



Care to learn
Learn to care



Aspire Achieve Thrive

Welcome to Year 9 Options Evening

Mr Oakes - Head of School
27th February 2025



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Who and where can you get help and advice?

Mrs Bevin - Head of Year

Mr Gould - Assistant Head of Year

Mrs Lewis-Tuxford - SENDCo

Mrs Gill - Deputy SENDCo

Tutors

Teachers

- Parents' evening tonight
- Subject videos (on our website) and subject leaflets (available in the street this evening)



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New GCSE grading structure

New grading structure	Current grading structure
9	
8	A*
7	A
6	B
5	
4	C
3	D
2	E
1	F
	G
U	U

GOOD PASS (DfE)
5 and above = top of C and above

AWARDING
4 and above = bottom of C and above



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Compulsory subjects

Subject
English (Lit and Lang)
Maths
Science**
Core PE
RSHE (combining Religious Education and PSHE)

Compulsory option (1 from)- Geography, History, French, Spanish (language must be currently studied) or Computer Science (recommended for those in maths sets 1 or 2).

+ **Two more** from our wide selection.



Core subjects

Maths – a single GCSE. Higher and Foundation tiers.
Students at the end of year 11 will also sit an additional GCSE in Statistics.

English – two GCSEs. A single tier.

Combined Science - two GCSEs. Higher and Foundation tiers.

Or

Triple Science – three GCSEs. Higher tier. (option choice)

RSHE - Combines Religious Education (Modern Britain) and PSHE (non-examined)

The English Baccalaureate?

This is a set of individual qualifications and not a qualification in its own right.

English

Math

Science

Geography or History

A Modern Foreign Language



The English Baccalaureate?

Research from 300 schools found that statistically students following the English Baccalaureate subjects were:

- More likely to achieve good GCSEs in English and maths
- More likely to be taking an A level or other level 3 qualification after the age of 16
- Less likely to have dropped out of education after the age of 16



Qualification types

GCSE

- Suitable for progression to A level, BTEC, Apprenticeships
- Graded 9 – 1
- Examination based
- Exam is usually 100% (not in every case)
- Greater written content

Vocational

- Suitable for progression to A level, BTEC, Apprenticeships
- Graded D, M, P
- Set briefs by exam board
- Greater practical content.
- Exam is typically 40%
- Less written content but excellent organisation and consistency is essential.



How do I choose?

Good reasons

- Already study it/have an interest in it and I enjoy it
- I'm already doing well in it
- It helps with my future plans
- I've not studied it before but I've spoken with the teacher and it interests me.

Poor reasons

- My friend is choosing it
- I don't like the other subjects
- I get on well with the teacher this year





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EBACC OPTION	OPEN OPTION	
Choose 1 (and 1 reserve)	Choose 2 (and 1 reserve)	
Geography	Geography	Triple Science
History	History	Health and Social Care
French	French	Film Studies
Spanish	Spanish	Media (Creative media production)
Computer Science	Computer Science	Photography
	ICT	*Art
	Religious Studies (Modern Britain)	*Textiles
*Cannot choose both	Business Studies	Drama (Performing Arts)
	Sport	Music
	Travel and Tourism	Catering



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Specific subject guidance

- Computer Science is **suitable for strong Mathematicians** (Sets 1-2)
- Triple Science (Single sciences) is suitable for very **strong scientists**.
- Your child **cannot study both;**
Art and Textiles



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Frequently asked questions

Who will be the teacher for each option subject? We cannot guarantee any students a specific teacher and this should not form your decision making process.

Are there boys and girls subjects? Definitely not – our curriculum offer is for all.

Am I guaranteed to get my option choices? Unfortunately not - for a few reasons. Eg if only one student picks a subject, the subject will not run. We will do our best but it is important that you select a reserve subject.

Will I be able to change my mind in September? This is usually possible but choices are limited at that point as the timetable has been set. It is better to take your time and get it right now.

Do I have to put reserve choices on my options form? Yes. For reasons explained above.

I need some help.

- a) Read through this presentation
- b) Read the options leaflets on the website
- c) Contact your Mrs Bevin via email to arrange an appointment



Next steps:

Link to an online Options Form,
will be sent to you tomorrow

This must be completed by:

Friday 7th March