



Headteacher: Mr D Hampson M.Sc, B.Sc, SLE, NPQH
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16th January 2019

Pupil Name:

Dear Parent or Carer

Key Stage 4 Option Choices/Year 8 Parents' Evening
5.30 pm Thursday 7th February 2019

Now is the time when all pupils in Year 8 begin the process to select a number of courses to study in Years 9, 10 and 11. This process of deciding which courses to select is an important one, which needs careful consideration by pupils, parents and school. The selections made and grades achieved will have an impact on pupils' choices when opting for A level and vocational courses at ag6 or other post-16 providers. Last Wednesday 9th January, pupils received a brief introduction to their options during assembly. This will be followed by a Taster Day on Tuesday 22nd January. Year 8 pupils will have the opportunity to choose 6 Taster sessions over the course of the day. The aim of the options process is to try to ensure, as far as is possible, that every pupil can follow courses at Key Stage 4 which match their strengths and interests, whilst ensuring that a broad curriculum is followed. **However, not everyone will be able to pick exactly what they want.** This would make timetabling impossible.

It is the government's ambition that 75% of all pupils should begin studying a full set of EBacc subjects by 2022.

At the end of this time we will ask your son/daughter to return an **options form**. A copy of this can be found on the school's website and will be available after the Taster Day. **THIS WILL BE THEIR FINAL OPTION CHOICES** and should be returned no later than Wednesday 27th February 2019. To assist in their choice making all Year 8 pupils will have a 1 to 1 interview with a member of the Senior Leadership Group where options can be discussed in detail. The most popular courses, based on the option choices **the year group make** will inform which options will run come September 2019.

Details of the Year 8 Key Stage 4 Options and Parents' Evening can be found on the school's website. If internet access is an issue please let us know and we will provide a paper copy of the options guide. **Please note that a talk for parents regarding the options process will take place at the start of the Parents' Evening on the 7th February 2019.** We suggest that it may be more beneficial to make appointments which allow you to discuss possible Options choices. This may mean making appointments with staff who do not currently teach your son or daughter.

Please complete the attached reply slip and return it to school by Friday 25th January 2019. Should you have any queries about the Options process, please do not hesitate to contact myself. Mrs Hesketh or Mr Varley at school.

Yours sincerely

K Riddell

Acting Deputy Headteacher

Email: kriddell@aldergrange.lancs.sch.uk

Alder Grange

is a school where everybody is inspired to be the best they can, where excellence is nurtured by everybody and a community in which everybody cares

Please return this reply slip by Friday 25th January 2019
for the attention of your son/daughter's Form Tutor

Key Stage 4 Option Choices/Parents' Evening
5.30 pm Thursday 7th February 2019

I/we* acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 16th January 2019 regarding the Key Stage 4 Option Choices/Parents' Evening on Thursday 7th February 2019, and would like to advise you that:

- I/we will be attending *(please tick)*
- number of parents or carers attending *(if applicable)*
- I/we will be unable to attend *(please tick)*

Pupil Name: **Form:**

Signed: *(Parent or Carer)*

Date: