18th January 2018

Dear Parent/Carer of,

**Re: Options evening Wednesday 24 January 2018**

This is an exciting time for Year 8 students at The Bourne Academy as we move forward with our three year Key Stage 4 curriculum. Instead of the traditional KS4 at Years 10 and 11, our KS4 will now include Year 9, giving students 3 years to develop skills, knowledge and build confidence in their chosen subject areas.

It is, therefore, now time for Year 8 students, and their parents/carers, to consider subject choices for the next three years. I hope you will find the guide useful in helping you towards making the all-important decisions in relation

So far in your child’s schooling; study has largely been determined by the National Curriculum. As we prepare now for Key Stage 4, there are still some aspects of the curriculum which are pre-determined (Core subjects), but there are opportunities to continue to study new courses and courses not encountered before. Pathway choices will be made within a clear framework to ensure breadth and balance; under the guidance of teachers and parents/carers. Your child will be advised to follow one of two pathways.

**The T pathway** ensures that students study GCSEs in English, Maths and Science and 2 EBAC subjects –Geography or History and French or Spanish. They are then able to select two further subjects.

**The B pathway** allows students to study a similar path but it is not a requirement that they study a language or humanity, although they will need to select one or the other. They are then able to select three further subjects.

Please bear in mind that places are limited on many of the courses. In addition, some courses may not run if there are insufficient numbers.

**Wednesday 24 January 2018 (15:00pm to 18:00pm) - Pathways Information Evening**
This is an important opportunity to come to the Academy and find out more about the Pathways process and discuss the courses that are available. You will also have the opportunity to meet with your child’s teachers of English, mathematics and science. Your child should be making appointments with their teachers in these lessons.

Members of the leadership team will introduce the Key Stage 4 Student Pathways process with guidance on how to choose. There will be two opportunities to hear this information: one at 16:00 and repeated at 17:15. Both will be delivered in The Hall.

Students will need to make their final selection by Wednesday 21st of February and hand in the completed Option Form to the exams office.

We look forward to seeing you next Wednesday.

Yours sincerely,



Ms Naomi Leech Mr Mark Avoth
Director of Assessment Principal