

## Year 8 Options Frequently Asked Questions

### **Can students select whatever subjects they want to?**

Students must select one subject from each of the blocks and a reserve subject from Block 3. There are also some subjects such as GCSE Statistics and GCSE Computer Science which have a minimum requirement in GCSE Maths (see below). Any student not meeting this minimum requirement will not be accepted on to the course and should therefore not select it as one of their options.

### **Do students need to meet certain requirements to opt for some subjects?**

There are no entry requirements to take any of the subjects with the exception of the following subjects:

GCSE Statistics - students must be predicted a grade 5 or above in GCSE Maths.

GCSE Computer Science - students must be predicted a grade 5 or above in GCSE Computer Science.

GCSE French/Spanish – students should have taken the subject at Key Stage 3, however if a student has a genuine interest in taking the other language and has exhibited an ability to learn a language then an exception may be made.

GCSE Music – students must play a musical instrument. If a student wants to study Music at KS4 but doesn't want to learn to play an instrument they can do a BTEC in Music. In this instance they should still select GCSE Music when selecting their options. The students will be entered for the relevant course when they start Year 9.

### **Why do all students have to study the Religious Studies GCSE?**

Religious Studies and PSHE are a statutory component of the school curriculum. All the students will now have the opportunity to gain a qualification in Religious Studies. This does not take the place of another GCSE option as students will be allocated one lesson a week to study the course. They will also receive additional tuition through the PSHE and assembly programme in Years 9, 10 & 11.

### **When is the deadline for options to be selected on Insight?**

The option subjects must be entered on Insight by the end of **Sunday 23rd February 2020**. For information on how to do this please see the Options Evening Powerpoint presentation that is on the school web-site.

### **Can students change their options after the deadline?**

As much as we want students to make the correct choices during the options process we accept that there will be a few who may change their mind once they start their subjects in Year 9. If a student realises soon after starting the course that the subject is not suitable for them they can request to change subjects, although this will be dependent on the timetable allowing it and class sizes not being at capacity. Therefore, it is imperative that students make as informed a decision as they possibly can when they input their option choices in Insight.

### **Are students guaranteed to do the subjects they opt for?**

We will make every effort to accommodate the first choice options of every student, however this is not something that we can guarantee. Students are asked to select a back-up option, from Block 3, which they would like to do in the event they are unable to do one of their first choice options.

Where a student is compromising on their choice of subject, as a result of the restrictions in the offer of subjects in either Block 1 or Block 2, please can you send an email to the [options@coxgreen.com](mailto:options@coxgreen.com) mailbox with the student name and tutor group in the subject field and then, in the body of the email, the option subjects which have been selected on Insight followed by their preferred option subjects.

Once all students have selected their option subjects on Insight (deadline is 23rd February) we will look at the blocks again and see whether we can make any adjustments to them to accommodate as many of the students preferred choices as possible.