

26th January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Year 8 into 9 Guided Pathway Information Booklet

I am writing to introduce our Guided Pathway Information Pack. This is part of our programme of support, information and guidance for Year 8 students.

The curriculum in operation at Outwood Academy Ripon was judged as Outstanding by Ofsted due to its flexibility, engagement and promotion of high quality outcomes for students. A key part of this curriculum is the opportunity for students to start the deeper study of some subjects as they move into Year 9. Students will choose “Guided Pathways 1” subjects as well as “Creative” subjects to study in year 9. Many of our “Guided Pathway 1” subjects will be certified at the end of Year 10, and some at the end of Year 11 as outlined in the attached document. The advantages of this model is that it enables students to spread out the examination load and students also benefit from the sense of achievement in their chosen area; it also enables the study of qualification based subjects to be broader and more flexible.

There will be a formal presentation describing the Guided Pathway process available on the website. Historically, we have run an Information Evening to support parents and students at this time but we are unable to do this under the current circumstances.

Please note - the deadline for completion and submission of Guided Pathway choices forms is Monday 8th February 2020.

If you have any further queries about the choices of courses please contact myself at the Academy.

Yours faithfully,



Alan Hayden

Vice Principal.