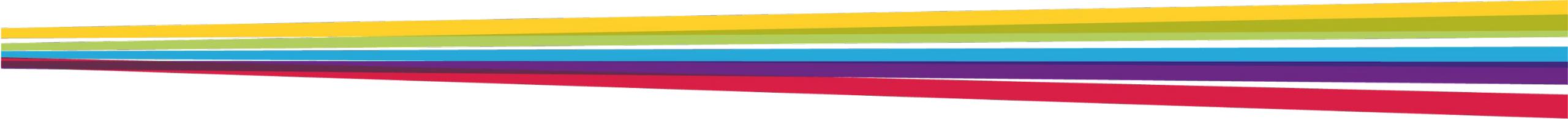


Year 9 Options

January 2026

***To set no limits on what we
can achieve***



Types of qualifications



- **GCSEs** – most of our qualifications are GCSE subjects
- **Level 2 BTECs** – BTECs are more specialist, work-related qualifications available in different sectors
- **Level 2 Cambridge Nationals** – these are similar to BTECs and have a strong vocational element

Legacy GCSE Grades	New GCSE Grades (from 2017)	Vocational Qualifications	Level Equivalent
A*	9	L2 Distinction* (8.5)	Level 2
	8		
	7		
B	6	L2 Merit (5.5)	Level 2
	5		
	4		
C	3	L1 Distinction (3)	Level 1
	2		
	1		
U	U	Not Yet Achieved (NYA)	



Triple Science



Some students will be invited to study Triple Science based on your assessment levels.

This will lead to three separate GCSEs being awarded, in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Students offered this opportunity do not have to choose the Triple Science route.

Double Science



The Trilogy Science (Double Award) is the most suitable course for the majority of students.

Studying Trilogy does not preclude any future A-Levels in Science subjects.

This is equivalent to two GCSEs and you will be awarded a double grade.

Vocational Studies



Some students will be invited to study Vocational Studies.

This is an ASDAN Personal Development programme and leads to a national recognised Level 1 qualification that assesses personal qualities, abilities, achievements and work related skills.

Prohibited Combinations



There are some combinations of subjects that you cannot choose, either because these are the same qualification or because they are taught at the same time as one another.

- Art and Textiles
- PE and Sports Science

Core Curriculum



CORE CURRICULUM: Compulsory subjects

All students will study these subjects

English Language

English Literature

Mathematics

Science

PHRE

Physical Education (Core PE)

CORE CURRICULUM: Optional subjects

You must choose two of these subjects

Computer Science

Ethics and Philosophy: Full Course

French

Geography

History

Spanish

Vocational Studies / Triple Science*

** by invitation only*

Personalised Curriculum



- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Art | Health & Social Care |
| Business Studies | History |
| Computer Science | ICT - Creative iMedia |
| Dance | Music |
| Design & Technology | Music Technology |
| Drama | Physical Education |
| Ethics & Philosophy | Spanish |
| Food & Nutrition | Sport Science |
| French | Textiles |
| Geography | Triple Science* |
| | Vocational Studies* |

13th January – Curriculum to Careers Day / Year 9 Options Assembly



Mid-January – Year 9 Reports published



29th January – Year 9 Options Evening (including Parents' evening)



30th January – Options form available by email



9th February – Deadline for Options Choices

Reserve Choice



You will be asked to pick a reserve choice in **each section**.

There are occasionally problems with your chosen options, in which case, you will be contacted as soon as possible to discuss alternatives.

KINDNESS

CURIOSITY

DETERMINATION

Making your choices



It is important that you choose a range of subjects that will match your **interests** and **abilities** and are suited to what you hope to do in the **future**.

When making your choices you will need to consider whether they are giving you **as many options as possible** for the future.

When you have made your choices, they will be reviewed to ensure that you have a **suitable balance**.

Choosing a subject



Good reasons

- You're good at it
- You think you will enjoy it
- It fits your career ideas and plans
- It goes well with your other choices
- You're interested in the knowledge and skills it develops
- It will give you plenty of choice in the future

Flawed reasons

- Your friends are doing it
- People say it is easy / easier than x subject
- Someone else thinks it is a good idea
- You like the teacher you have now
- You didn't have time to research your options properly

Advice from students ...



Don't feel pressured
to pick subjects by
your friends ... be
your own person

Take subjects you
will still enjoy
studying in 2 years

Ask teachers and
older students for
advice about the
subject

Find out if a subject
is all exams or has
coursework - think
about balance

Look at what you
will learn and think
about whether it will
interest you