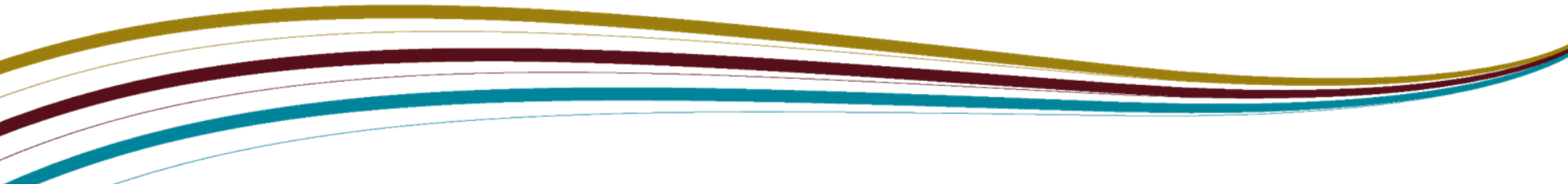


Year 9 Options Choices

January 2025



Changing face of the world of work!

- Students are preparing for future careers using yet-to-be-invented technologies to solve unknown problems.
- The UK job market has moved away from lifelong careers, with workers changing roles six times on average, and nearly half retraining after leaving an unsuitable field.





Changing face of education

- Grading for GCSE - 9 to 1
- Grade 4 considered a “Standard Pass”
- Grade 5 is considered a “Strong Pass”
- All exams will be linear – no modules, no early entry, little if any coursework

Old grades	Numerical grades
A*	9
A	8
B	7
C	6 5 Strong Pass 4 Standard Pass
D	3
E	2
F	1
G	1
U	U

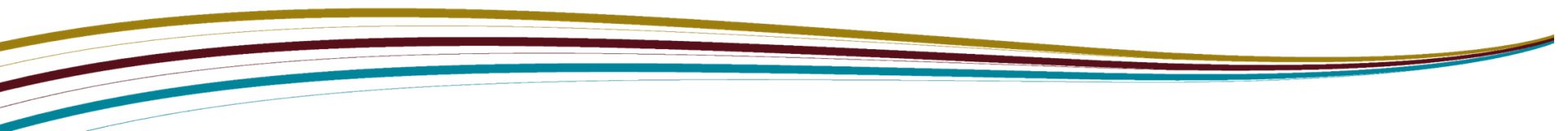
Every
grade
counts!

Core Subjects

- English Language and Literature
- Mathematics
- Combined Science (or Separate Sciences)
- Personal Development (PSHCE)
- Physical Education
- Enrichment

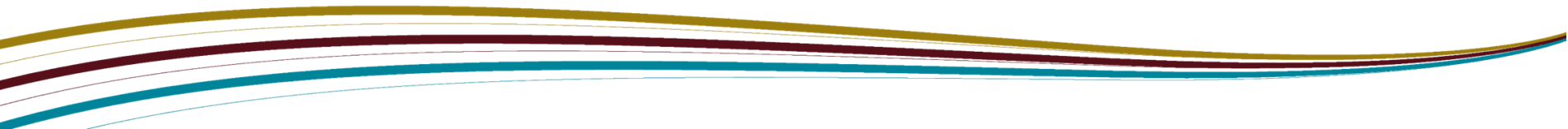
Options Subjects

- Three other subjects



Pathways

- **Blue** – suggest study full EBacc (humanities and a language option)
- **Green** – study at least one EBacc subject (Geography, History, Computing, French, German, Spanish)
- **Purple** – foundation learning pathway



Pathways – example

Core

English Language
English Literature
Maths
Combined Science /
Separate Science

One choice

History
Geography

One choice

French
German
Spanish

One choice

All other
subjects

Core

English Language
English Literature
Maths
Combined Science /
Separate Science

One choice

History
Geography
French
Spanish
German
Computer
Science

One choice

All other
subjects

One choice

All other
subjects


English Baccalaureate

The English Baccalaureate is not a qualification itself, but a particular group of GCSE subjects that are usually looked on favourably by universities and recognises breadth of study. Universities tend to consider the EBacc to be an indication of a broad and balanced curriculum.

