



# Year 9 Options Evening

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Mrs Dunnett – Deputy Headteacher

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# Key Stage 4 Timetable

## Core Curriculum:

Examined	Non-Examined
GCSE English Language ( <b>Ebacc</b> ) GCSE English Literature ( <b>Ebacc</b> ) GCSE Mathematics ( <b>Ebacc</b> ) GCSE Combined Science* ( <b>Ebacc</b> )	Games Personal Development Curriculum (PDC)

## Options:

Option A	Option B
One subject selected from Option A	Three subjects selected from Option B





# Key Stage 4 Timetable

## Option A Subjects:

GCSE Geography (EBacc)

GCSE History (EBacc)

## Option B Subjects:

French (EBacc)

Spanish (EBacc)

Triple Science (EBacc)

Art and Design\*  
 Business Studies  
 Citizenship  
 Computer Science (EBacc)  
 Creative iMedia  
 Dance  
 Drama  
 Food Preparation and Nutrition

Health and Social Care  
 Music  
 Photography  
 Psychology  
 Religious Studies  
 Sport  
 Textiles\*

**\* Restricted combination**

You will also be asked to choose two reserve subjects which must be different to those chosen in your main four subjects.





# English Baccalaureate

## Core Curriculum:

GCSE English Language  
GCSE English Literature  
GCSE Mathematics  
GCSE Combined Science\*

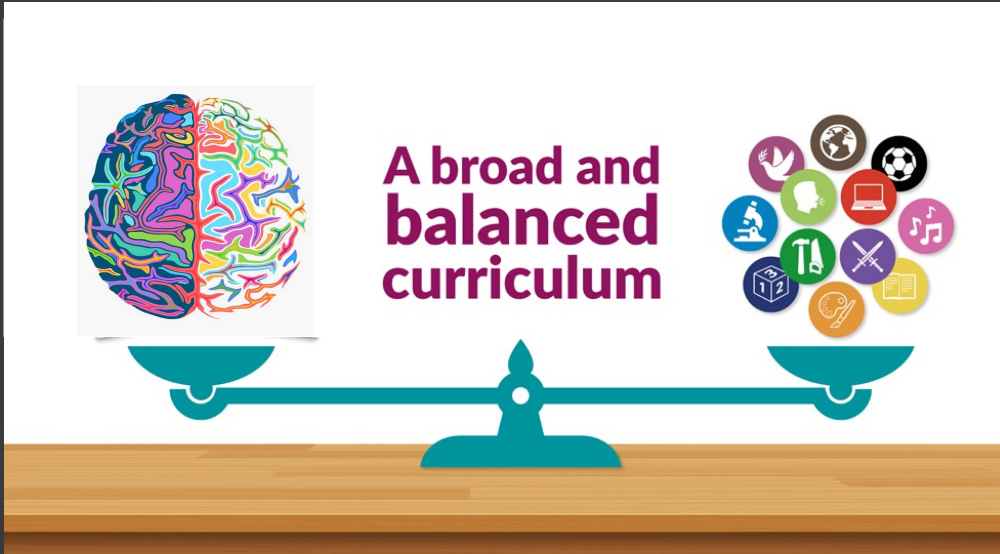
## Option Choices to support the EBACC:

GCSE History or GCSE Geography  
GCSE French or GCSE Spanish





# Why is choosing options important?



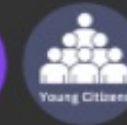
- Students have an opportunity to create their own curriculum that will open doors to their future aspirations.
- Students have the opportunity to try new things.



# What should I think about when making choices?



- Am I interested in the subject, and will I enjoy studying it?
- Is it a facilitating subject for my possible career interests or for further study in Sixth Form?
- Have I listened to and thought carefully about all the advice I have been given?







# What Are the Benefits of Studying a Language?

Learning a Foreign Language is a way to reflect and analyse my own language.

*"You can never understand one language until you understand at least two."*

Geoffrey Willans

*"He who knows no foreign languages knows nothing of his own."*  
Johann Wolfgang von Goethe







# What Are the Benefits of Studying a Language?

Learning a Foreign Language is a way to reflect and analyse my own language.

- Help with spelling in English
- Help with understanding of grammar
- Help reflecting on complexities of language
- Help finding limits of your own language/the foreign language
- Helps realise the proximity of languages - “déjà-vu”.





# What Are the Benefits of Studying a Language?

Learning a Foreign Language, a way to help me in a future career.

