

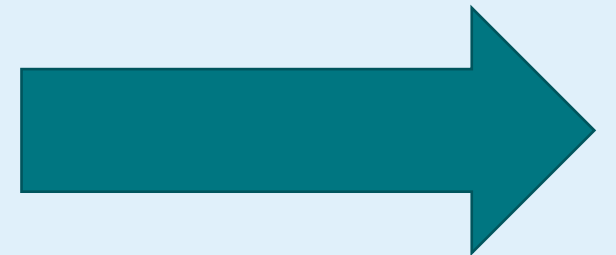


Year 9 Options Process 2024

Information for Year 9 Students and their Parents and Carers

Qualifications for first study
from September 2024

**Please slide right
across the row**



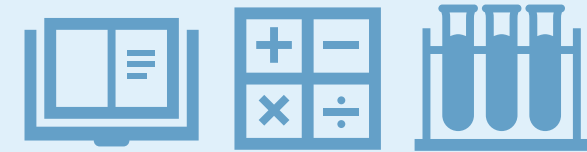
Year 10 and Year 11 (also known as Key Stage 4) are when you will complete your GCSE Qualifications.

At Key Stage 4 you will build on the knowledge, skills and understanding you have developed so far on your learning journey, and study towards achieving formal qualifications that will have an impact on the steps you are able to take after you have turned 16. This could be in education, training, or even employment.

Choosing Options is an exciting (and potentially a daunting) time, as it is the first time you have some **element of control** over the subjects that you study.



Core Qualifications



Open Choice



Subjects

Guided Choice



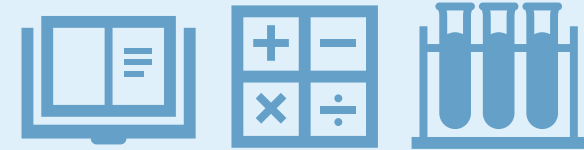
Subjects



Personal Development



Core Qualifications



All students will study qualifications in English, mathematics and science, as these are the subjects that provide the foundations for life.

Most further learning opportunities at post-16 will consider results in at least 5 qualifications, including the three core subjects. Employers will also look at these exam results as a benchmark for recruitment, so success in core subjects provides a strong grounding for access into the job market.

Core subjects are not just valued by schools, colleges, universities and the workplace, core subjects are also an integral part of our daily life. If you are able to equip yourself with the skills to understand the foundations of English, maths and science, you will have the tools to become a confident individual, up for a challenge, able to problem solve and ultimately able to make informed choices about your future.

In short, the more credible the grades you can achieve in these critical subjects, the more opportunities will be open to you when the time comes to make decisions about your future.

Open Choice



Subjects

Open Choice Subjects give you the opportunity to continue your studies in areas that you choose.

There are a wide range of subjects for you to choose from; some of them will be subjects that you haven't studied before, for example Business Studies, Construction, Photography or Sociology, whilst others will be more familiar to you, such as Art, Drama, Graphics, Music, PE or Textiles, as well as Geography, History and Languages.

Your Open Choice will give you opportunity to select subjects that interest you or that you enjoy, subjects that you feel you are good at, or subjects which link into areas you would like to study beyond 16, or pursue a career in, at some point in the future.

Through your Guided Choice Subjects we ensure that the profile of qualifications you leave us with opens up the best possible opportunities for you.

Guided Choice Subjects are academic (theory-based rather than practical) qualifications, and ones which are recognised as part of the 'English Baccalaureate'.

The English Baccalaureate (although not a qualification in itself) is a measure of success in core and academic subjects. These are subjects most likely to be required or preferred for entry to degree courses and ones that will keep the most doors open for you.

Even if you're not thinking about following a university pathway now, these qualifications will still provide you with knowledge and skills that will stand you in good stead for the future.

Guided Choice



Subjects

The qualifications you achieve will only provide opportunities for you if you are able to demonstrate that you have the understanding, personal attributes and attitude that means you can contribute effectively to society and the World around you.

This includes the ability to manage risk and keep yourself safe, understanding how to lead a healthy lifestyle and manage your own mental health and wellbeing, appreciating diversity and valuing equality of opportunity for all, as well as understanding your own worth.

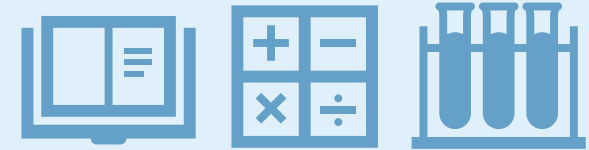
Mentor time and the assembly program will be complemented by taught lessons in RCS (Religious and Citizenship Studies which includes Personal, Social and Health Education) and PE, which will form the 'unexamined' elements of your timetable.



