

Welcome to our Year 9 Options Presentation



Aims of the presentation:

- To have a better understanding of the Options process for your child
- To be aware of the different qualifications on offer to your child
- To have the opportunity to ask further questions if needed about the process
- To know when the deadlines are and how to complete the options form

Key dates

Date	Event
W/C Monday 27th February	Options assemblies for two weeks
Wednesday 1st March	9 Options information evening for parents
Monday 6th March	KS4 Subject taster sessions
Thursday 9th March	Year 9 Parents evening/options evening
Monday 13th March	Deadline for completion of choices
Monday 27th March	1:1 options interviews with SLT (where needed)

Core subjects - These are compulsory subjects

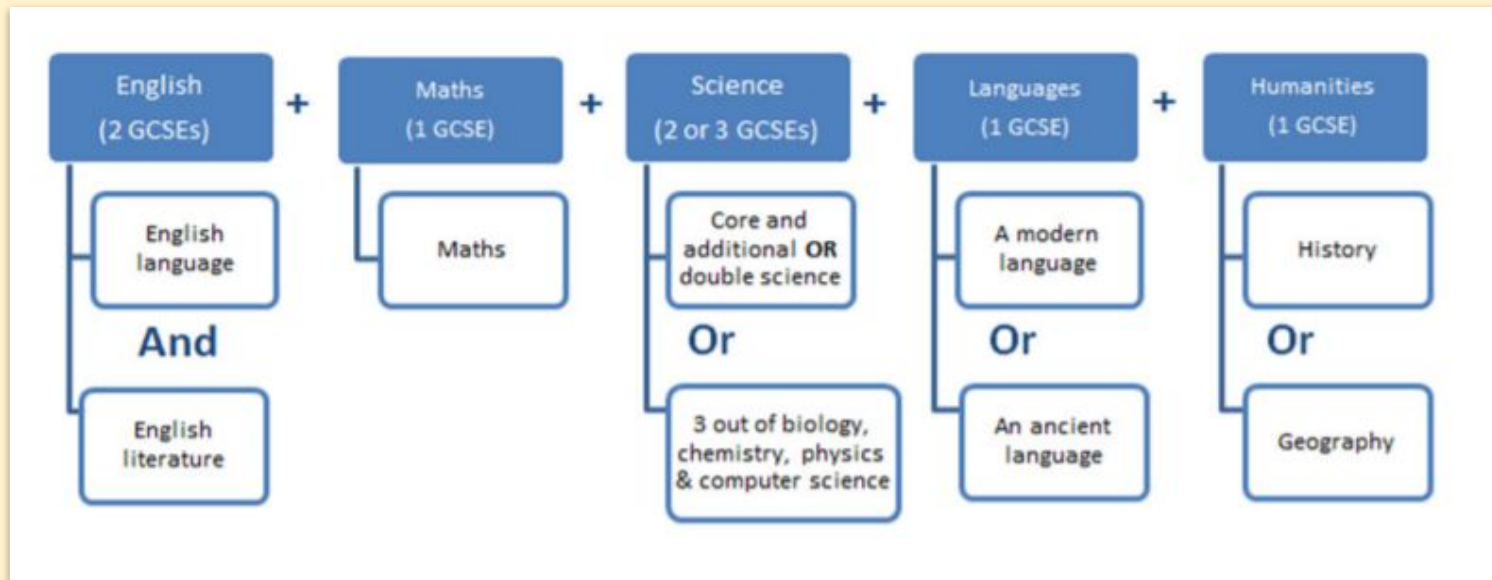
All students will work for GCSE's in **English Language, English Literature, Maths** and **Sciences**. This will give them 5 or 6 qualifications.

They have 5 lessons of Maths per week, 6 lessons of English and 6 lessons of Science

All students will also study practical P.E, PSHE and Religious Education. These subjects are not examined.

What is the Ebacc?

The current English Baccalaureate is not a qualification itself, but a particular group of GCSE subjects that are looked on favourably by universities.



Why have we selected you to study the EBacc?

- Your CATS scores show us that you have the potential to be successful studying these subjects.
- A study by the UCL Institute of Education shows that studying subjects included in the EBacc provides students with greater opportunities in further education and increases the likelihood that a pupil will stay on in full-time education.
- Sutton Trust research reveals that studying the EBacc can help improve a young person's performance in English and maths.
- The EBacc is made up of the subjects which are considered essential to many degrees and opens up lots of opportunities.

