

27th February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

The Key Stage 4 Course Choices process is now well underway. Our taster lesson programme has now run to allow students to experience a form time session on each of the new subjects we have to offer, such as Media Studies or Astronomy. In addition to this, within lessons students have learnt more about the courses offered at Key Stage 4 within each department.

Yesterday afternoon our students had their assembly to explain the process in more detail and were given option booklets and pathway forms. You can also download a copy of the booklet from our website by following this link <https://www.hinchingbrookeschool.net/options>. Our course choices booklet contains all the information needed about the process and the subjects available to make an informed decision.

We also offer all our Year 8 students the opportunity to have a 1-1 discussion with one of our senior members of staff about their options if they feel that would be helpful. In these 15-minute discussions, we explore the reasons for choosing subjects, links to future careers and plans for post-16 education. Students can request a meeting by emailing coursechoices@hbk.acesmat.uk if this is something that they would find useful.

Year 8 Options Process – Key Dates

12th March: Parents' evening – a chance to discuss progress with current teachers

27th February to 12th March: SLT interviews – by request

16th March: Deadline for returning options forms

22nd May: Confirmation letters sent home

July: New teaching groups organised

October: Options change window (subject to availability)

If you have any subject specific queries, please use the contact details in the options booklet to contact the course leader directly. For any general queries about the options process, please email coursechoices@hbk.acesmat.uk and a member of the team will get back to you.

Please return completed forms to form tutors after the Y8 parents' evening with a final deadline of **Monday 16th March**.

Yours sincerely



Matthew Pinder
Vice Principal