

# THE NORTON KNATCHBULL SCHOOL

## An International School with Language and Science Specialisms



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(Founded 1630)

Headteacher: Ms S. K. Staab, BA, MA, Dip Trans

5<sup>th</sup> February 2018  
RDS/hp/Year8OptionsLetter2018

Dear Parents and Carers of Year 8 students,

Given that we have embedded the transition to a three-year Key Stage 4 programme, all students will choose their GCSE options in Year 8 and begin learning the skills and content for them from September 2018 as they enter Year 9. The *three*-year GCSE programme reflects the more challenging and rigorous GCSE qualifications that are now in place.

In order to facilitate the choosing of options, the school will be hosting a Year 8 Options Evening on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2018. During this evening, students and parents will have the chance to discuss with their subject teachers their suitability for particular options subjects. The Options Evening follows the Monitoring 3 reports issued at the beginning of March and the Year 8 Parents' Evening on March 8<sup>th</sup>. This sequence is designed to ensure that your son makes the right choices as he approaches Key Stage 4.

We will continue to offer a wide range of subjects at GCSE level. All students will continue to study the English Baccalaureate suite of qualifications, which consist of the following: English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Combined Science (which incorporates Biology, Chemistry and Physics), a Humanities subject (either History or Geography), a Modern Foreign Language (either Spanish, French or German) and then three option subjects of their own choosing. These *options* subjects include the opportunity for a second Humanities subject, a second language and the full Triple Science course. All students will take ten GCSE examinations in Year 11 and there may also be the opportunity to undertake additional courses in Mathematics as part of our enrichment opportunities.

We believe that this curriculum programme will enable your son to pursue his interests and strengths at an earlier stage, and to develop the necessary skills and knowledge to achieve excellent results at GCSE level. We will be in contact with more details about the Options Evening closer to the date.

If you have any questions regarding this letter please do not hesitate to contact me, by emailing [rscarr@nks.kent.sch.uk](mailto:rscarr@nks.kent.sch.uk) or telephoning the school on 01233 620045 to make an appointment to speak to me. Enquiries can also be directed to Mrs Gegan the Student Support Manager for Year 8: [ggregan@nks.kent.sch.uk](mailto:ggregan@nks.kent.sch.uk).

Yours sincerely,

Mr Richard Scarr  
Assistant Head Teacher (Curriculum)

