



# Year 9 Choices Programme 2018 - 2020

EXCELLENCE

EQUITY

ENGAGEMENT

ENTERPRISE



Year 9 Options Information Evening  
Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2018

# Your child has received:

- ▶ **A letter** about the Choices Event Programme.
- ▶ **An appointment sheet for Parents' Evening.**
- ▶ **A Course Selection Handbook.** This will have all the information about the courses we offer.

# Choices Event Programme

EVENT	DATE
Programme Launched (assembly)	Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2018
Distribution of Course Selection Handbook and parental letter	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2018
GCSE Options Information Evening	Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> January 2018
'Choices Selection 2018-2020' forms	Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> January 2018
Choices Sessions within the department	Week commencing Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> January 2018
Year 9 Parents' Evening	Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> January 2018
Choices Selection Forms 2018-2020 returns	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> January 2018
Individual Pupil Interviews	Week commencing Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January 2018

Year 9 Options Information Evening  
Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2018

# What Will Your Timetable Look Like in Year 10 and 11?

**Your timetable will consist of:**

- ▶ 16 core lessons (no choice)
- ▶ 9 foundation lessons (choice)

## What are the Core Subjects?

These are the subjects you must do. They include:

- ▶ English
- ▶ Maths
- ▶ Science
- ▶ ICT
  
- ▶ PE
- ▶ PSHCRE

# What are the Foundation Subjects?

These are the subjects that you choose to do. You must choose three subjects to study. The choices include:

- ▶ Art & Design
- ▶ **Business Studies**
- ▶ **Dance**
- ▶ Drama
- ▶ **Engineering**
- ▶ Geography
- ▶ **Graphic Design**
- ▶ Food Preparation and Nutrition
- ▶ History
- ▶ **Media Studies**
- ▶ Music
- ▶ **Photography**
- ▶ Physical Education
- ▶ Product Design
- ▶ Religious Studies
- ▶ Spanish
- ▶ Italian
- ▶ **Textile Design**
- ▶ Triple Science

All subjects are listed in the booklet.

## Before Choosing Your Three Foundation Subjects

- ▶ Read all the information in the booklet.
- ▶ Listen to the course information sessions from the teachers.
- ▶ Listen to the Positive Steps Advisor.
- ▶ Talk to your Form Tutor and parents/carers.

# When Choosing Your Three Subjects to Study:

## ▶ DO

- ✓ Consider studying a broad range of subjects.
- ✓ Consider subjects that you have **enjoyed** in KS3.
- ✓ Consider which subjects you are **successful** at.
- ✓ If you already have clear ideas about your career/ future take this into account – **ask for advice**.

## ▶ DON'T

- x Pick subjects to be with your friends.
- x Pick or not pick subjects because of the teacher.
- x Pick subjects because you think they are easy options – **they aren't**.





## Restrictions

- ▶ You cannot study a combination of Art & Design, Graphic Design, Photography and Textiles.
- ▶ Ideally, you should be in science set 1 and 2, if you wish to study Triple Science.
- ▶ **We do try to meet all options requests – however, this is not always possible. Your child will be informed of this if it occurs.**

# Using Your Child's Year 9 Report: Progress


Each teacher has selected a colour for your child which shows the current progress they are making in each subject. This measure is based on your child's attainment at primary school and the progress made so far, each year.

 On current performance your child is likely to **exceed** their GCSE target grade.

 On current performance your child is likely to **achieve** their GCSE target grade.

 Your child **may reach** their GCSE target grade. However working in this way may not be sufficient to achieve this target.

 Your child is **unlikely** to achieve their GCSE target grade.



# Using Your Child's Year 9 Report : Attitude to Learning

Your child's attitude to their learning will define how well they do in their GCSEs

We assess each pupil's attitude to learning for both classwork & homework in one of four categories:

