

# LANCASTER ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL

East Road Lancaster LA1 3EF

Switchboard 01524 580600 Direct 01524 580605

Email [cpyle@lrqs.org.uk](mailto:cpyle@lrqs.org.uk)

[www.lrqs.org.uk](http://www.lrqs.org.uk)

C J Pyle MA PhD Headmaster



12<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Dear Parents,

## Year 9 Parents' Evening – Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2023 – 5.30 pm

We hope that your son has enjoyed the Michaelmas term.

Early next term we will be asking your son to decide on the optional subjects he is to take for GCSE in Years 10 & 11. Our options scheme is designed to balance flexibility of choice with a broad core curriculum. Some choices may have implications for A-level study and future careers so it is worth talking through these choices with your son.

We are updating our Options Booklet which we will email out to you and to the pupils shortly. This booklet provides details of the Year 10 courses which we hope to run in 2023/2024, including information about what pupils can expect from each subject at GCSE and how the subjects are assessed. Please take time to read through and discuss this booklet with your son before parents' evening. Please bring any specific questions about the GCSE course to your son's relevant teacher/s at parents' evening.

To help pupils with their decision making, senior members of staff will also be speaking to the year group in assembly and in form periods to help them understand what factors to consider when selecting their options.

Pupils will be emailed the link to an electronic Options Form in January which should be completed and submitted **no later than Friday 20<sup>th</sup> January**. It is our intention that Miss Haigh, Mr Mellon or Mr Young will have spoken to the boys about the different options during one of their form periods before they complete the form.

We are using Microsoft Teams for the Year 9 Parents' Evening, and we very much hope that you will be able to attend appointments online with your son in the lead-up to these options decisions. The evening will commence at 5.30pm with a short talk from Sarah Haigh, Deputy Head (Curriculum), and Scott Young, Head of Years 8 & 9, who will give some general pointers on how best you can support your son in picking his GCSE subjects and in making the best of Year 9 to enable a smooth step-up to GCSE. The link to the Teams briefing is:

[https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting\\_NjlmNjA3MjEtNjk2ZC00NGNmLWJiYTMTtNzFiMTEFIN2QwMDA4%40thead.v2/0?context=%7b%22id%22%3a%225ea5a8c9-546a-4f6a-a44c-d52c234571bc%22%2c%22oid%22%3a%2230304ca8-41cc-4d33-9fe7-3fae15f74bf3%22%7d](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_NjlmNjA3MjEtNjk2ZC00NGNmLWJiYTMTtNzFiMTEFIN2QwMDA4%40thead.v2/0?context=%7b%22id%22%3a%225ea5a8c9-546a-4f6a-a44c-d52c234571bc%22%2c%22oid%22%3a%2230304ca8-41cc-4d33-9fe7-3fae15f74bf3%22%7d)

Pupils will also be given an appointment card and told to make appointments with each of their teachers. Each appointment lasts a maximum of five minutes and it is advised that your son leaves five minutes between the end of one appointment and the beginning of the next to allow time to end one Teams call and begin the next one. Teachers will be available

between 5.40 pm and 8.00 pm. At a teacher's discretion, some appointments may be made at an alternative time or date.

Day pupils will need to log onto Teams following the links generated by their teachers in good time before the appointments. Please make sure that your sound and microphone are working, and your camera if possible. You will be kept in the lobby until the teacher finishes their previous appointment and accepts you into the meeting.

Boarding parents can also attend on this evening or may prefer to attend the Boarders' Parents' Morning on Saturday 18th March. The choice is yours, but if you have questions about option subjects you may prefer to attend the general parents' evening. Please ensure that your son knows your preference so that he can organise the necessary appointment slots.

We hope that this evening will be an excellent opportunity to review the year so far for Year 9 pupils and to offer helpful feedback to enable appropriate GCSE choices.

We look forward to meeting parents virtually on 5<sup>th</sup> January. If you are unable to attend and require further information or advice, please contact the Head of Year 8 and 9 - Mr Young [syoung@lrqs.org.uk](mailto:syoung@lrqs.org.uk)

Yours faithfully,

Dr C J Pyle  
Headmaster