

3 March 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 8 Preference Process

We are now making plans for the curriculum your son/daughter will follow starting September 2022.

At The Hamble School, we are determined to offer each and every student a curriculum that suits their individual needs, while complying with national recommendations and guidelines. We are proud to offer a range of courses covering many subject areas. Over the past few years the government has introduced the concept of the 'English Baccalaureate' (EBacc). The EBacc is not a qualification in its own right. It is a combination of academic subjects that the government wants to encourage more students to take. The EBacc consists of: English, Maths, Science, a Language, History or Geography.

The government has set targets for 75% of students to take the EBacc by 2022 increasing to 90% by 2025. However, we appreciate that EBacc is not the correct route for everyone and some students would prefer more scope to study creative and practical subjects. Therefore, we will be allocating students onto one of two pathways. Pathway A will be for students who will study the full EBacc suite of subjects. For students on Pathway B they will have the same choice of subjects but it will not be compulsory to study a Language. You will be notified of which pathway your child will be on when the preference form is sent to you.

In summary, your child will continue with their studies in English, Maths, Science, Core PE and PSHCRE. They will also choose 6 additional subjects to study in Year 9. At the end of Year 9, they will then choose 4 of these to carry on at GCSE/BTEC level in Year 10 and 11.

For those of you that have older children in the school, you will recognise that the curriculum in Year 9 and the preference process will look slightly different. We will be launching a preference webpage on 10 March to ensure that you and your son/daughter receive all the information required to make informed decisions which will include all the details of the curriculum model, preference process and information from each subject about the courses students can choose from. Students will also engage in careers activities during Tutor sessions which will give them an opportunity to raise questions, discuss plans and think about their future.

On **Thursday 17 March from 18:00 to 18:30**, we will be running a preferences live Q & A session where you will be able to ask any further questions you may have after exploring the preferences webpage. A link to sign up to this event will be sent home closer to the date.

www.thehambleschool.co.uk

T: 023 8045 2105 • general@thehambleschool.co.uk • [f](https://www.facebook.com/thehambleschool) [i](https://www.instagram.com/thehambleschool) [t](https://twitter.com/thehambleschool) @thehambleschool

Satchell Lane, Hamble, Southampton, SO31 4NE

Headteacher: Mr A Govan, BA (Hons), MA Ed. NPQH



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We have outlined the Preference Process below:

Date	Activity	Aim
3rd March	Year 8 Parents' Evening	To enable parents/carers to discuss progress with subject teachers.
Wb 7th March	Year 8 Preferences Assembly.	To inform students about the Preferences Process and about making choices.
10th March	Launch of the Preference webpage	To provide students and parents/carers with detailed information about different subject courses.
Fortnight beginning 14th March	Tutor sessions covering: Growth and vision Opportunity Making choices	To support students in considering how we make choices and about how their choices will influence their futures.
17th March	Preference Q and A session	To enable students and parents/carers to ask questions about the Year 9 curriculum and the preference process.
18th March	Preference form to be emailed out	To complete detailing subject choices.
1st April	Preference Form Deadline	Forms must be completed by this date.
June/July	Confirmation of student subject choices	A letter will be sent home to confirm allocation of subject choices.

We hope this letter has been helpful in clarifying the Preferences process.

We look forward to working with you to ensure your child achieves their maximum potential and enjoys their studies.

Yours faithfully



Mrs J Morgan

Assistant Headteacher

If, at any time, you should require special arrangements to be made when visiting the school and/or in order to participate fully in supporting your child at school (e.g. an accessible venue for meetings, if you are a wheelchair user, assistance with translation of documents or enlarged copies of communications etc.), please do not hesitate to let us know.