

15th June 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to you with an update to our curriculum. We believe that students entering Year 9 should have the opportunity to narrow their arts options and increase the hours that they have in order to develop a deeper skillset and passion for their preferred subjects.

Following our recent Ofsted monitoring visit, we were really pleased to hold dialogue with the inspectors around our curriculum design. They were pleased with our strategy and commented about this in the report.

At SUA we implemented this system for our current Year 9 students at the start of the spring term and it has been received really well. Students are enjoying spending more time in the subject areas that they have a greater interest in.

The option choices for Year 9 are:

Option A	Option B
Art	Catering
Catering	Design & technology
Design and technology	Music
Drama	Philosophy and Ethics
Dance	Dance

There is a breakdown of each subject overleaf, this may help you choose the right subject for your interests.

We are excited by the changes and by the positive impact that we know they will have on our students whilst they study with us. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at the school.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



Mitchell Allsopp
Vice Principal

Please find a breakdown of the subject areas below:

Art: explore the creative process using a range of techniques, media and materials expanding knowledge and understanding of other artists, designers and craftspeople work.

DT: to develop creative skills through the design and making process. You will have a range of opportunities to experiment and explore with a range of traditional techniques and modern technology.

Music: students will explore performing, composing and appraising through many different genres of music. Students will also be able to hone their skills on several different instruments There is no expectation of prior knowledge or ability.

Dance: students will learn and replicate in performance several different styles of dance, whilst having the opportunity to choreograph and appreciate the work of others. There is no expectation of prior knowledge or ability.

Drama: students will have the chance to rehearse, perform and evaluate performances across many different genres. There will be an emphasis on equipping students with the key skills needed for the stage and also offer students the chance to learn about technical theatre.

Catering: students will develop skills and cooking techniques over 6 units, covering international cuisine, special diets and nutrition. Students will explore the catering industry and focus of key products that relate to the seasons of the year.

Philosophy and Ethics: ideal for students who are interested in big questions with bigger answers. Students will develop morality through looking at topics such as medical ethics, euthanasia and abortion. They will open their minds with topics like free will, determinism and artificial intelligence.



Staffordshire University Academy

Year 8 Pathways 2018

Name of student:

Tutorial:

Career aspiration:

Students will need to select an option (tick) and a reserve option (R) in each of the columns below.

Option A		Option B	
Art		Catering	
Catering		Design & technology	
Design and technology		Music	
Drama		Philosophy and Ethics	
Dance		Dance	

Please return your completed forms to Mrs Holyhead or reception by Wednesday 20th June 2018.

Signature of parent/carer:

Date:

Signature of student:

Date: