



Year 8  
Guided Choices  
ELY COLLEGE

## Questions from the Guided Choices Evening

### **Question**

Obviously the current lockdown/remote learning situation is forecast to end sometime in the not too distant future. What will happen with the more practically based subjects, should we be in a worse case scenario and face remote learning longer term? D&T Fashion & Textiles, for instance?

**Reply from KJ Norton-Berry**

GCSEs are designed to be taken over 2 years even though we take them over 3. If the learning is disrupted in Year 9 then there can be a greater focus on the 'paper' based knowledge that all GCSEs have and the practical element can be picked up with plenty of time in Year 10.

**Reply from Simon Warburton**

Thanks Martin - we have asked curriculum leaders to adjust their learning plans so that practical tasks can be covered when we do go back to college - it will be tough but we will do our best to make sure that students are not disadvantaged with the loss of practical experience

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### **Question**

Next week is a tutor evening, not a subject based parents evening. Will we get chance to talk with our child's subject teachers to discuss their options?

**Reply from KJ Norton-Berry**

If you have particular questions about a subject then please contact the teacher or Head of Department directly.

**Reply from Simon Warburton**

Hi Alison - I didn't want the evening to be affected by students only visiting the subjects that they might study when I would really like students and parents to touch base with their tutor and see how things are going with remote learning. Curriculum leaders of subjects will be more than happy to give you specific guidance but we have also placed a lot of information on our website.

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### **Question**

Are the languages for students that have been studying that language already, please?

**Reply from KJ Norton-Berry**

Normally yes. A student would normally study the language they have classes in this year. The exception would be a student who was taking Spanish, for example, but was also a native French speaker.

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### **Question**

At what stage do students get access to impartial careers advice and guidance to help support their decisions? i.e. one on one guidance with a careers professional?

**Reply from KJ Norton-Berry**

We have a level 6 IAG trained member of staff. Normally 1:1 interviews would be part of the post-16 process however if a student has the need/desire to have a meeting with the member of staff then please contact me and I will look to arrange where we have capacity.

**Question**

Can you change your GCSE during year 10 or 11?

**Reply from KJ Norton-Berry**

Not really except in exceptional circumstances. The amount of content that would have been covered would make it very difficult to catch up.

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**Question**

When will the students be notified of which subjects they have been allocated?

**Reply from KJ Norton-Berry**

They will be notified during the summer term, normally after and around half term.

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**Question**

I thought we may have gone through the subjects to hear more about each one

**Reply from Simon Warburton**

Hi Sadia - we wanted to avoid the evening being a long presentation so focused on the key elements - there is a huge amount of information the website to help you find out about the individual subjects.

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**Question**

On the last slide about choosing options where column A had choice 4 and 5. If 5 is the reserve option does that mean that a student could in theory only end up with one subject from column A? So top 3 choices from B and 4th choice from A?

**Reply from KJ Norton-Berry**

Yes, that's the case

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**Question**

Is BTEC sport equivalent to a GCSE/?

**Reply from KJ Norton-Berry**

Yes it is

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**Question**

For BTEC sport, is there an option to take only one sport?

**Reply from KJ Norton-Berry**

Please contact Jason Coe, Head of PE, and he will give you more detail.



Thank you for joining us for our Guided Choices Evening.

If for any reason you missed the online event or would like to revisit the discussion, you can find the recording on our website:

<https://www.elycollege.com/year-8-guided-choices>

