



BEAL HIGH SCHOOL

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Our ref: ON/GO/SSS

7th January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers of our Year 9 pupils,

Progression to KS4 and Curriculum options

Students in Year 9 are fast approaching the beginning of their GCSE studies. We are excited about the breadth, balance and ambition of our KS4 curriculum offer, which supports the potential of all our students. It builds on experience in KS3 and our ethos of high aspiration, progression and inclusive learning, preparing all students for their future lives with a challenging set of options. We have taken a measured approach and students can choose from a wide range of courses including meaningful applied courses as well as those which qualify for the English Baccalaureate.

KS3-4 Progression Evening – Tuesday 20th January 2026

In preparation for GCSE study, students need to make informed decisions about the options subjects they will choose to take. To support with this, the KS3-4 Progression Evening will be held in the lower school on **Tuesday 20th January 2026**. All GCSE and vocational subjects will have a display stand, and subject teachers will be on hand to discuss the course content and qualification with students and parents from 3.30pm until 6pm.

At 4:45pm there will be a talk in the KS3 school hall by Mrs J Okosun (Assistant Principal) and Mr S Goss (HOY Year 9), outlining important information regarding the options process. We strongly advise all pupils and parents/carers to attend. The presentation which accompanies the talk will be uploaded to our website for parents/carers who are not able to be present.

Information, Advice and Guidance Programme (IAG) – January/February/March 2026

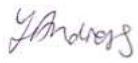
To prepare your child for the decisions ahead, we offer a comprehensive information, advice and guidance programme (IAG). The IAG is paramount to the students' eventual success, and we invest significant time in ensuring that every pupil makes appropriate GCSE options choices and embarks upon courses suited to their success. We understand that making option choices can be an exciting but daunting process and there is a team of experts to help and guide every step of the way:

- Pupils will be offered information, advice and guidance (IAG) by their form tutors
- Staff in each subject will talk to pupils during lessons, explaining what is involved in the study of each subject at GCSE; for subjects not yet studied at KS3, students will receive assemblies from subject experts and high-flying older students
- Options information including the GCSE options handbook are available on the school website at [KS3 – Beal High School](#)

- KS3-4 Progression Evening on Tuesday 20th January 2026 will run as mentioned above, with information available about all of the GCSE/vocational courses we offer.
- Parents' Evening on Tuesday 24th February 2026 will provide subject specific information to support students in making their GCSE options decisions. After this event, the GCSE options MS Form will go live.

If you have any questions about the advice and guidance your child receives, do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely



Ms Y. Andress
Co-Headteachers

Mr W. Mackintosh