

Options Evening 2024



Outline of the Evening

- **The Key Stage 4 Curriculum**
- **The Options Process**
- **Opportunity to speak with subject teachers**



KS4 Curriculum – September 2024

CORE CURRICULUM

Two week timetable – 60 periods (50 minutes)

Most subjects will have a combination of single and double lessons

English Language and English Literature	10 periods	2 GCSEs
Mathematics	8 periods	1GCSE
3 Separate Sciences Or Double Science	13 periods	3 GCSEs Or 2 GCSEs
Physical Education	4 periods	Statutory
PSHCE	1 period	Statutory
TOTAL	36 periods	5 or 6 GCSEs



Additional Curriculum

Three Option Subjects x 8 Periods each = 24 Periods

Core Curriculum + Additional Curriculum = 60 Periods



Option Choices

2024 there are no Option Block – free choice (almost) !

- **Option Subject 1 – Guided Choice**

French, German, History, Geography, Computer Science

- **Option Subject 2 - Priority Subject Choice**

Picked from any other subjects
(some limits e.g. Art/Textiles/3D)

- **Option Subject 3 – The Either Or Choice**

Picked from any other subjects
(some limits e.g. Art/Textiles/3D)



Option Choices

Name Joe Newcombe Tutor Group 9SW

Guided Option Choice French

Priority Option Subject Geography

Third Option Food Tech OR PE



Option Choices

Name Lucy Davenport Tutor Group 9JY

Guided Option Choice History

Priority Option Subject Drama

Third Option Textiles OR Sociology

We will try very hard to enable you to do the subjects that you pick

BUT ... it might not be possible



The Whole Curriculum

English Language

English Literature

Mathematics

Biology

Chemistry

Physics

Core PE

PSHCE

Option Subject 1

Option Subject 2

Option Subject 3



Alternative Pathways

We acknowledge that for a small number of students, the full curriculum is not academically appropriate.

Substitute one or more option subjects for:

- ASDAN
- Additional Literacy and/or Numeracy
- Additional EAL Support

If we feel your child would benefit from following an alternative curriculum pathway, Mr Slater (SENCO) will contact you.



Advice on Selecting Subjects

Do

- Select subjects which you enjoy and are good at
- Consider the balance of your subjects
- Match your skills to the assessment style of the course
- Consider future career aspirations
- Consider subjects which meet the criteria for achieving the EBacc
Core Curriculum + (History or Geography) + (French or German)

Research by the UCL Institute of Education shows that taking the Ebacc enhances prospects for entering further education or employment.



Advice on Selecting Subjects

Don't

- Pick subjects just because your friends are doing it – you might not end up in the same class!
- Pick subjects based on a particular member of staff
- Assume it will be the same as Yr9 especially for practical subjects – Speak to teachers and find out what the course entails.

Please think carefully.

It is very difficult to change your Option Subjects once we have designed the blocks, allocated pupils to classes and set up the timetable. Selecting subjects is also a commitment to complete the course and any assessments or examinations.



The Options Process ...

Key Dates - Options Selection

- **Opens - Friday 15th March 2024**
- **Closes – Friday 22nd March 2024**



The Options Process ...



The Options Process ...

Options Form - 2024

Form description

Email *

Valid email address

This form is collecting email addresses. [Change settings](#)

Surname (Pupil) *

Short-answer text

First Name (Pupil) *

Short-answer text



The Options Process ...

Guided Option *

- Computer Science
- French
- Geography
- German
- History



The Options Process ...

Priority and Either/Or Options

	Priority	Either	Or
Art	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Computer Science	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Creative iMedia	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Business Studies	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Drama	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Food Technology	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



The Options Process ...

Priority and Either/Or Options

	Priority	Either	Or
Art	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Computer Science	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Creative iMedia	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Business Studies	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Drama	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Food Technology	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
French	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Red Box
Warning !



The Options Process ...

Once the form is submitted you will receive an email confirmation indicating the subjects selected.

Please check your Junk/Spam folder !



FAQ's

What if my child changes their mind?

Before the deadline – Complete a new form, we will use the last one submitted

After the deadline – You (parent/carer) will need to email or write to Mr Littlewood.

What happens if a subject is oversubscribed?

- Priority given to pupils who submitted forms on time
- Academic ability will not be used as a criteria
- Potential use of other subjects will be discussed with individual pupils
- Consideration will be given to other option choices, class sizes, etc

What happens if my child's option choices don't fit?

- Last year this only applied to a very small group of pupils
- The option combinations will be designed based on maximising the number of pupils who can get their first choice of subjects.
- If your child's option choices don't fit, they will need to select other subjects.



SEND – Additional Support

Mr Slater (SENCO) is available tonight to discuss queries relating to

- additional support
- exam access arrangements
- subject choices
- alternative pathways

More information will be given regarding additional support during the **Welcome to GCSE Evening** in September.



Key Dates

Options Selection Form

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