



Year 9 Options

Important Dates

- o Process started last week with an assembly for students outlining information on this presentation
- o Options book and forms given out to students and published on edulink on Friday
- o **Monday 16th January**
 - o remote presentation to explain the options process
 - o Updated pre-recorded subject presentations published on website

Important Dates

- o **Tuesday 17th – Monday 23rd January:** a schedule of live Question & Answers sessions lead by Curriculum Leaders
- o **Monday 16th January - Friday 20th January:** Tutor sessions & RSHE session to support option decisions
- o **Thursday 2nd February - ALL FORMS IN**
- o **Summer Term** - choices confirmed

Core Curriculum

- o English Language and Literature
- o Mathematics
- o Combined Science (2 x GCSE's)
- o RE (non exam)
- o PE (non exam)
- o RSHE/Careers Guidance

Pathways

o Four pathways designed to

- Provide access to appropriate subjects and levels of support
- Increase the chances of achieving the best overall grades possible
- Increase the opportunities to progress beyond year 11
- Recommendations made for each pathway are recommendations and any concerns are open to discussion

Pathways

- **Pathway 1:** Students recommended to continue with an MFL as well as choosing either history or geography therefore fulfilling the full EBACC requirements
- **Pathway 2:** Students recommended to choose either history or geography as their EBACC subject rather than a language
- **Pathway 3:** Students recommended choose geography as their EBACC option
- **Pathway 4:** A very small number of students with specific individual needs. Students in this pathway will be contacted by the SEN department regarding their options

English Baccalaureate

- o English language & literature, mathematics, science, history OR geography, AND a modern foreign language (French or Spanish)
- o Not compulsory
- o Not an additional qualification
- o These are useful access subjects if you think you want to do A levels or go on to university
- o They are a good academic foundation, especially if you are unsure of what you want to do

GCSE Courses

- o Many are now 100% exam
- o Practical subjects still have an element of practically assessed work (NEA)
- o All will follow the new grading 9-1

BTEC & Vocational Subjects

- o Vocational (work related, more practically based)
- o ALL have an externally moderated element, most of which is an exam worth 40%
- o L1/L2 Pass, Merit or Distinction, rather than 9 - 1
- o Local 6th Forms do accept level 2 BTEC courses as entry onto A Level courses
- o Does allow entry onto BTEC level 3
- o New format of these courses mean **attendance at every lesson is critical**. Class notes can be taken into assessments, gaps in notes will significantly impact outcomes

Health Warning!

- o Please be aware, all information in the booklet and on the pre-recorded subject presentations published today is currently correct
- o We will keep you up to date with any changes as they occur and will always act in the best interests of the students following the courses

Making the Right Choice

Once you have started your courses,
you cannot easily change!

~~“EASY”~~ Subjects DO NOT EXIST!

ALL HARD WORK

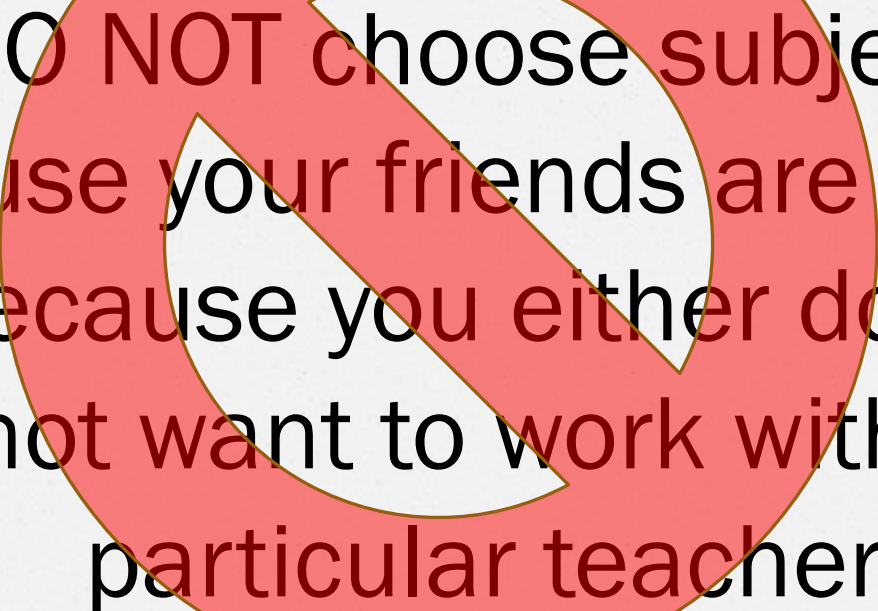
ALL involve lots of WRITING

ALL involve INDEPENDENT STUDY

Making the Right Choice

- o Think about your strengths
- o Choose subjects suitable to your learning style; consider your recommended pathway
- o Find out what you may need for specific courses or jobs
- o Choose things you enjoy and you are good at
- o Keep a Growth Mindset
- o You have to take responsibility for your own success

Making the Right Choice



DO NOT choose subjects
because your friends are doing it
or because you either do or do
not want to work with a
particular teacher

