

Options

An introduction to the
options process

Main curriculum: everyone

Examined subjects

- English (2 exams) 1 GCSE
- English lit (2 exams) 1 GCSE
- Maths (3 exams) 1 GCSE
- Science (6 exams) 2 GCSEs
- RE (2 exams) 1 GCSE

15 EXAMS = 6 GCSEs

Plus three more GCSEs

Non-examined subjects

- PE
- PSHCE
- Work experience

Options Pathways

HUMANITIES pathway:

Approx. 40 pupils



- No MFL
- Must choose either Geography or History (a Humanity)
- 2 other choices

LANGUAGES pathway:

Approx. 200 pupils



- With MFL
- 2 other choices
- Can choose either Geography or History to achieve **Ebacc**

Ebacc

An academic set of 5 subjects:

English

Maths

Science

MFL

History or Geography

Grade 4 or higher in ALL 5 to achieve Ebacc

Option subjects:

GCSE's:

Art

Computer Science

Drama

History

PE

Sociology

Business

Dance

Food

Media

Photography

Art - graphics

Citizenship

DT

Geography

Music

Psychology

BTEC's:

Child Care

Health & Social Care

In blue are subjects that are new to you

Date/timing	Actions
Week comm. 6th November	Introductory letter home to all families
Mon 27th Nov	Introductory assembly to Y8 in main hall with Mrs Devereux
Wednesday 29th Nov	Issue all option course descriptions (Options Book) to pupils
Monday 4th December	Pupils can sign up for taster sessions in new option subjects
Monday 8th – Friday 19th January	Two weeks: taster lessons in KS3 options subjects, careers lesson in PSHCE, drop down taster lessons for new subjects in the canteen
Monday 15th January	‘Dry run’ of option choices on a Google Form
Friday 26th January	Issue options forms to all Y8 – <u>includes subject option blocks</u>
Tuesday 6th February	Deadline for handing in options forms

Example from last year

Option Y 1 = first choice in Block Y 2 = back up choice in Block Y		Option Z 1 = first choice in Block Z 2 = back up choice in Block Z	
Art		Child Care	
Business		Business	
Citizenship		Citizenship	
Dance		Computer Science	
Design Technology		Drama	
Food		Geography	
History		Media	
BTEC Health & Social Care		Music	
Photography		PE	
Psychology		Psychology	
Sociology		Sociology	

What now?

- Keep checking the Year 8 Goggle Classroom - various information will be there as well as on our website for parents
- Useful information - [READ](#) course descriptions
- Y8 GC taster lesson sign up link on **MONDAY - JUST** for 'new' subjects
Business, Citizenship, Media, Psychology, Sociology, Child Care, Health & Social Care

Options – Common questions...and the answers!

1. Does my pathway affect the set I am in for English, maths or science?
NO - core subject sets are all set separately and this is not part of the options process.
2. If I am on the Languages pathway, do I have to do history or geography?
NO, but you can choose either as an option. If you do then you have the Ebacc subjects.
3. What is Ebacc?
It is an academic set of 5 subjects Eng, maths, science, MFL and a humanity. Achieve a grade 4 or 5 (or higher!) in all to achieve Ebacc.
4. Why do we not offer triple science?
It is very content heavy and puts a real pressure on exam performance. Also, pupils can continue with A Level and degree level science without having studied GCSE triple science.
5. What is the deadline for option forms and when will we know which courses we have?
The deadline for handing in options forms is Tuesday 6th February and choices will be confirmed in May. We have to check we can staff all courses and this takes time.
6. Why do we need to pick back up subjects?
Unfortunately you may NOT get your top two choices – we sometimes have to use back-ups if courses are full or not running so pick these carefully too!