

7th May 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope that you and your families are well and keeping safe.

I am writing to inform you that it is that time in the school year when we ask our Year 8 students to think about their GCSE options for moving into Year 9 in September. Students will continue to study most subjects that they currently do now, but they do need to decide whether to study either **History OR Geography** as a GCSE subject and whether they wish to study **Spanish** as a modern foreign language, again as a GCSE subject. Students will then begin these courses in Year 9 and will continue into Years 10 and 11.

In usual circumstances, your child would complete the options process in school and have opportunities to speak to members of staff in order to make their decisions. As this cannot happen at the present time, we have made it possible for you to access all the necessary information and complete the options process online.

In order for this to happen, we ask that your child accesses the Year 8 page on the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) by logging on (top right corner) using their username and password and going to **My Courses** or to the **Dashboard** and looking for **Year 8 Year Page** (See attached instructions). Alternatively, they can follow the link below, again logging on using their username and password:

<https://vle.hindehouse.net/course/view.php?id=977>

On this page you will be able to access a PowerPoint presentation that gives further details about how the options process works and watch a virtual assembly that provides information about what each option subject has to offer. I also advise you to discuss the options with your child, as they will be studying these subjects for their GCSEs.

Finally, there is a link on this page to an online options survey which your child needs to complete in order to make their choices. Please support your child in completing this by **Friday 22nd May.**

If you have any questions about the options process, please don't hesitate to contact the school by emailing enquiries@hindehouse.net and once again, take care and keep safe.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Clempson

Vice Principal