

A Guide to the Options



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Year 9



General Information

All students will follow the core curriculum as below:

- English Language GCSE & Literature GCSE
- Maths GCSE
- Double science GCSE
- RE short course GCSE*
- PE recreational (non examined)

Students will then also chose 4 Option courses

GCSE subjects		Vocational subjects
RE*	PE	<i>Digital Technology</i>
Art	Drama	<i>Performing arts</i>
Food Technology		<i>Sports Studies</i>
Design Technology		
Music	History	
Geography	Triple Science	
Spanish	Computing	

Highlighted subjects

PE and Sports Studies cannot both be chosen together

Drama and Performing Arts cannot both be chosen together

Digital technology and Computing cannot both be chosen together

Notes

If you speak another language at home which they wish to take a GCSE in then this can be arranged with Mr Godber

They cannot pick PE and Sports Studies (they count as the same subject group)

They cannot pick Drama and Performing Arts (they count as the same subject group)

They cannot pick Computing and Digital Tech (they count as the same subject group)

Any other combination is allowed.

We ask for a reserve in case their choice combinations don't work when the programme we use creates the groups. We hope this isn't the case but sometimes it does happen.

Notes/guidance

Students will have all this explained to them **on 5th Feb.**

The Options booklet that has all the key information is on the website and will be emailed to parents with Y9 reports on **6th Feb.**

The Options form will be issued to students/parents during the week of **10th Feb**

Parents evening on **Wednesday 4th March** is a chance for parents and students to talk to subject teachers about the courses so that students make informed decisions.

Option forms have to be signed by **parents and students** and should be handed into Form tutors. **Deadline date 19th March**

If option choices cannot be accommodated, the school will discuss this with parents and the child to offer alternatives (this is why we request a reserve).

Final choices will be confirmed in June

The Options Form

Students should pick their 4 courses **IN ORDER OF PREFERENCE**
Students must also pick a RESERVE

Guidance - Very Important

Pick what they want to study **not** what their friends choose. They are unlikely to be in the same classes as friends.

Pick choices based on enjoying the subject **not** the teacher. You may not have that teacher teaching them if there are more than one teacher in that subject area.

Find out what the course involves so there are no surprises once you start

If they choose RE GCSE they will still also study Short course GCSE RE, so they need to like RE !

If they choose Triple science they will still also do Double science GCSE so they need to like Science !

There are very few courses that you have to study at GCSE if you want to continue at A level - Spanish, Music and Art the only exceptions

If they change their minds after all the choices are done, they will only be able to change if there is space in a course available. Parents will need to request this formally. The latest date for changes will be the end of September.