*"One language sets you in a corridor for life. Two languages open every door along the way".*

Frank Smith

*"The limits of my language mean the limits of my world".*

Ludwig Wittgenstein





# What Are the Benefits of Studying a Language?

More money | Better employability | Better at problem-solving  
Better communication skills | More opportunities

In the increasingly globalized and interconnected world, being able to communicate in more than one language is a highly marketable skill that often commands a higher salary. In fact, research shows that those who are bilingual or multilingual can earn **5%-20% more per hour** than those who aren't. What's more, bilingual and multilingual jobs are on the rise. In today's global economy, employers are looking for candidates who can effectively communicate across cultural divides and help expand business globally. And that means that as a bilingual or multilingual, you possess a competitive advantage over your monolingual peers.

#### Communication

Learning a new language also means learning about the culture of the new language, bilingual and multilingual speakers can understand cultural nuances, empathize with speakers of that language, and close the cultural and linguistic gap. And that's a valuable skill for employers who are looking to expand and reach diverse markets. There are millions of people in the U.S. who prefer to communicate in a language other than English. In fact, they're more likely to purchase a product if information is available in their own language. Bilingual employees can communicate with more English-speaking customers in their preferred language build relationships. Trilingual employees are not only able to understand and speak multiple languages, but they also understand cultural details and nuances.



#### 4. Better problem-solving, decision-making, and multitasking skills

Did you know bilinguals and multilinguals are great multitaskers, problem solvers, and decision makers? There are multiple studies that show cognitive advantages of multilingualism. For example, a study done by the [National Institute of Health](#) shows that multilinguals are much better and faster at switching tasks than their monolingual counterparts. In a corporate environment where flexibility and the ability to pivot quickly is important, bilingual and multilingual employees can be a great asset. Another [study](#) has found that multilingual speakers process information faster and more efficiently than their monolingual colleagues, making them excellent problem solvers and quick thinkers. These are qualities you definitely want to make known while job hunting.

- 9 out of 10 employers rely on employees who can speak languages other than English.
- 56% reported that their demand for bi/multilingual speakers will increase in the next 5 years.
- 1 in 3 reported a language skills gap.
- 1 in 4 has lost business due to a lack of foreign language skills.





# What Are the Benefits of Studying a Language?

*Learning a Foreign Language is a path to wisdom.*

*"A different language is a different vision of life."*  
Federico Fellini

- See the world in a different way
- Confidence
- Tolerance
- Adventure.





# What Are the Benefits of Studying a Language?

Learning a Foreign Language is a way to make you aware of different cultures.

- Awareness of my culture
- Awareness of other cultures
- Possibility to reflect on my own culture/other cultures.





# What Are the Benefits of Studying a Language?

Learning a Foreign Language is:

- A way to help you in your future career
- A way to reflect and analyse your own language
- A path to wisdom
- A way to make you aware of different cultures.



# Entry Requirements

Some subjects do have some additional entry requirements. You need to think about these before choosing these subjects:

- Music - Students **must** be able to play a musical instrument or be learning to play a musical instrument.
- Food - Students **must** cook at home regularly and be able to continue doing this throughout the course.





# What Are the Benefits of Studying Triple Science?

- All students study **Combined Science** (Biology, Chemistry and Physics).
- If you choose **Triple Science**, from **Option Group B**, you will study **Combined Science** plus an extra five lessons per fortnight, and this will count as one of your option choices. You will receive three separate GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.
- If you do not choose **Triple Science**, you will study **Combined Science** and still have four option subjects to choose from. You will receive two GCSEs.







# The Options Process

What do you need to do?





## Research

Research subjects using the online options booklet and discuss courses with subject teachers.

## Discuss

Discuss your options at home – your family know you best.

## Discuss

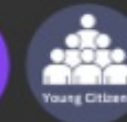
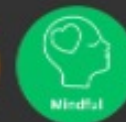
Discuss with your teachers/ those leading the subject by the end of term.

## Complete

Complete the options form. This will be available electronically.  
One option from group A; three from group B; two reserves and in order of preference.

## Submit

Complete the online form no later than **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024 by 6pm**





# What Happens Next and FAQs



# What Happens Next?

- Once we have received all the option forms, we will use them to group subjects together to create our 'option blocks' in the timetable.
- If there are any clashing subjects or other problems, we will be in touch to try to resolve them.
- We will look at whether students meet any specific entrance criteria and generally at whether they are suitable for the, or their, chosen subject(s).
- We will send out your provisional options allocation in June for you to review and request any changes if you need to.
- Final options choices will be 'locked in' in July, and **no changes** can be made from that point.





# Am I Guaranteed My Option Choices?

Unfortunately not.

Your options form tells us the subjects you would like to study. We try hard to give every student the subjects they have chosen, but sometimes it is not possible due to clashes within the timetable or oversubscription of popular subjects.





# What if a subject is oversubscribed?

If a subject has more applicants than we can accommodate, we will have to reduce numbers by:

1. Looking at student preference rankings
2. Eliminating late applications
3. Asking for volunteers to change subjects

If this does not resolve the issue, all remaining applicants will be drawn at random.



