



Atlantic Academy Portland

an Aspirations Academy

Miss Heppell - Principal of Primary
Mrs Bishop - Principal of Secondary

Maritime House
Southwell Business Park
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28th January 2021

Dear Parent / Carer

Virtual Year 9 Choices

Due to current government restrictions as a result of Covid -19 this year we will be hosting our choices process virtually. Therefore, we will be asking your son/daughter to make their GCSE choices via SIMs App, and we have launched our new choices section on the [Atlantic Academy website to support this](#) process.

Year 9 Choices Timeline

Event	Dates
PSHE Lesson	Monday 25th January - Friday 12th February 2021
SIMs Options	Tuesday 9th February 2021
Q&A Webinar	Thursday 11th February 2021
Choices Selection Window	Tuesday 9th February 2021 (8:00am) until Friday 5th March 2021 (8.30am)
Deadline	Friday 5th March 2021

PSHE Lessons : 25th January - 12th February 2021

From this week until half term Year 9 students will be going through the choices process during their PSHE lessons and will have an opportunity to go through the curriculum offer and see video clips of different subjects.

Website

The Atlantic Year 9 Choices webpage has various videos that the students will see in their PSHE lessons. There is also a detailed Curriculum Guidance 2021-2023 booklet explaining each course as well as an overview of the compulsory curriculum offer.

Please visit this page where you will find the short videos explaining in detail information on:

- Explaining the Curriculum Offer & EBacc with Mrs Bishop
- The process and how to select your choice with Ms Board
- Subject Overviews linked with the choices blocks with subject leads

SIMS Options will go Live Tuesday 9th February

Once you have downloaded the SIMs parent and student app you will be able to access the SIMs Options button which will take you to the choices page. Students will be able to make their choices through this app with the support and guidance from parents and teachers. Final approval will be made by the school. If you need help logging into the Parent App please contact: abiddle@atlantic-aspirations.org

Q&A Webinar and link invite: Thursday 11th February

Further to this, we would like to invite you to attend a live Q&A session with myself, Ms Board, from 4pm on Thursday 11th February in which I will be able to answer any questions you may have around selecting choices. Please complete this [google form](#) if you are attending and we will send you a link to the event. I will be live via Google meet for 1 hour in which you can dip in and out within the hour and ask questions.



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Choices Deadline: Friday 5th March

We will be using the SIMs Parent & Student App to select choices. Therefore, a gentle reminder if you have not downloaded the App, you will need to do so. Once downloaded students will be able to select and **submit their choices** from 8:00am on **Tuesday 9th February 2021** until 8.30am **Friday 5th March**.

SIMs Parent App (if not already downloaded it)

1. On your device **create** and **register your account** at <https://id.sims.co.uk/registration/home/soscode>
 - a. Select the login method you want to sign up with (e.g. Microsoft, Google).
 - b. Enter your **unique invite code** and your **child's date of birth**.
 2. From your smartphone or tablet, download the app from the Google Play or Apple App store by searching for **SIMS Parent**.
 3. From a PC or Windows phone, login online at www.sims-parent.co.uk
- If you need help logging into the Parent App please contact: abiddle@atlantic-aspirations.org



This is a very important stage in your child's academic career and we look forward to meeting (virtually) with you on **Thursday 9th February 2021**.

Yours faithfully

Ms T Board
Head of Orange Faculty