

# KS4 Options Evening 

February 2024

## Welcome



## Options

- Exciting opportunity to make decisions about your education
- Able to focus your choices towards a potential career or your interests
- Range of different courses with different content - sure to find something you will enjoy



## The Process

| Week beginning 5 February | Extended Assembly for Year 9 students <br> Option Booklets issued <br> Information Evening for Parents in Hall at 6pm <br> MS Form sent for students to choose taster <br> lessons for new subjects <br> GCSE taster lessons begin within timetable |
| :--- | :--- |
| Week beginning 12 February | Half term holiday |
| Week beginning 19 February | Taster lessons for new subjects, taster lessons <br> within the timetable continue. <br> Each student meets with Miss Johnstone, Mr <br> Hopkins, Mr Thomas or Ms Landeg to discuss <br> choices and access additional support if <br> needed. |
| Week beginning 26 February | Options form sent electronically to parents by <br> email, completion deadline Monday 4 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ March |

## The Key Stage 4 Curriculum

## Compulsory

- English (Language and Literature)
- Maths
- Science (Separate and Combined)
- Games and PSHE

Four Option Subjects


## Selection

- Four option subjects in total
- First option must be a
facilitating subject
- Options 2-4 are a free choice
- Reserve choice
- Completed on an MS Form link



## The Students

Now you'll hear about their options and the process that they went through.

## The Facilitating Subject

For your first choice a facilitating subject

Language - French, Spanish, Chinese, Japanese

Humanity - Geography, History

Computer Science


## The Facilitating Subject

Option 1 - Facilitating Subject - Choose One Subject
If you are choosing a language, do so here.
For 2 languages choose your second language here and French in one of the later options. *ChineseComputer Science GCSEFrenchGeographyHistoryJapaneseSpanish

e)



## Remaining 3 Choices

Fine Art
Graphic Art
Art Craft Design

DT Resistant Materials
DT CAD CAM Graphics
DT Textiles

Food Technology

RE
PE
Drama
Music

Sociology
Business

Health \& Social Care OCR Health \& Fitness VCERT
ASDAN - Personal Effectiveness
IT OCR
music
Any of the facilitating subjects; French, Spanish, Geography, History and Computer Sci

## The Ebacc

We encourage you to consider the English Baccalaureate (Ebacc), a pathway identified by Russell Group universities.

These subjects are English, Maths, Science, a Language (French, Spanish, Chinese or Japanese) and a Humanities subject (either Geography or History).

Many universities and employers value these subjects.


## Choice 2-4

Option 2 - Choose One Subject *Art - Fine ArtArt - Graphic ArtArt - Art, Craft \& DesignBusiness - GCSEBusiness - Enterprise BTECComputer Science GCSEComputing - Cambridge NationalDT - GraphicsDT - Resistant MaterialsDT - TextilesDramaFood \& Nutrition

## The Option Blocks

- Using student choices we make the option blocks
- There are 4 option blocks (K, L, N, P)
- The option blocks are put together to meet as many student combinations as possible
- Last year $94 \%$ of student combinations were met in this way
- However, with 4 option blocks there are usually some clashes where a combination will not work
- For example, in this year's Year 10 Chinese and RE are in Option K, this means that these subjects cannot both be taken
- In this situation we use the reserve choice



## The Option Blocks

| Option K | Option L | Option N | Business Studies |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Business Studies | Art (Fine Art) | Art (Fine Art) | Food Tech |
| Chinese | Business Studies | Computer Sci | Geography |
| Drama | Computer Sci | COPE | Graphic Art |
| Geography | Drama | Food Tech | Health \& Fitness VCERT |
| DT Graphic Products | Food Tech | Geography | History |
| History | French | History | Health \& Social Care |
| IT OCR National | Geography | DT Res Mat | Music |
| Japanese | Graphic Art | Sociology | PE |
| RE | DT Res Mat | Spanish | Sociology |
| DT Res Mat | Sociology |  | Textiles |
| Sociology |  |  |  |

Current Year 10

Will be constructed using the choices made by Year 9


## Subjects not in KS3

- ASDAN - Personal Effectiveness
- Business
- Health \& Social Care
- Sociology



## Sociology

## What is Sociology?

It is the study of people and groups in society

Mr Poole


## Key Questions Sociologists ask:

Why do people commit crime?
Why do some people underachieve in schools?
Does the mass media influence its audience?
Do we live in a meritocratic society?


## Business Studies

The study of how businesses operate and function.

Mr Edwards (R2)


## ASDAN - Personal Effectiveness

| Developing myself and my <br> performance | Working with others | Problem Solving |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Health and wellbeing | Citizenship and community | Science and technology |
| International links | Sport and Leisure | Independent living |
| Digital communications | The Environment | Expressive arts |
| Beliefs and values | Enterprise | Vocational preparation |
|  | Beliefs and values |  |

A supported course, which is slightly different to GCSE, more independent in a small class.

## Ms Rolleston



Topic areas students have chosen to investigate and develop for their projects

- An argument for and against euthanasia
- Persecution of groups of people in the world
- Tolerance; is there balance, diversity and inclusion in the Community

- Running a primary sports competition
- Design a programme of dance to deliver to others
- Running an event for Forest Green Rovers
- Take part in sport as a member of a team



# Health \& Social Care 

OCR National Course - Miss Bell

Human Lifespan Development Health and Social Care Services and Values
Health and Wellbeing
60\% Coursework
40\% Exam


## Coursework /Exams

Some subjects have coursework to complete that goes towards the final grade.

DT (RM, Graphics, Textiles) and Food
Art
Vocational options (IT OCR, H\&SC, PE VCERT)
Music
Drama


## Pathways - for students with a career in mind

STEM pathway - DT and Computer Science options that can complement an interest in Maths and Science

- Student M - DT RM, Computer Science, Spanish and Geography

Design pathway

- Student P - DT Graphic Products, Fine Art, History and PE


## Pathways - for students with a career in mind

Linguist pathway

- Student E - French, Chinese, History and Sociology

Performing Arts

- Student A - Music, Drama, Art and a facilitating subject


## Other Information

- Science is a different process dependent on assessment result - begins after this options process
- There will be circumstances in which we need to withdraw an option. For example, if only a small number of students choose a subject.
- We will look carefully at combinations and balance across the subjects chosen.
- Only one Art, only one DT
- PE or PE VCERT
- Computer Science or IT OCR



## Coursework /Exams

- The key benefit of coursework is by February of Year 11 it is complete and then you have a percentage of the final grade already sorted.
- However, do not consider it an easy option. There is a significant time commitment and volume of work needed.
- Studying 2+ coursework subjects can become a big workload.



## Support

- Parents and Families
- Mr Thomas \& Ms Johnstone
- Subject teachers and tutors
- Taster lessons
- Future pathways and careers (including sixth form and apprenticeship talk)
- GCSE and A Level students
- Options Booklet
- Research



## Get the decision as right as possible

- Take time
- Take the process seriously
- Changes are possible later but only within the blocks set up



## To conclude

You'll now receive your booklet, spend the final part of the lesson looking through it and considering the different options.