**INDEPENDENT LEARNER**

**ENGAGED LEARNER**

**COASTING LEARNER**

**CONCERN**



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	What does this type of learner do in lessons?	How does this type of learner approach homework and revision?
<p><b>Independent Learner</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Highly motivated and disciplined: can focus on learning effectively for extended periods of time.</li> <li>• Resilient: never gives up when learning is difficult and enjoys challenging learning.</li> <li>• Independent: needs little instruction or close supervision from the teacher.</li> <li>• High levels of initiative and curiosity: wants to learn more and undertakes wider reading and research.</li> <li>• Work is always proof read and edited before it is submitted.</li> <li>• Areas for improvement identified by the teacher are thoroughly acted upon.</li> <li>• Clear enthusiasm for learning.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Homework represents the very best that a pupil can do and often demonstrates extension of the task; it is always proof read.</li> <li>• Revision is thorough, planned and effective.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Engaged Learner</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work is completed with care and pride, and is proof read and edited before it is submitted. It represents a pupil's 'best work'.</li> <li>• Works hard in lessons and is 'on task'.</li> <li>• Makes a positive contribution to group and class discussions.</li> <li>• Asks intelligent questions: actively reads a variety of texts suggested by the teacher.</li> <li>• Clearly possesses a positive attitude towards learning with evident pride in their work.</li> <li>• Areas for improvement identified by the teacher are acted upon.</li> <li>• Enthusiastic and curious.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Homework represents the pupil's 'best work' and is handed in on time.</li> <li>• Homework is proof read before it is submitted.</li> <li>• Revision is undertaken and learning is evident.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Coasting Learner</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work is completed, but it is not consistently the pupil's 'best work'.</li> <li>• Usually 'on task'. Effort may be variable from reasonable to good.</li> <li>• May 'coast' in groups and allow others to do the work.</li> <li>• Rarely asks questions: low levels of curiosity and initiative.</li> <li>• Areas for improvement identified by the teacher are usually acted upon, but may lack depth or detail.</li> <li>• Behaviour is compliant.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Homework is usually completed, but often does not represent the pupil's 'best work'. It may be rushed or incomplete.</li> <li>• Revision does not have a major impact on learning.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Concern</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work is often incomplete.</li> <li>• Effort is poor. Likely to be 'off task' unless closely supervised.</li> <li>• Makes no or negative contribution to group and class work.</li> <li>• Never asks questions / asks irrelevant questions.</li> <li>• Behaviour is likely to be poor.</li> <li>• Areas for improvement identified by the teacher are rarely acted upon.</li> <li>• Easily distracted and may distract others from learning.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Homework is often not completed or completed with the minimum amount of effort.</li> <li>• Never or rarely revises.</li> </ul>

# Using Your Child's Year 9 Report : Attitude to Learning

If your child's report states that their attitude to learning in a prospective GCSE subject is either:

**INDEPENDENT LEARNER** or  
**ENGAGED LEARNER**

It indicates that this would be a good of choice.

# Using Your Child's Year 9 Report : Attitude to Learning

If your child's report states that their attitude to learning in a prospective GCSE subject is a:

## CONCERN

It is worth asking:

**'Is this a good choice? Why will your attitude to learning be better next year?'**

## Other Things to Consider.... Broad and Balanced

Every pupil should follow a broad and balanced curriculum. We would anticipate that in the vast majority of cases this should include at least one of the following subjects

- ▶ Triple Science
- ▶ History
- ▶ Geography
- ▶ Spanish
- ▶ Italian

## Other Things to Consider.... The Facilitating Subjects

- ▶ The Government and leading universities have identified a number of “facilitating” subjects.
- ▶ These are English Language, Mathematics, Science, Humanities subjects (Geography or History) and Modern Foreign Languages (Spanish or Italian).
- ▶ English, Mathematics and Science are core subjects and must be studied.
- ▶ Humanities and MFL are optional.



## Other Things to Consider.... How GCSEs are Changing

- ▶ Linear courses with terminal exams – most pupils will do all their exams at the end of Year 11.
- ▶ No re-sits.
- ▶ In Summer 2020 grading will be 1-9 rather, than A\* - G
- ▶ Grade 5 is a strong pass.
- ▶ Grade 4 is a standard pass.

## Other Things to Consider.... Raising the Participation Age

- ▶ Raising of participation age – all pupils to remain in education or training until 18.
- ▶ What does it really mean?
- ▶ It does NOT mean they have to stay at school.
- ▶ They have other choices:
  - Full time education (school or college)
  - Work Based Learning (apprenticeship)
  - Part-time education/training if employed, self-employed or volunteering for 20+ hours
- ▶ It is expected that in summer 2020 pupils must achieve a grade 4 in English and Mathematics or they will be required to study after 16.

## Next Steps

- ▶ **Read the choices Event Programme letter.** Your child was given this yesterday.
- ▶ **Encourage your child to make appointments for the Year 9 Parents' Evening.** Pupils should be making appointments with the Core subject teachers and those Foundation subjects they are considering taking.
- ▶ **Read the Course Selection Handbook with your child.** This will have all the information about the courses we offer.

**Tomorrow** your child's Form Tutor will distribute and explain how to fill in the **Choices Selection 2018 – 2020 Form.**

# DEADLINE

'Choices Selection  
2018-2020' forms  
19<sup>th</sup> January 2018



## GCSE Choices Selection 2018-2020

# DEADLINE

'Choices Selection  
2018-2020' forms  
19<sup>th</sup> January 2018

Name:	Tutor Group:
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The following details will already be filled in:

- Name & Tutor Group.

First Choice	:
Second Choice	:
Third Choice	:
Fourth Choice (reserve)	:

If you have a clear idea about your future career, please indicate below:

- Attendance.

Current Attendance	:
Signed by pupil	:
Signed by parent/carer	:
Date	:
Please return to your child's Form Tutor no later than Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> January 2018.	

You will need to fill in:

- The foundation subjects you wish to do (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> choices).
- A reserve choice (4<sup>th</sup> choice).
- What you would like to do as a career in the future.
- You and your parents/carers must sign the form.