

Dear Student,

You are about to start the most important stage of your education so far. At the end of Year 11, you will sit your GCSEs and these qualifications are the key to unlock so many of the amazing opportunities that will be available to you.

Whilst the “core” subjects remain unchanged you will now get to make some very important choices about which subjects you would like to continue studying.

The core subjects that you must take are:

English Language (Ebacc subject)

English Literature (Ebacc subject)

Mathematics (Ebacc subject)

Science (Dual) (Ebacc subject)

Spanish (Ebacc Subject)

PE (Non examination)

You will then be asked to choose from the following two Ebacc subjects:

History	Geography
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Then you will be given a free choice to pick two further option subjects from the blocks below as well as one reserve subjects from each block. Your preferred choice must be different in each block eg you cannot choose BTEC Sport in more than one option block. Additionally, IT and Computer Science cannot both be selected. Where too few students have opted for a subject, it may not be viable to run, therefore it is essential that a reserve is selected. This must be different to your first preference.

OPTION 1 (2 hours per week)	OPTION 2 (2 hours per week)
Animal Care Construction IT Dance Health and Social Care PE GCSE History Geography Sociology** Art and Design Psychology*	Computer Science (Ebacc subject)*** Drama Catering RE BTEC Sport Music Graphic Products Business Triple Science ****

Guidance

The new GCSEs are much harder with much course content now at A'level standard. Therefore, we are providing the following advice in regards to course appropriateness.

*Psychology – only students in sets 1-3 students should opt.

**Sociology – only students in sets 1-3 English should opt.

*** Computer Science – only students in sets 1-2 Maths should opt.

**** Triple Science – only students who have been informed that this course is suitable for them by their Science teacher should opt.

It is important that you choose a range of subjects that will match your interests and abilities and if you have thought about what you would like to do after your GCSEs, your choices are suited to that. Many universities will want to see a range of subjects studied, and this includes the “English Baccalaureate” (or Ebacc) subjects. All subjects will be studied for 3 years

We are here to help. Use the options booklet as a basis for discussion with your Form Tutor, Subject Teachers and your parents. Individual subject teachers will also talk to you about their subjects in lesson time and will be available at Year 8 into 9 Options Evening. On the school website under the careers section there are a number of websites that can help with decision making.

Your option form is accessible on ParentMail. You can provisionally complete this ready for discussion at the options meeting where your option choices will be reviewed and confirmed to ensure you have a suitable balance, taking into account your interests, ability, current progress and attitude towards the subject.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Ms Critchley or Ms Jennings at school.

Yours Sincerely

D.Jennings

Deputy Headteacher