Personal Development



Core Qualifications



Open Choice



Subjects

Guided Choice

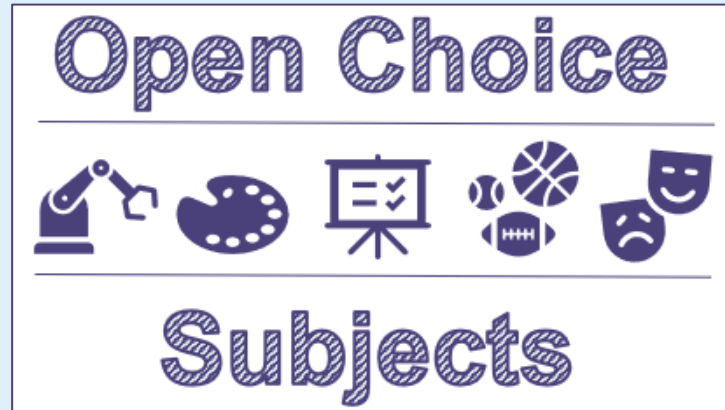


Subjects

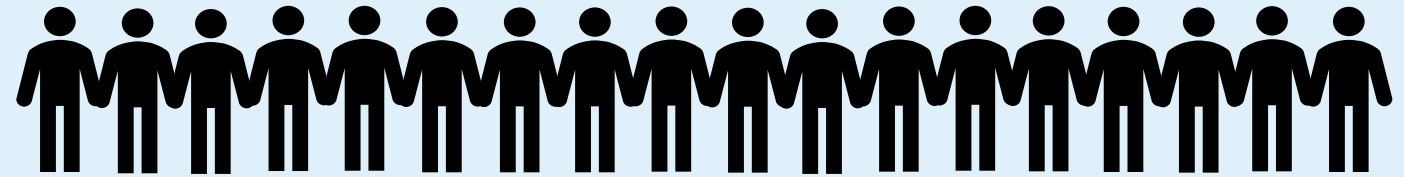


Personal Development





Everyone will select **two** from the following **Open Choice** subjects ...








Art & Design
Belief & Ethics
Business Studies
Citizenship
Computer Science
Construction*
Drama
Economics

Food & Nutrition
French
Geography
Graphics (Design & Technology)
Health & Social Care*
History
IT (Creative iMedia)*
Music

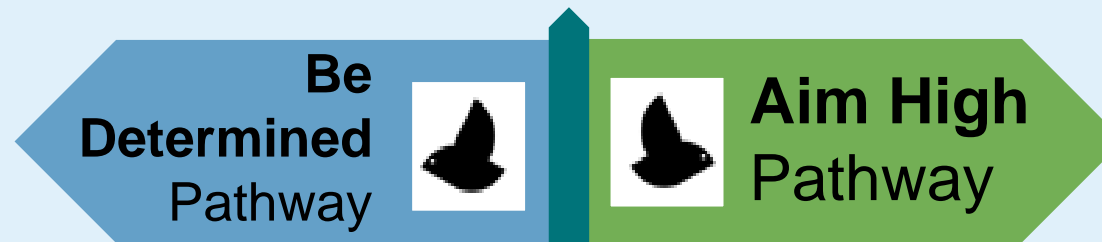
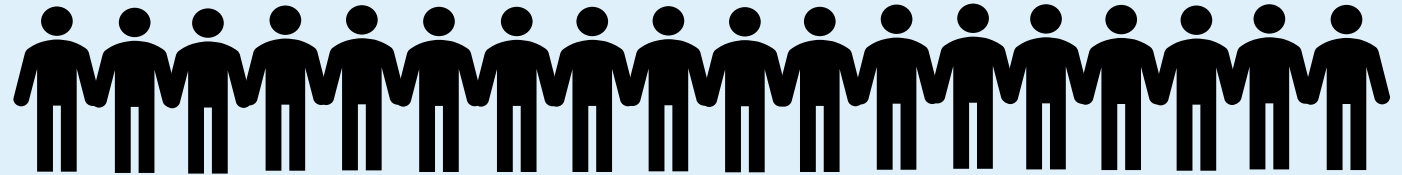
Photography
Physical Education (PE)
Resistant Materials (Design & Technology)
Separate Sciences
Sociology
Spanish
Sports Studies*
Textiles (Design & Technology)

Guided Choice

Subjects

You will then follow a pathway for your **Guided Choice** subjects ...



You will select **two** from the following Guided Choice subjects, one from each group ...

Group 1: Humanities

- Geography
- History

Group 2: Languages

- French
- Spanish

You will select **one** from the following Guided Choice subjects ...

Computer Science

- French
- Geography

History

- Separate Sciences
- Spanish



How many qualifications will I leave school with?



Total Qualifications: 9

Core Qualifications

- English Literature
- English Language
- Mathematics
- Science (double-award worth 2x GCSEs)



5

Open Choice Subjects

- Open Choice Subject One
- Open Choice Subject Two

2

Guided Choice Subjects

- Guided Choice One (Humanity)
- Guided Choice Two (Language)

2



Total Qualifications: 8

Core Qualifications

- English Literature
- English Language
- Mathematics
- Science (double-award worth 2x GCSEs)

