



KS4 Curriculum 2018 – 2021

***YEAR 8
CURRICULUM EVENING***

6th March, 2018



Curriculum 2018-2021

A new GCSE timeline...

Key drivers for change:



1) Key Stage 4 Exam Reform –GCSE

Greater demand and more rigorous questioning

Students will be expected to learn more

An increased focus on spelling, punctuation and grammar

An end to coursework

2) An Increased opportunity for student success

3) Student engagement and enjoyment

What will Year 9 look like:



- English Language & English Literature (5 lessons per week)
- Maths (4 lessons per week)
- Science (5 lessons per week)
- PE (2 lessons per week)
- Three remaining subjects (totalling 9 hours per week)

- All students will follow a planned programme of citizenship/personal development throughout Years 9, 10 and 11.

What will Years 10 & 11 look like:



- English Language & English Literature (5 lessons per week)
- Maths (4 lessons per week)
- Combined Science or Triple Science (6 lessons per week)
- PE (1 lesson per week)
- Three remaining subjects (totalling 9 hours per week)

- All students will follow a planned programme of citizenship/personal development throughout Years 9, 10 and 11.



Year 8

Making the right choices...



What should you bear in mind with GCSE courses?



- Don't choose a subject just because your friends do.
- Don't choose a subject because you dislike your current teacher or choose a subject because you do like him or her.
- Before choosing a subject that you've never done before, do research it thoroughly and find out all about it.

What should you bear in mind with GCSE courses?



- What subjects do you enjoy studying most?
- What subjects don't you enjoy?
- What subjects do you think you are best at?
- Look at your Year 8 reports which may highlight your strengths and areas for development
- Are there any you would like to study at A-level?
- Would you like to go to university?
- What tasks/skills would you like to do/develop in a job?
- What is your dream career?
- Are your subject choices balanced?

Your choices at 14

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Also in this section

- [Hot Tips: choosing your GCSE options](#)
- [GCSEs: compulsory and optional](#)
- [How your choices could affect your future](#)
- [Vocational GCSE Level Qualifications](#)

Hot Tips: choosing your GCSE options

What you will learn on this page:

[General tips before you choose](#)[How \(and how not!\) to make the right choices](#)[Want to ask a question? Click to start web chat with an adviser.](#)

<https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/information/your-choices-at-14/hot-tips-choosing-your-gcse-options>



Timeline:

KS4 Booklets -26 February

KS4 Curriculum Evening – 6 March

Year 8 PCE – 22 March

Deadline for forms – 28 March



Completing the form....

Block 1:



We require that students choose one subject from the following block (numbered 1) and one reserve subject (numbered 2).

GCSE French	
GCSE Geography	
GCSE History	1
GCSE Computer Science	2



In addition, we ask that student choose two subjects from the following block (numbered 1 & 2) and one reserve subject (numbered 3).

Block 2

GCSE Art & Design		GCSE Media Studies	
GCSE Photography		GCSE Computer Science	
BTEC Business Studies	1	GCSE Music	
GCSE Business Studies		GCSE PE	
GCSE Drama		GCSE Dance	2
GCSE French		GCSE Food & Nutrition	
GCSE Geography		GCSE Design & Technology	
GCSE History		GCSE RE	3
BTEC ICT		BTEC Health & Social Care	



- **28th March** is the deadline for the forms to be returned to student reception
- Students are asked to indicate their preferred choices of subject on their options form including reserve choices
- For the small number of students for whom a diet of GCSEs may not be appropriate, parents/carers of those students will be contacted by Mr Upward, our SENCO, in March to determine their appropriate course choices but for now we are asking for all students to return a KS4 preference form.

What happens next...



- Look at subject blocks and demand for subjects in the context of timetabling and staffing whilst seeking to ensure that most pupils study their most preferred subject
- Discussions with students (and in some cases parents) if first choice subjects are not available or course choices are unsuitable
- Courses confirmed before end of Summer term via letter home.