Option Subjects

EBACC Subjects

History

Geography

French

Spanish

Expressive Arts Subjects

Art

Dance

Drama

Music

Textiles

Other GCSE Subjects

Business Studies

Film

PE

RE

Food Preparation & Nutrition

Design Technology

BTEC/Vocational Awards

Health & Social Care

Sport

ICT

Personal Development Programme

PSE

Subjects in green must
be being studied in year
9 to be selected

You cannot choose
art and textiles

NOT ALL SUBJECTS WILL RUN

Option Blocks

Block A	Block B	Block C	Block D
French	Geography	History	History
Geography	Spanish	Spanish	Art
Textiles	ICT	French	Business Studies
F&N	DT	DT	Dance
HSC	Art	F&N	Film
RE	Business Studies	ICT	HSC
Drama	BTEC PE	Music	RE
	GCSE PE	Art	
		PSE	

All students in pathway 1,2&3 must choose one option from each block with 2 reserves which may come from any block. Each of the six subject should be chosen once only

There will be a space on the option form to raise any combination of subjects that a student would like to do but cannot and/or any query regarding the options pathway allocated

Example Pathway 1

Core: English language, English literature, maths, combined science, core RE (non exam), core PE (non exam)

History

French

Business Studies

Food & Nutrition

**Total of 9 GCSEs
including full suite of
EBACC subjects and one
GCSE with NEA**

Example Pathway 2

Core: English language, English literature, maths, combined science, core RE (non exam), core PE (non exam)

Geography

Film

Art

ICT

**Equivalent of 9 GCSEs
including one EBACC, two
GCSE's with NEA and one
vocational subject**

Example Pathway 3

Core: English language, English literature, maths, combined science, core RE (non exam), core PE (non exam)

Geography

Drama

Art

BTEC Sport

Equivalent of 9 GCSEs including one EBACC subject, one BTEC subject and two GCSEs with NEA

Example Pathway 3

Core: English language, English literature, maths, combined science, core RE (non exam), core PE (non exam)

Geography

Art

Health & Social Care

PSE

Equivalent of 8 GCSEs including one EBACC subject, the personal development programme, one BTEC subject and one GCSE with NEA

Example Pathway 4

Core: English language, English literature, maths, combined science, core RE (non exam), core PE (non exam)

BTEC Health & Social Care

Food & Nutrition

Art

**Equivalent of 8 GCSEs
including, one BTEC
subject and two GCSE's
with NEA**

Options Form

- o MUST BE IN ON TIME **Thursday 2nd February**
- o All students in pathways 1, 2&3 must choose ONE subject from each block and TWO reserves in priority order
- o Choices must include at least ONE subject from the EBACC group of subjects, for all students in pathways 1,2&3. This can be in any block
- o Students in pathway 1 are strongly recommended to choose an MFL subject as well as either history or geography

Options Form

- o Students in pathway 3 are strongly recommended to choose geography as their EBACC subject
- o Students in pathway 3 who are currently following the PDP curriculum, are strongly recommended to choose PSE as one of their options
- o CANNOT choose Art and Textiles without prior agreement from Miss King and Mrs Pitt
- o MUST BE PREPARED TO DO RESERVE CHOICES
- o Form must be signed by adult at home

What Now?

- o Watch the pre-recorded subject presentations and write down any questions you may have
- o Don't rule out a subject without listening to the presentation
- o Join the live question & answer presentations that are scheduled over the next 5 evenings
- o Talk to your tutor and your subject teachers over the next three weeks
- o Talk to Miss Foster if you have specific careers questions that you need to discuss

What Now?

- o Check out entry requirements on the local 6th form websites for any specific courses you may be interested in
- o Find out as much as you can about any future plans you may have
- o Take your time, make sure the decisions YOU make are right for YOU

Live Question & Answer Sessions

Introduction	Monday 16 th January	5.00pm
GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition	Tuesday 17 th January	5.00pm
GCSE Design Technology		5.30pm
GCSE Art/Textiles		6.00pm
BTEC Health and Social Care	Wednesday 18 th January	5.00pm
GCSE/BTEC PE		5.30pm
GCSE Business Studies	Thursday 19 th January	6.00pm
GCSE Film Studies		5.00pm
GCSE Religious Education		5.30pm
GCSE Modern Foreign Languages (French & Spanish)		6.00pm
GCSE History	Friday 20 th January	5.00pm
GCSE Geography		5.30pm
Vocational Award ICT		6.00pm
GCSE Music	Monday 23 rd January	5.00pm
GCSE Drama		5.30pm
GCSE Dance		6.00pm

Students on pathway 1 should be considering a language as well as their humanities option

All students on pathways 1-3 MUST select at least one from either history or geography

PE will be doing one Q&A session only, covering both GCSE & BTEC on Wednesday 18th

Information

- o All of the information will be posted on the KS3 page on the website under Year 9 Options
- o If you require any further information please contact me via email: jpitt@pittville.gloucs.sch.uk

But don't PANIC – you are unlikely to close down many options at this stage