5

Open Choice Subjects

- Open Choice Subject One
- Open Choice Subject Two

2

Guided Choice Subjects

- Guided Choice Subject

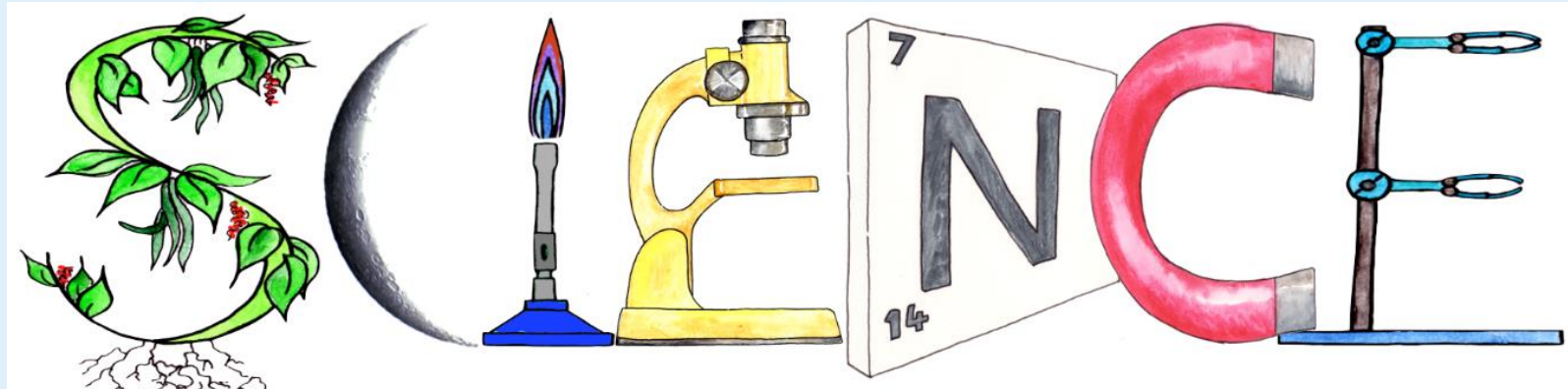
1



How will I find out
which **Guided Choice**
pathway I will be
following?

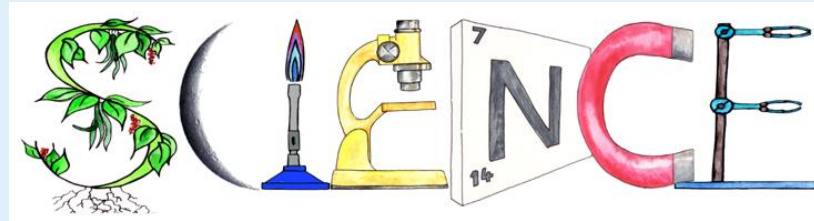


The



Department

Science Options



Trilogy (Combined Science)

- 2 x GCSEs
- 6 x exams (1h 15min)
- 10 lessons per fortnight
- Rotations of **Biology**, **Chemistry** & **Physics** (Approximately 25 lessons each)

Separate (Triple)

- 3 x GCSEs
- 6 x exams (1h 45min)
- 15 / 16 lessons per fortnight
- Linear **or** rotations of **Biology**, **Chemistry** & **Physics** lessons (25 lessons + option lessons)

Separate Sciences - Triple Award

Course Content

Same base Biology, Chemistry & Physics content as combined science but with some topics extended
Increased examination length

Higher Level Material

Each topic covered in standard science lessons covered at an extended and deeper level

Developed Mathematics

Increased mathematical content, particularly in Physics

Extended Skills

Extra emphasis on cognitive skills such as deduction, evidence-based conclusion & evaluation

Subjects



Art & Design



Belief & Ethics



Business Studies



Citizenship



Computer Science



Construction Tech. Award



Creative iMedia (ICT)



DT: Graphic Products



DT: Resistant Materials



DT: Textiles



1. Find out more about all the subjects that are on offer and choose **two** for your **Open Choice** subjects.

Art & Design	Food & Nutrition	Photography
Belief & Ethics	French	Physical Education (PE)
Business Studies	Geography	Resistant Materials (Design & Technology)
Citizenship	Graphics (Design & Technology)	Separate Sciences
Computer Science	Health & Social Care*	Sociology
Construction*	History	Spanish
Drama	IT (Creative iMedia)*	Sports Studies*
Economics	Music	Textiles (Design & Technology)

2. Look for the email on Wednesday 10 January which told you which **Guided Choice** pathway you are following.



Select **two** subjects, one from each category ...

Group 1: Humanities
Geography
History

Group 2: Languages
French
Spanish

Select **one** subject from the following selection...

Computer Science
French
Geography

History
Separate Sciences
Spanish

3. Make sure you've **thought** about your choices **carefully**.

- Have you asked **lots of questions** and do you have all the answers you need to make the right choice for you?
- Have you considered what you might want to do after you've **finished Year 11**?
- Have you thought about whether the subjects you are considering **suit your strengths**?
- Are you confident that the subjects you are choosing aren't based on whether your friends are, or aren't taking them or on the teachers you have currently, or think you may have.
- Don't discount a subject because it may not have run previously.
- **Don't rush** – no prizes for getting your form in first.
- **Ask for help!**

4. **Reserve subjects** are important as we cannot always give students all their preferred options. Students' **effort; attitude; attendance; commitment; conduct**, may be taken into account.

5. **Complete your Options Form** online before the deadline of **Friday 2 February**.