

# HOLYWELL SCHOOL

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THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND  
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*A Church of England School  
providing a Values Based Education*

12<sup>th</sup> July, 2019

Year 7 Parents

Dear Parents

## Option lesson in Year 8 curriculum

Last year, we introduced a one-lesson Option block to the Year 7 curriculum. This will also be a feature of the Year 8 curriculum. These options have been designed to provide students with an opportunity to further explore an area of interest. Options are very much a part of the Secondary curriculum experience and this is an early experience in choosing between subjects. For many students, this will also allow them to really extend themselves alongside others who are also especially talented in their chosen option subject area.

We have had an introduction to the Year 8 options today. Your child will have a period of time to talk with you about which subject they would most like to opt for. S/he will also be able to talk with teachers in school to answer any questions they might have between different possible choices.

We need to have all choices returned by Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> July so that we can then allocate students to teaching groups ready for September. We cannot guarantee that every child will get their first choice because in some subject areas we only have the capacity to provide a single teaching group. Second and third subject choices are therefore very important. Initial allocations should be completed before the end of term.

Please find the option sheet attached. The subjects available are:

- Art
- Book Club
- Creative Writing
- Drama
- PE – Sports Leadership
- Music Technology (limited to 18 students)

Please note that students who did the Book Club or the Sports Leadership options in Year 7 cannot repeat their option in Year 8.

Yours sincerely

MG Simpson  
Headteacher



Headteacher: Mr MG Simpson MA, NPQH

Deputy Headteacher: Miss A Stewart - Deputy Headteacher Mr S Van Der Merwe - Assistant Headteacher: Mrs H Donnellan

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# A brief introduction to each of the options

## Art

A great opportunity for any student who has a passion for Art or creativity and would love to do more of it! Work independently, creating your own work based on a theme, in your own style! You make the choices. You could use acrylic, watercolour, ink, clay, sculpture, photography, print making or a combination of mixed media. The choice will be yours. You will be introduced to and explore a variety of new techniques and have a few little art challenges along the way! Imagine how your artistic skills could leap forward and develop with two hours of art a week!

## Book Club

This option is designed to explore a number of books during the course of the year. It will provide an opportunity to look at the way different authors write and will be a little 'taster' of English Literature lessons.

*NB If you did the Book Club Option in Year 7, you may NOT choose it again this year ... it is the same course!*

## Creative Writing

Unleash your inner author!! This is an opportunity to explore writing in all its creative forms – from narrative to poetry; from short story to mini-novel. You will explore how authors write, how they structure stories, create characters and dazzle with description.

## Drama

This option allows you to build upon skills you have learnt in Drama lessons but with more freedom to experiment. Use of conventions, different staging and use of props and costumes is encouraged. You will experiment with a variety of performance techniques and hopefully have the opportunity to watch some live theatre. You will have the chance to work with a variety of scripts throughout the year as well as devising your own pieces of drama. Choose drama if you would like to have the chance to use your imagination and develop creativity in a fun way.

## PE – Sports Leadership

This option builds on the Sports Leadership work students do in Year 8 PE. Taking this option will give you the chance to put that study into practice. You will be given guidance in how to plan a session and lead your peers in sports tournaments and activities. You may also be given the opportunity to help at the Lower School swimming galas and in their PE lessons. You will look in detail about how to coach younger children in specific sports, put programmes/lessons together that you will put into practice with year 4 students by organising and running competitions for Lower School students such as tag rugby, bench/basketball, kick rounders and athletics. In the past five years we have also been able to provide opportunities for students taking this option to listen to talks and meet professional athletes and sports men and women.

*NB If you did the PE Option in Year 7, you may NOT choose it again this year ... it is the same course!*

## Music Technology

Music Technology will offer the opportunity to develop a broad range of key musical and technological skills. Over the year you will learn about recording and how to set up and manage technology for concerts and other events. There will also be opportunities to learn about, and work, with different software in order to mix and edit recordings and produce your own compositions. Music Technology is the chance to learn and apply skills through working creatively in small groups and independently in order to achieve enjoyable, practical challenges. NB. Due to the technical requirements of this option, only 18 places are available.

# Year 7 into Year 8 Options Sheet

Student name..... Tutor group 7.....

Current Year 7 Option .....

Please put one tick in each column – just one tick in first column for your first choice, just one in the second column for your second choice and your final tick in the third column for your third choice....

**Please hand into your form tutor no later than Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> July**

	First choice	Second choice	Third choice
Art			
Book Club			
Creative Writing			
Drama			
PE – Sports Leadership			
Music Technology			