

20 January 2026

Dear parents and carers

Over the next few months we will be working with students in Year 9 to confirm the subjects they will study during Key Stage 4. We would like to ensure students and parents are fully supported during the transition from Year 9 to Year 10 and would encourage you to seek advice from tutors, subject staff and others in College.

This term we have planned a number of events to ensure we provide the support required. This includes a Year 9 Parents' Information Evening on **Thursday 12 February. This will be in the Old Hall with the presentation beginning at 1700.** Students are welcome to attend this evening with their parents, where there will be a presentation on the Curriculum Pathways available, an opportunity to ask questions and an Options Fair where teachers will be able to outline specifics of their subjects.

All students will study the core subjects; mathematics, English, science, either history or geography, PE and character lessons. All students will be able to select two optional subjects to study. We offer a broad range of subjects for students to make their choice from, in order to create a broad and balanced timetable that reflects their interests and career aspirations.

For ease of reference, the above dates are tabled below:

Date	Event
Monday 26 January	Curriculum Pathways Booklet available on the College website
Thursday 05 February	Year 9 Subject Parent Teacher Meetings
Thursday 12 February	Year 9 Options Information Evening and Options Fair
Thursday 12 February	Options form open for completion
Friday 6 March	Options form closes

Please feel free to discuss these important decisions with key staff at any point, you do not need to wait for a scheduled event. Should you wish to discuss this or any other matter, please do not hesitate to contact either your child's tutor, Mrs March (Lead PSW for Year 9) or Mr Adams at the College.

Duke of Edinburgh

At the Information Evening, we will also launch the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) for all Year 9 students. This year marks a significant change, as previously this had been an opportunity for those interested but participation in the Bronze DofE Award is now a core part of the Year 9 curriculum for all students.

Why do DofE?

Doing DofE is a brilliant way for your young person to discover just how much they are capable of. It gives young people the chance to make new friends, follow their passions, learn new skills, and make a tangible difference in our community. Crucially, achieving a Duke of Edinburgh Award is highly valued by universities and employers, showcasing commitment, teamwork, and resilience.

How it works

Your child will need to complete four core sections – Volunteering, Physical, Skills, and the Expedition.

For the Bronze Award, students must commit to a minimum of three months around an hour a week each for the Physical, Skills, and Volunteering sections. They will then choose one of these three sections to complete for an additional 3 months, making that section six months long in total.

The Expedition phase involves Practice Training (typically a full day and night spent camping in May/June) followed by the Qualifying Expedition (a self-sufficient two-day, one-night journey in the local countryside, also in June). We will ensure that students are fully trained and prepared.

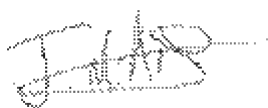
Next steps

Registration is £30.50 and expedition due later in the year is £50. If the cost is prohibitive, please do get in touch so that we can discuss financial support.

To formally enrol your child, please complete the digital form [here](#) - . The closing date for enrolment is **28 January 2026**.

If you do not wish for your child to be involved in this opportunity, please get in contact via this form to opt out. If you have any questions in the meantime, please feel free to contact Mr Thomas mthomas@launcestoncollege.uk .

Yours faithfully,



Mr M Adams
Assistant Principal