# Can I Change My Option Choices?

Once our online Option Choices Form has been completed, you can make changes until the end of June. These requests must be received in writing from parents/carers.

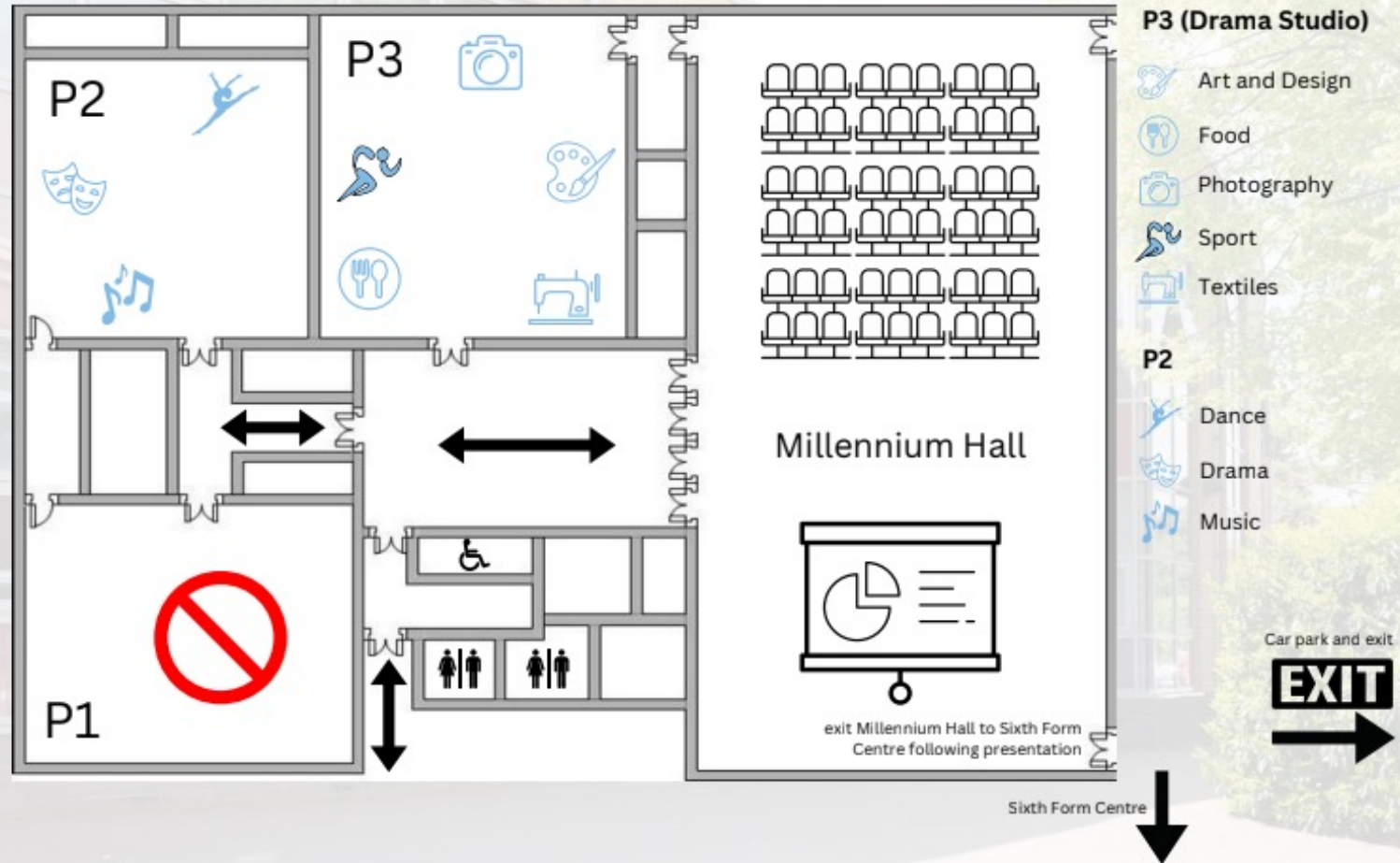
We do **not** normally permit changes to option choices once students commence their studies in September.





# Year 9 GCSE Options Event 2024

## Performing Arts Centre Map







# Year 9 GCSE Options Event 2024

## Sixth Form Centre Map



GROUND FLOOR PLAN



**S1**

- Computer Science
- Business Studies
- Creative iMedia

**S2**

- Citizenship
- Health & Social Care
- Psychology
- Religious Studies

**S3**

- Spanish
- French
- EBacc

**S4**

- Geography
- History

**Library**

- Careers
- English
- Maths
- Science
- Triple Science

