

# Key Stage Four Options

*Options Evening Presentation  
January 2021*



# Key Dates

- **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020:** Options Launch
- **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2021:** Options booklet shared
- **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> January:** (Virtual) Options Evening
- **From 1<sup>st</sup> February:** Students meet with SLT
- **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> February:** Year 9 Parents' Evening
- **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March:** Deadline for completing options forms
- **April onwards:** Confirmation of courses

*Ongoing: Do not be afraid to ask questions!*



# September 2021 Offer

English GCSE

Science GCSE

Mathematics GCSE

Physical Education CORE

- Art & Design: Fine Art GCSE
- Computer Science GCSE
- Dance GCSE
- DT: Food Preparation & Nutrition GCSE
- DT: Art & Design: Textiles GCSE
- DT: Graphic Products GCSE
- DT: Resistant Materials GCSE
- Drama GCSE
- Enterprise BTEC Technical Award
- French GCSE
- Geography GCSE
- German GCSE
- Health & Social Care Certificate
- History GCSE
- Music GCSE
- Physical Education GCSE
- Religious Studies GCSE
- Skills for Life ASDAN (double option)
- Sport BTEC

# Option subjects

- 12 lessons each week
- GCSEs:
  - Linear, with terminal exams at the end
  - Little, if any, coursework or NEA work
  - Academic
  - 3 lessons per week
- Vocational:
  - Equivalent to GCSEs
  - More coursework with a small exam element
  - Vocational – more related to the workplace
  - Practical, transferrable skills
  - 3 lessons per week
- ASDAN:
  - Variety of practical activities and life skills
  - 'Earth Trust' element is equivalent to GCSE
  - 6 lessons per week



# Combinations of Option Subjects

GCSE	GCSE	GCSE	GCSE
BTEC	Tech Award	GCSE	GCSE
GCSE	GCSE	GCSE	BTEC
Skills for Life		BTEC	Tech Award

# The English Baccalaureate

- To get the 'Ebacc', you need grade 4 (or better) in the following subjects:
  - English
  - Maths
  - Science (x2)
  - **Humanities** (History or Geography)
  - **Language** (French or German)
- The 'Ebacc' is not a separate qualification, just the name for a group of qualifications.
- It represents the ability to be successful in a range of 'traditional' skills.



# Things to Consider

- What is the difference between GCSE, BTEC & Technical Award qualifications?
- What is the Ebacc?
- What are 9-1 grades?
- Which subjects do I HAVE to take? (Core)
- How many option subjects can I take?
- How many lessons do I get in each option subject?
- Do I have to do exams, coursework or both?
- When do I have to decide by?
- Who do I talk to about my options?
- How do I find out about 'new' subjects?
- Should I take something because I like my current teacher?
- Should I take something because my friends are taking it?
- What should I take into account to make a decision about my options?

## Two Key Questions

What do you enjoy?

What will you do best in?

# Options Evening Activities

- Read the introduction from Mr Marston and the 'Guide to Options' pages.
- Familiarise yourself with the Options Subject Booklet
- Watch the Staff Presentations, which have links on each booklet (*It's best to open in Chrome, Firefox or Safari*)
- Start discussing the choices with you son / daughter and contact us at school for details
- Prepare questions for Parents' Evening and book in for appointments
- Complete the 'Options Form' by Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March





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