Dronfield Henry Fanshawe School

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Success with Care

Headteacher: Mr M. J. Cooper

Ref: KPI/LBR

6th November 2026

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

Re:- Year 9 GCSE Options Evening, Thursday 14th January 2027 5pm – 7pm.

Students in Year 9 will soon be making their GCSE option choices in readiness to commence GCSE study in September 2027. At Dronfield Henry Fanshawe School we are aware of current challenges to the education system, and the future potential changes and challenges that our students may face. Our main goal is to support our students and their families in making the correct choices for future study and progression. We will continue to explore and assess the impact of the changing landscape of qualifications that are on offer and how these changes may affect our community.

Our GCSE Key Stage 4 Options Evening will take place face to face, on 14th January 2027 5pm – 7pm. Links will be available on the school careers website before the evening, in preparation for the event. Presentations will also be available to download after the event. This will allow us to support as many students with as full a picture of national changes as possible, so that we can guide your children as to the best pathways for them.

Please note that we use an online MS Form system for choosing and registering options choices. Launching on the Options Evening, the deadline for registering their options choices is midnight on 29th January 2027.

During the school assembly programme in Terms 1, 2 and 3, we will be discussing each aspect of the options process. This will include information as to how students choose their options on our online system.

Your child will also receive their pathway letter early December. The Key Stage 4 options booklet and subject leaflets will be available digitally via the school website homepage early December. Paper copies will be available on request via Mr Pickles kpickles@dhfs.uk. This is the beginning of the options process which will continue throughout December 2026 to June 2027.

The pathway letter shows our professional view as to the most appropriate pathway for each student to follow at GCSE. At Dronfield Henry Fanshawe School, we have two pathways, blue and green. Further details and explanation of each pathway can be found in the options booklet.

Some parents, carers or students may have queries regarding their pathway allocations. Any queries should be sent via the online form listed on the pathway letter.

Options information: Dronfield Henry Fanshawe School - Options

Deadline for all queries is Monday 25th January 2027, 4pm.

Also, please note that our bespoke careers website and Twitter pages can be accessed via these links: https://dhfs.uk/careers-education-information-advice-and-guidance-ceiag/

We look forward to seeing you face to face for the Options Evening on 14th January 2027.

Yours faithfully,



Mr K Pickles

Assistant Headteacher

kpickles@dhfs.uk