



**St Cuthbert's  
Catholic High School**  
*Live life in all its fullness*

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23 March 2022

Dear Parents/Carers and Y9 Students

### **KS4 Options for Year 9 students**

We are pleased to introduce you to this year's [Key Stage 4 Options booklet](#), which outlines details of the courses offered in Years 10 and 11. It will help inform the choices that Y9 students make as they consider what to study next year.

We have created an ambitious curriculum with a degree of flexibility, which will help students develop their general ability and will give them the opportunity to specialise in subjects which they particularly enjoy or in which they excel. We hope that the curriculum will also develop other skills and abilities – physical, social, moral and cultural - as well as encouraging the development of positive attitudes.

Students, as you will know, this is a very important time for you because you will be making choices which will affect not only what you study in the future but also your long-term career prospects. Accordingly, you need to think very carefully about the courses which are on offer before making decisions. This will ensure that what you study in the next two years suits your needs and aspirations.

We are aware that, for some of you, it can be hard to make your choice of subjects. We suggest that you read this booklet thoroughly, look at the videos on the school website at <https://stcuthberts.com/year-9-options/> and talk to as many of your teachers as possible, as well as your parents and other adults in your family, about your intended choices. When making your choices, think about where studying those subjects can lead to in terms of courses in the Sixth Form or College, in higher education, and also in the world of work, as well as your aptitude and interest in those subjects. You may wish to look at the careers advice on the Career Connect website at <http://www.careerconnect.org.uk/>. It is never too early to start finding out about jobs and careers!

This school is proud of its record of providing a broad range of Key Stage 4 courses which allow examination success and progression to Post-16 Education, and then employment or higher education. We know that we can add value to students' performance and therefore a guided process of subject combination is honed and personalised for each student.

We hope that all students are able to find a suitable combination of subjects and that their Key Stage 4 studies will engage and motivate them, in order to allow them to achieve the highest possible success in the future and to live life in all its fullness.

Don't forget to check out the QR Codes on each subject page to view the films from each Curriculum Leader on the benefit of selecting that subject – these are also available on our school website.

Finally, please complete your Options form **by Wednesday, 30th March 2022** and hand to your form tutor.

Yours faithfully

Mrs C Twist  
**Headteacher**

