

Y10 Options 2017

When are GCSE subjects chosen?

Over the next few weeks and months your child will be making important decisions about which optional subjects to study in Years 11 and 12 for GCSE / Level 2.

They will be given a lot of information, advice and guidance to help them make this decision in the form of Careers classes, a Parent and Student Information Afternoon, the Parents Interviews and the Year 10 GCSE Options Booklet 2017/2018, which will be issued during the Information Afternoon. The options booklet will also give a Personalised Option Pathway to assist in making final choices. You can also be pro-active and get information, advice and guidance from the school website and ask your child to speak to their subject teachers.

Important Dates for your diary: (please note it is expected that all Y10 students and their parents/guardians will attend all sessions).

Options Information Session: Wednesday 22nd February 1.15pm – 1.45pm

Options Afternoon (Departments): Wednesday 22nd February 1.45pm – 3.15pm

Parent Interviews and Options: Wednesday 1st March 2.45pm – 5.00pm
(Parents/Guardian's will receive their appointment times with a senior member of staff at the information day)

Below you will see a list of potential GCSE / Level 2 options. Please discuss the choices with your child. It's important to choose subjects that they find enjoyable and can achieve success in, but also to keep a good balance of options.

Compulsory subjects

Some subjects are **compulsory** at GCSE level. These are:

- GCSE English Language
- GCSE Mathematics
- GCSE Single Science or Horticulture (designated choice)
- GCSE Information Technology

Optional subjects

There are four groups of subjects, called '**entitlement areas**'. These are:

- Arts (including art and design, music, drama, moving image art, media studies, English literature. Please note it is possible to study either MIA or Media, not both)
- Sciences & Design and Technology (including motor vehicle studies, health & social care, home economics, child development, further maths, catering)
- Humanities (history, geography, learning for life & work, religious education, travel & tourism)
- Modern Foreign Languages (French)

It is not essential for your child to choose one subject from each area, but remember that studying a range of subjects at this stage is useful so that pupils have a wider base of options for later study and career choices.

Further information about these subjects can be found in the Y10 options section of the school website.

In order that we try to create option blocks that match student aspirations, please can you select 4 subjects on the attached sheet numbered 1 – 4 in order of preference with an R for a reserve. Please note that we will endeavour to match student requests as much as possible but it is a 'best fit' process so you may not get all the options that you have asked for.

The GCSE / Level 2 choices that are available for optional study for the academic years 2017 – 2019 are as follows:

GCSE Art & Design	GCSE Media Studies (not with MIA)
GCSE Business Studies	GCSE Motor Vehicle Studies
GCSE Child Development	GCSE Moving Image Art (not with Media)
GCSE Double Science*	GCSE Music
GCSE Drama	GCSE Physical Education
GCSE English Literature^	GCSE Religious Education
GCSE French	GCSE Technology & Design
GCSE Further Mathematics ^u	BTEC Health & Social Care
GCSE Geography	BTEC Sport Studies
GCSE History	BTEC Travel & Tourism
GCSE Learning for Life and Work	Occupational Studies Contemporary Cuisine [∞]

Notes:

*In order to be considered for the GCSE Double Science course, students should be averaging 70% in their Y10 Science assessments. Y9 Science assessments may also be used in the event of the course being over subscribed

^In order to be considered for GCSE English Literature, students should be averaging 70% in their Y10 English assessments. Y9 English assessments may also be used in the event of the course being over-subscribed. Students who choose to study English Literature will study this alongside their GCSE English Language and will be able to select an additional GCSE from the list above.

^uIn order to be considered for GCSE Further Mathematics, students should be averaging 70% in their Y10 Mathematics assessments. Y9 Mathematics assessments may also be used in the event of the course being oversubscribed

∞Occupational Studies courses are usually only offered to those students who in the careful consideration of the College would benefit from this type of course. Due to the heavy practical content of these courses, student numbers are normally small.

Please note that courses will run only if sufficient numbers of students apply for that course to be viable. In addition, if any course is over-subscribed, student assessment attainment, benchmarking data and student's skills and aptitudes in that subject will be taken into consideration when classes are finalised.