



Ark All Saints Academy

Thursday 29th April 2021

Dear Parent,

Year 9 Pathways

I hope this letter finds you and your family well. The end of Year 9 is always an important part of a scholar's journey at Ark All Saints as it is when they get to make a choice about which subjects they continue to study. This is an important decision that scholars, their families and we as a school make together. Making the most appropriate choices will support your child to be prepared for Year 10, ensure they achieve the best GCSE grades possible in Year 11 and are prepared for sixth form, college, university and beyond.

Please carefully read this letter and the enclosed pathways booklet with your child; discuss which subjects your child would like to study.

Important information:

- **Year 9 Virtual Parents Evening** is on **Wednesday 12th May**
- You will get to book appointments with some of your child's teachers to discuss the subjects they would like to continue.
- At **4:30pm** there will be a talk from Mr Chapman, Ms Frame and Mr Ade with important information to help guide you through the process.
- At the end of the parents evening you and your child will then be able to submit their preferred choices online.
- We will write to you next week about how to book appointments for the parents evening.
- There are two **pathways** scholars follow, see below for more information.
- All choices must be submitted by **Thursday 13th May**.

Pathways

Most scholars will follow a pathway called the **English Baccalaureate**; this means they will study Spanish and Geography or History. They will then be able to pick one more subject to study. The English Baccalaureate is recognised by universities and employers as a significant academic achievement.

Some scholars who have not studied Spanish will follow the **Progress pathway**; on this pathway you must study Geography or History, and two other subjects. We have carefully planned their pathways and reviewed them so that everyone is on the most appropriate pathway for them. Both pathways will prepare scholars for University and beyond.

Ark All Saints Academy
140 Wyndham Road
London SE5 0UB
T +44 (0)20 7450 5959
info@arkallsaintsacademy.org
arkallsaintsacademy.org



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Your child is on the Progress Pathway. If you would like to discuss this with us, then please contact us using the information given below.

English Baccalaureate	Progress
English	English
Maths	Maths
Science	Science
R.E.	R.E.
Spanish	Geography or History
Geography or History	Foundation Subject 1
Foundation Subject 1	Foundation Subject 2

Foundation Subjects:

The Foundation subjects we offer are: Art, Computer Science, Drama, Geography, History, Music, Physical Education, Spanish, Creative I-Media and Design and Technology

Support Available

We want to ensure that all scholars are supported in the process, so they can make an informed decision that supports and prepares them for their future. Please make use of the following:

- ✓ **The pathway booklet** (attached) is written by Heads of Departments for scholars and contains all the information about the curriculum they will follow if they pick that subject.
- ✓ Your child can talk with their **subject teachers** at school and their **tutor**
- ✓ Speak with **Mr Stuart and Ms Burke** to discuss what choices are best for you. Their emails are j.stuart@arkallsaintsacademy.org and l.burke@arkallsaintsacademy.org
- ✓ From the 30th April you can arrange a call with **Ms Khanam**, our careers advisor, if you have a specific query to discuss with her, her email address is careers@arkallsaintsacademy.org
- ✓ You can arrange a call with **Mr Chapman** by emailing info@arkallsaintsacademy.org

How do I submit my choices?

You will submit your choices using a website called EdVal, how to do this will be explained at the **Virtual Parents meeting on Wednesday 12th May.**



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Can my child study both History and Geography?

Yes, they will need to select one of them as their option from History or Geography, and then the other as their Foundation Subject 1

My child is on the EBacc pathway do they have to study Spanish?

Yes, to achieve the EBacc your child must study a foreign language. The EBacc is designed to give scholars a broad education that will keep all of their options open for the future.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any further questions.

Yours faithfully,

Mr J Chapman
Vice Principal