



Dear Parent/Carer

Beyond Year 9: Options, Opportunities & Ownership

As you will already be aware, next term is an important one for your son in terms of successfully navigating the options process and positioning himself for future success at GCSE and beyond. As a school, we are keen for you to partner with us as we prepare him for this, and would like to take this opportunity to highlight some key dates for your diary:

Thursday 18 January 2024 6 - 7.30pm Our evening begins in the Centenary Hall	Beyond Year 9: Options, Opportunities & Ownership An invitation for parents/carers & students to join us to explore the following questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do we navigate the Year 9 options process? • Fact or fiction? What is the reality behind our GCSE learner experience? • What are the characteristics of a successful GCSE learner, and how can we partner to nurture them? • What further opportunities are there beyond Year 9?
Thursday 1 February 2024 4 - 7pm Centenary Hall	Year 9 Parents' Evening An opportunity to chat to individual subject teachers about current progress & attainment, as well as option choices
Friday 9 February	Deadline for Year 9 Options (via online form)

In the two-week period between the parent events, there will be a year 9 focus on options and careers across the curriculum, and our Personal Development theme will centre around positive decision-making. Your son will have an opportunity to attend a **Careers Fair** in our Centenary Hall during the day on **Friday 26 January**, and will spend a couple of P & AE sessions exploring **Careerpilot**. This is an impartial careers website providing information, advice and tools to support 11-19 year olds in planning their progression effectively. He should already be familiar with this and have login details. The link is <https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/>.

In preparation for this process, it would be a good idea over the next few weeks to have a detailed look at our GCSE prospectus which can be found on our website via the following link: [Curriculum – Torquay Boys Grammar School \(tbgs.co.uk\)](https://www.tbgs.co.uk/curriculum) This should support you and your son with preparations for the next step in his school journey.

Dare to be...

Options Forms will be made available following our '**Beyond Year 9**' event on **Thursday 18 January**, and we look forward to welcoming as many of you as possible to join us for this.

Research indicates that active parental support significantly enhances positive outcomes for students; we would like to share possible ways for you to do this for maximum impact. Please could you indicate via the following online form if you plan to attend this evening so we can have an idea of numbers. The link is <https://forms.office.com/e/F59NTxALC2>

Have a wonderful Christmas break. We look forward to seeing you in the new year.

Shelley Godfrey
Deputy Headteacher

