)

May I take this opportunity to welcome you to Upper School as we begin the GCSE options process. Options will be taking place during the first half-term after Christmas, key dates are given below.

We know that this can be a daunting time for students and parents due to the importance of the decisions being made. However, I would like to reassure you that we have an effective system of support and guidance in place for students and parents. All students have a personal adviser from the Options Core Team of pastoral staff. They will benefit from individual guidance meetings with their personal adviser. After each meeting parents can share their views and comment on draft options choices using the Options Form which your child will bring home for signature. You can speak to your child's adviser directly by using the contact details below.

I would like to invite you to our **14+ options evening which will take place in the Theatre on 19th January 2023**. The GCSE course prospectus and further information can be found on the school website here: <https://www.ecclesbourne.derbyshire.sch.uk/school-information/options>. Further support is available by contacting the school directly and speaking to the member of pastoral staff working with your child. Your child will also receive guidance from subject staff including presentations from teachers of subjects new to them.

Key dates:

Activity	Date
GCSE Options Evening for Parents and Carers (6.30pm)	19/01/23
GCSE Options Launch for Students	19/01/23
Students Return Options Form to Tutor with Initial Choices	27/01/23
Individual Guidance Meetings/Home -School Liaison	30/01/23 - 10/02/23
Final Options Chosen and Options Form Submitted	10/02/23

The member of the Pastoral Team your child will be guided by:

Form	Staff Member
9B	Mrs S Smyth
9C	Mrs H Green
9E	Mrs E Stott
9L	Mrs V Dodson
9N	Mrs P Owen-Moore
9R	Mr M Sellers
9S	Mr D Duncker-Brown
9U	Mrs Ourabi

In the meantime, if you have any further questions then please do not hesitate to contact me on 01332 843212.

Yours sincerely



Clarissa Ourabi
Deputy Head Teacher
Head of Pastoral Leadership Team



James McNamara
Head Teacher