



20th January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

Year 9 Creative Subjects Options – Initial Interest Survey for Year 8

At QEGS, we are very proud of the broad curriculum on offer to all our students. We also believe in enabling our students to make informed decisions about the subjects they will study in Years 10 and 11. Year 8 students will have the opportunity to make some choices about what they would like to study in Year 9 to help with those decisions next year.

In 2019 we introduced 'Creative Options' to Year 9. In previous years, students continued to study a range of subjects for 2 hours each, but to allow them to be immersed in their subject and begin to develop a mastery of it, they now choose two Creative/Option Subjects to study for 5 hours per fortnight. Having a deeper knowledge of these subjects in Year 9 will also support them in making options decisions in preparation for Year 10. Please note that the subject content will not be GCSE content, and students do not have to have studied a subject in Year 9 to choose it at GCSE.

At this point, we need to ask students for their 'initial interest' as we plan our staffing and timetable for next year. This will allow us to plan the 'blocks' (subjects that are timetabled at the same time) to meet the first choices of as many students as possible. Later in the term, we will ask students to select a first and reserve choice for each of the two blocks. Reserve options are essential as some subjects have restricted student numbers due to health and safety constraints. The subjects we hope to offer are:

- Art, craft and design
- Art textiles
- Computing
- Dance
- Design and Technology
- Drama
- Engineering
- Food preparation and nutrition
- Music
- PE (combining an introduction to the GCSE Physical Education and Cambridge National Sport Science qualifications and Sports Leaders)

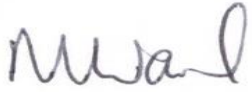
The link below is for a short form for students to **complete by 8am on Thursday 27th January**. **Students will need to be logged on the school system to access it.** The link has been sent to their school email address, so the easiest way to do this is to click on the link in that email. We do need all students to complete this to help with our estimates of numbers for each subject.

<https://forms.office.com/r/JqhAxTJRvJ>

Looking ahead, this is a similar process to the one we follow in Year 9, when students select their Key Stage 4 option subjects: an initial interest survey in the autumn term, followed by the final options selection in February.

If you have questions about this process or any of the subjects, please do contact me ward@qegs.email, Mr Hamer hamer@qegs.email or your child's form tutor.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Ward', written in a cursive style.

Miss Ward
Assistant Headteacher