

21st January 2025

Dear Parent and Carers of Year 8 students,

Key Stage 4 Option Subjects

In September 2025, your child will start their new GCSE courses which they will see through until their public exams at the end of year 11. We offer a wide range of courses, both academic and vocational, ensuring that students can build on the breadth of our curriculum offer at Key Stage 3. This is an extremely important stage in school life, and we will provide advice and guidance throughout the process to make sure that students choose subjects which enable them to progress to Sixth Form and beyond.

All students will study core subjects throughout the Key Stage 4 curriculum. These are:

- Mathematics GCSE
- English Language GCSE
- English Literature GCSE
- Combined Science 2 GCSEs
- Personal Development
- Physical Education

Alongside the above core curriculum, students will choose an additional four subjects from those listed below:

Computer Science French Geography History Spanish <i>It is compulsory to choose at least one of the above subjects and students may choose more than one.</i>	GCSE Art* GCSE Art and Design: Textiles* GCSE Business Studies GCSE Citizenship Level 2 Creative iMedia GCSE Design and Technology: Graphics* GCSE Design and Technology: Product Design* GCSE Drama GCSE Film Studies Level 2 Hospitality and Catering GCSE Music GCSE Photography GCSE Physical Education GCSE Religious Studies GCSE Triple Science *Students may not choose: 1. Art <i>and</i> Art and Design: Textiles 2. Design and Technology: Graphics <i>and</i> Design and Technology: Product Design
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The key dates are summarised below:

Date	Focus
Weeks beginning 10 th February and 24 th February	Heads of Subject present at Year 8 assemblies
Week beginning 3 rd February	1:1 options and post-16 guidance meeting for all students
Week beginning 24 th February	Subject information and guidance published on SNS website
Wednesday 26 th February	Year 8 options evening
Wednesday 5 th March	Year 8 parents' evening
Thursday 6 th March	Link to online options form sent to parents and carers
Friday 21 st March	Deadline for completion and submission of online options form

A guidance booklet and subject information will be published via the school website. You can also find Key Stage 4 curriculum information [here](#). The options information evening, taking place in school on Wednesday 26th February from 5:00pm to 6:30pm, will provide an opportunity for you to meet representatives from each of our options subjects. You will be emailed a link to book a place.

The process has been designed to ensure that students have access to a wide range of subject combinations. We always aim to give first choices but cannot guarantee this.

We look forward to seeing you at both our options evening and parents' evenings.

Yours faithfully,

Lucy Bryant

Deputy Headteacher responsible for curriculum

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