You don't need to have studied all of these to go to university, but having your GCSE mix steered towards EBacc subjects will help keep your options open:

- English *
- Maths *
- Two sciences (including computer science)
- History or geography *
- a modern or ancient foreign language *

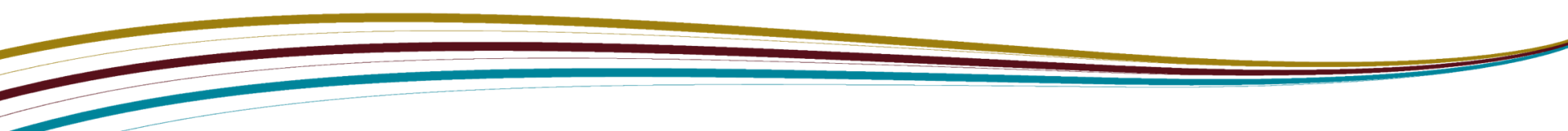
* **Facilitating subjects** are the **subjects** most commonly required/preferred by universities to get on to a range of degree courses. They help you keep your options open when choosing a degree, and many of the top universities will ask you to have at least one A-level in a **facilitating subject** when you apply.



It is important to pick a variety of subjects, try to pick subjects from different subject areas. This shows colleges, sixth forms, employers that you have a broad range of skills and knowledge.

Humanities	Performing arts	Social sciences	Languages
<p>History Geography</p>	<p>Art / photography Dance Drama Film studies Music</p>	<p>Sociology Psychology</p>	<p>Spanish French German</p>

PE	DT	Computing / Business	Other
<p>GCSE PE Sports Studies</p>	<p>DT - graphics DT – timbers DT – Textiles Food & nutrition Engineering</p>	<p>Computing Creative iMedia Business studies</p>	<p>Media Studies Child Dev.</p>



Choosing your options - Dos and Don'ts

Do....

Make sure you have up to date information

Talk to your family

Talk to subject teachers

Choose subjects you will enjoy

Consider your future

Don't.....

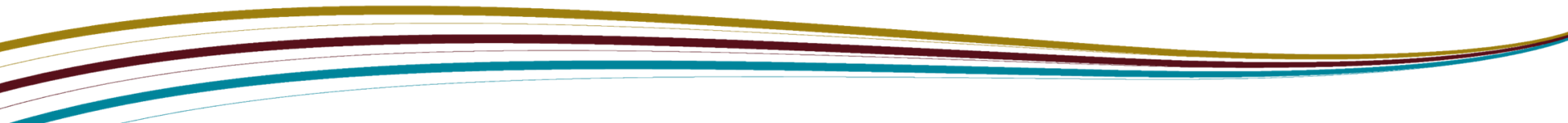
Choose options because your friends are doing them...

Choose options based on teachers

Think certain subjects are just for boys or girls

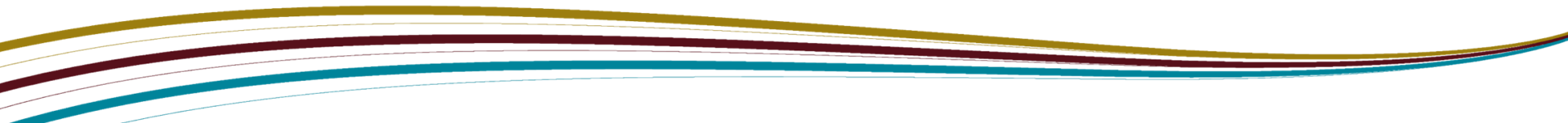
Think any subject will be easy

Limit yourself



What happens next...

- You do not have to choose your options tonight.
- Find out as much you can, tonight and over the next few weeks, prior to options choices form.
- Careers support is available should you wish to discuss future careers.
- Key information is all available on the website.



Key dates...

- **22nd January** – Options Evening
 - **5th February** – Parents' Evening
 - **7th February** – Options Choices Form Released
 - **Edval choices** – three preferred choices plus three reserves
 - **21st February** – Submission Deadline for Options Forms
 - End of June/early July – confirmed options sent to students emails.
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