



# HITCHIN GIRLS' SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mr J. E. Crowther

24 March 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

You will recall that, during Year 7, your child experienced a carousel of four subjects in their timetable: Drama, Spanish, Ancient Civilisations and Latin. In Year 8, students were given the opportunity to focus their studies on two of these courses. Now, as we begin to approach the end of Year 8, the time has come for students to choose the **one course** that they would like to study through Year 9. The chosen course will be taught over four hours a fortnight. Students can choose either of the two subjects that they are studying this year, however, if a student wants a complete change then they can select Drama or Ancient Civilisations without having studied it in Year 8.

Choosing which subject to continue with in Year 9 is an exciting opportunity.

Below are a few points to help students when making their decision.

| DO |  | DON'T |  |
|----|--|-------|--|
| ✓  | Do get as much advice as you can. If you don't know something, ASK. Talk to your parents, tutor & subject teachers.      | X     | Don't think you are expected to know at this stage what you want to do later in life; the curriculum is constructed to keep open as many doors as possible |
| ✓  | Do find out as much as possible about the courses on offer: what will you learn and how?                                 | X     | Don't choose a course because your friend is choosing it; you might find yourselves in different groups.   |
| Y  | Do try to choose those subjects you are <u>good at</u> or <u>enjoy</u> , since this will improve your chance of success. | X     | Don't choose a course because you like the teacher you have now; you may have a different teacher in Year 8.   |
| ✓  | Do decide yourself: it is <u>you</u> who will be studying your chosen subjects.  | X     | Don't worry if you can't fit everything in. Some subjects can be picked up again in Year 10.   |



We will be asking students to choose two subjects – their first choice and a reserve. Whilst we will build our timetable to fit the options selected as best as possible, it may not be possible to give every student their first preference - therefore it is very important that students think carefully about their reserve choice.

If students have any questions about the courses I would encourage them to contact their class teacher.

**Parents are asked to submit their child's preferences via a Google Form which will be opened after their options assembly on Tuesday 24 March, and must be completed no later than Tuesday 14 April.** Students that do not make a choice before 14 April may be allocated an option where there is space available.

If you require support please contact the Exams and Data team via: [exams@hgs.herts.sch.uk](mailto:exams@hgs.herts.sch.uk).

[Submit your choices from 24th March here](#)

If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact either myself or the Heads of Department of each subject area.

Yours faithfully,



Mr A Jones  
Deputy Headteacher