

February 2017

Headteacher: Mr S Woods

Upper Shirley High School
Bellemoor Road
Shirley
Southampton
SO15 7QU

Dear parent/carer,

After half term the Year 8 Options process begins where your son/daughter will be asked to make some choices regarding their KS4 education. This is an important time for your son/daughter as they take their next steps in their school career. Below I have outlined the schedule that will support the informed choices that need to be made.

Information assemblies: 27th February - 3rd March

There will be assemblies every morning where the head of each subject will talk about what the GCSE involves, course content and requirements. At the end of this week, all students will bring home a booklet that outlines what Key Stage 4 looks like at USH. All students will also have a letter that advises each individual student the pathway we believe will ensure they leave us with the very best suite of subjects to enter Further Education and beyond.

Tutor time activities: 6th March - 10th March

There will be tutor time activities all week that are specific to subjects, including video interviews with current KS4 students who have already been through the process, explaining the choices they made and why.

Reports published: w/b 13th March

You will be sent your son or daughter's Year 8 report. It is hoped this will be useful for your discussions at home around the appropriate choice of GCSE subjects.

Options evening: Thursday 16th March (6pm -8pm)

An evening where you will get the opportunity to understand the options process, and then time to speak to subject leaders regarding any questions you might have.

Parents evening: Thursday 23rd March (4pm-7.30pm)

An opportunity for parents and students to discuss progress during Year 8 so far.

All options forms to be handed into the General Office: Friday 31st March

By the end of this process, we believe that you and your son/daughter will be well informed about the different choices. However if you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact either their tutor or myself here at USH.

Yours faithfully,

Claire Fortune
Head of Year 8
PE Teacher