

Questions following the Year 9 Introductory Presentation 10/1/22

1. [Where can I find all of the documents referred to?](#)
 - All documents, pre-recorded subject presentations, recording of the introductory presentation and all question and answers sessions that follow can be found on the school website: **Key Stage 3: Year 9 Options**
 - In addition, a letter indicating the recommended pathway for each student and a copy of the options booklet has been sent via Edulink. Students will also be given a hard copy of the letter, options booklet and the options form that needs to be returned on Thursday 13th January.
2. [How many option subjects do they choose?](#)
 - There are four “option blocks” - Block A, Block B, Block C and Block D. Students must select one subject from each block.
3. [How many subjects can they do in total?](#)
 - All students will take 5 GCSE’s as part of their core curriculum. Students then choose a further 4 option subjects taking their total to 9 GCSE or equivalent qualifications (students on pathway 3 opting for CoPE and ASDAN short courses as part of the PDP programme will have a total of 7 GCSE or equivalent qualifications)
4. [Is it possible to take an additional subject?](#)
 - On rare occasions, students have completed an additional GCSE in their own time. In recognition of the new increasingly robust GCSE curriculum specifications, to meet the minimum number of hours taught across the two years, our recommendation is that students take a total of 9. This is more than sufficient to access post 16 providers across private, grammar and state settings.
5. [Is it compulsory to choose a language on pathway 1?](#)
 - It is **compulsory to choose at least one EBACC subject** on both pathways 1 & 2, however it is not compulsory for any student on any pathway to choose both a language and a humanities subject. It may be appropriate for students on pathway 1 to consider both to give them a broad balance of the foundation subjects.
6. [Is French and Spanish a combined subject or is there a choice of just one?](#)
 - French and Spanish are two discrete and separate subjects. The pre-recorded presentation covers both languages as the structure of the syllabus and assessment for both are identical
7. [Is it possible to do both French and Spanish?](#)
 - Both languages can be chosen, however this is only possible if the student is currently studying French in lessons and has chosen to continue with Spanish after school

8. **Is it possible to do both history and geography?**
 - Students must choose **at least one EBACC subject**. There is nothing to prevent them from choosing any combination of two, three or four EBACC subjects

9. **Is it the case that those not choosing RE as a GCSE will no longer do an exam?**
 - All students will continue to follow Core RE which will cover the statutory religious and ethical topics and concepts, however this will not lead to any formal qualification.
 - Students wishing to gain a GCSE qualification in RE will need to choose it as one of their four option choices.

10. **Does RE fall into the EBACC bucket?**
 - RE does not count as an EBACC subject. It cannot be chosen as the compulsory EBACC subject.

11. **Is it only students on pathway 3 that can choose ICT?**
 - No, ICT is available as a vocational subject for all students on all pathways

12. **Do you only select a reserve from block A & B?**
 - Two reserve subjects must be selected, these can come from **any of the four blocks**.
 - BTEC PE should not be chosen as a reserve for GCSE PE or vice versa
 - Reserve choices should be placed in priority order, with one being the reserve you would most like to study in the event that one of your chosen four cannot be accommodated