Humanities:

You would choose either History or Geography

Modern Foreign Language:

You would choose either French or Spanish

Free Choice:

Students may choose one option from the list below.

GCSE Subjects	GCSE Equivalent Subjects
Art and Design Computer Science Dance Design and Technology - Timber based materials Drama Food Preparation and Nutrition French Geography History Sociology Spanish Statistics and Further Maths	V Cert Level 1/2 Technical Award in Health and Fitness (P.E) BTEC Level 1/2 Technical Award in Performance Skills (Music) BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award in Health and Social Care

Humanities Choose one:

You would choose either History or Geography

Two Free Choices:

Students may choose one option from the list below.

GCSE Subjects	GCSE Equivalent Subjects
Art and Design Computer Science Dance Design and Technology - Timber based materials Drama Food Preparation and Nutrition French Geography History Sociology Spanish Statistics and Further Maths	V Cert Level 1/2 Technical Award in Health and Fitness (P.E) BTEC Level 1/2 Technical Award in Performance Skills (Music) BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award in Health and Social Care

Quality rather than Quantity

The majority of options courses result in a GCSE or equivalent. Most students will study for 8 or 9 qualifications. Gaining eight or nine qualifications with higher grades is more useful than having a large number of low grade qualifications.

A Balanced Curriculum

Make sure your choices are broad and balanced- even if you have a specific career path in mind. It is normal to change your mind about what career you want so it is worth keeping as many doors open as possible. A broad and balanced curriculum will allow you flexibility in your career choices once you have finished your education and it will also show that you are well rounded. Take subjects you enjoy or make good progress in even if it is not something you think will help you in your career.

Choosing options

How to pick	How not to pick
Research the subjects that you are interested in before making a final decisions.	Do not choose based on what your friends are doing.
What do you enjoy about a subject, keep this in mind when helping to make a decision. You will be studying this course for two years.	Do not choose based on your teacher preference. You can not guarantee they will be teaching that subject.
Pick subjects where you are making good progress. The better the grade the better opportunities at post 16.	Don't choose a subject because you feel that you have to.
Choosing a variety of subjects will open more doors, later in life.	

What can be chosen?

Reserve Choice

- All students must make one reserve choices on the options form. This can be from any of the subjects offered.
- We will always try our best to ensure that you get the choices you have made; however there are times when this proves impossible. There are several reasons for this. For example, some courses may not run if there is not enough demand or some subjects may clash on the timetable.
- We will always let you know if this happens. It is therefore really important that you really think as carefully about your reserve choices as you do for your first choices.

Submitting the options form

Students will submit their options electronically.

Students will be sent an email with a link, to their school email address.

They need to click on the link and enter their school email address to generate a one time password (OTP) which is sent to the same email address.

Enter the OPT and the click "Open form"

Complete you three choices and your reserve.

Please make sure you have discussed your children's options and you are happy with them before they submit their choices. They will need your support.

If as a family you need support to complete the form, please contact the school office.

The form will need to be submitted by Monday 13th March 2023

Moving to college

College websites provide excellent insights into what subjects and grades you need to be achieving. The prospectuses from colleges should be used as a guide to their individual requirements.

Below is a rough guide: To study three A Levels, you will need to have six GCSEs at grade 4 including English and Maths. Some colleges will need more.

The majority of students will study **three A Levels**, some students study **four A Levels**. Check the college website for requirements especially if choosing double Maths.

To study the **International Baccalaureate** you will need at least **seven GCSEs at grade 4** or equivalent, including English or Maths and Science.

To study a **vocational level 3** course, you will need **five GCSEs at grade 4** or equivalent including English or Maths depending on the college.

To study a **vocational level 2** course, you will need **five GCSEs at grade 3** or equivalent including English depending on the college. Many courses need specific grades at GCSE. You must check this information yourself.

Where to find help?

For more information on specific options, you can talk to the following teachers:

Art	Ms Dryer	Health and Social care	Mr Creswell
Dance	Ms Hulatt	Maths	Mr Leonce
Drama	Ms Pearce	MFL	Ms Hayhurst
DT	Mr Cornish	Music	Mr Browne
English	Ms Haywood	P.E	Mr Clarke
Food Preparation	Mr Desborough	Science	Ms Murray
Geography	Mr Loggenberg	Sociology	Ms Ward
History	Mr Swoffer	PL and PSM	Mr Miller and Mrs Brooks

Full contact details can be found on the PCS website