

07 May 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

**Re: Year 9 Guided Choices**

As you may be aware, in year 9 students are able to choose some of the subjects that they wish to continue studying in year 10 and 11 to complete GCSE qualification at the end of year 11.

**Due to the current situation around Covid-19, we are committing to a virtual online guided choices process.**

Some subjects have to be studied and these are the core curriculum of Maths, English Language and Literature, Combined Science and RE. The others are chosen by students in a process that is supported by staff that we call guided choices.

I am writing to make you aware of the following timeline and events.

- 11 May 2020 – Options booklet available on our website and paper copies sent home.
- 18 to 22 May 2020 – All home learning is suspended for the week to allow year 9 students time to work through taster lessons virtually, accessible through SMHW. These lessons will be available to parents also.
- 22 May 2020 – Guided Choices lesson – I will explain how to complete the guided choices form on a power point presentation, accessible from our website and on SMHW.
- 29 May 2020 – deadline for completion of the online guided choices form.

If you have any concerns over your ability to access these online materials, please email me, [lhampton@stmarksacademy.org.uk](mailto:lhampton@stmarksacademy.org.uk)

A full list of the subjects we intend to offer is overleaf.

Principal Lisa Peterkin



The Diocese of  
Southwark



Values-based Education  
IVET Quality Mark

<b>Core Curriculum</b>	GCSE's
English Lang & Lit	2
Maths	1
Science	2 or 3
RE	1
<b>Plus 3 Options from:</b>	3 = Total of 8, 9 or 10 depending on selection.
All students are expected to pick at least one highlighted EBacc* subject.	
French	GCSE
Spanish	GCSE
History	GCSE
Geography	GCSE
Art	GCSE
Drama	BTEC Tech Award
Design Technology (Graphics)	GCSE
Design Technology (Textiles)	GCSE
Music	GCSE
PE	GCSE
Business	BTEC Tech Award
IT	BTEC Tech Award
Citizenship	GCSE
Dance	GCSE
Psychology (Tbc.)	GCSE

\*Note: The EBacc is a set of subjects at GCSE that keeps young people's options open for further study and future careers

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me via my email address below.

Yours faithfully,

Mr L Hampton

**Vice Principal**

[lhampton@stmarksacademy.org.uk](mailto:lhampton@stmarksacademy.org.uk)