

## Welcome and introduction of key colleagues

The curriculum as a whole: Mrs Jenkins, Deputy
Head teacher and Mr Sidell, Lead Practitioner

## Explaining less familiar subjects

- Factors in Making the Decisions

Overview of the process - what happens next?

Signpost tonight

Our aims are simple: "To develop the sharpest minds and the biggest hearts in our children through a traditional academic approach to education.

To meet these aims we:

- Enable our children to access the broadest curriculum possible enabling their learning needs and aspirations to be met.
- To engage our children and enable them to reach their full potential


Pastoral Curriculum: including Life Lessons and Wellbeing Wednesday


## Enrichment and Extra-curricular






We have not, and will not ever, "Game the system".
The KS4 curriculum is set out as follows:

## Compulsory Subjects

- English Language and English Literature
- Mathematics and Financial Capability
- Science: Biology, Chemistry and Physics
- Citizenship
- One Ebacc Option from the following: History, Geography, French or Spanish Non-examined Subjects

- Core Physical Education
- Personal Development, Careers, Employability, Relationship and Sex Education.


## The EBacc Subjects

- All students have to choose one of the following
- History
- Geography
- French
- Spanish



## The English Baccalaureate

- It is an important measure determined by the Department of Education.
- It is not a qualification in its own right and students do not receive any additional qualifications or a certificate
- It reflects the achievement of students over a range of key subjects.
- You will be considered to have a achieved the
 Ebacc if you have achieved grade 5 or above in English, Maths, Sciences, a language, History or Geography.

The Ebacc Qualification


- The Government target for 2025 is $\mathbf{9 0 \%}$ of students taking Ebacc
- Further information on the Ebacc can be found in your Options Booklet


## WHY SHOULD KIDS LEARN ANOTHER LANGUAGE?



BETTER COMMUNICATION CULTURAL AWARENESS
BETTER MATHS SKILLS


BETTER MEMORY


INTERNATIONAL FRIENDS


HEIGHTENED LOGIC BETTER CAREER PROSPECTS

## The EBacc Pathway

- Our advice remains that if this combination of subjects is right for you, fits your strengths and interests, then you should study them.
- Otherwise choose the best combination of subjects for you.



## The EBacc Pathway

## Choose three and rank them:

Art
Business Studies
Child Development
Computer Science (Maths projected 5+)
Creative iMedia
Dance
Drama
Design and Technology
Hospitality and Catering
French
Geography
Health and Social Care
History
Music
Physical Education
Photography
Spanish

You will study two of these

| Art |
| :--- |
| Business Studies |
| Child Development |
| Computer Science |
| Creative iMedia |
| Dance |
| Drama |
| Design and Technology |
| Hospitality and Catering |
| Health and Social Care |
| Music |
| Photography |
| Sports Studies |



## How do you choose?

- Favourite subjects
- Good subjects
- Options booklet
- Research
- Talk to people
- Take advice
- Future career aspirations


## Advice from our Careers Department

- During your careers lessons last term with Mr Mullender, you received lots of information and advice about choosing your GCSE options.

- You have also been provided with the Year 9 Careers Booklet and access to your Year 9 Careers Google Classroom. Both of these sources have lots and lots of useful information
- On our school website there are subject presentations and brief curriculum overviews under the Year 9 Options section.


Within your Careers Google Classroom, there is a specific section called

## 'Options Advice'.

You can find these short videos from BBC Bitesize there:


GCSE Options: Everything you need to know about choosing your GCSE subjects


Myths about choosing your options: Busted!


What I wish I'd known before choosing my options


How to choose your exam subjects wisely for the future you want

## GCSEs

OCR Nationals AQA Technical Awards

- Some subjects have a vocational bias
- Higher proportion of project work
- Fewer exams


We have also asked some of our local further education providers for information and guidance which may help you to link GCSE option subjects with future college courses and other post-16 options

- Base your decisions on who is teaching them now
- Choose the same options as best friends
- Copy older siblings
- Pick 'easy' subjects



Post 16
All students are required to be in full time education until the age of 18.

As a general guide:

- 5 GCSE or equivalent passes at a Grade 5 or above to progress to A level courses
- At least one grade 4 or above in English and/or Maths for some post 16 courses
- To study a subject at A level, students usually require at least a Grade 5 in that subject at GCSE.
- A level Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Maths and French require a Grade 6 at GCSE and typically an average point score.
- Most apprenticeships require a minimum grade 4 in English and Maths


## Options Timeline

| Wednesday <br> 27th March | Deadline for completed 'Options' form to be submitted via Google Forms. <br> Processing will not commence until the deadline has passed. |
| :---: | :--- |
| $\mathbf{1 5 - 1 7}$ <br> April | Year 9 Assessments in English, Maths and Science <br> These assessments are sat under exam conditions in the sports halls/study <br> centre. These assessments are independent of the options process but help <br> with the initial setting of Year 10 as the three bands of lower school moves to <br> 2 bands in Key Stage 4, moving from 9 teaching groups to 10. |
| April - July | After receiving your form, we will be running a series of 'dry-runs' to see what <br> the best combination of subjects will be. |
| Early July | Options confirmed |

## Dry Runs

- Following return of the initial choices, we try to write a model to best fit our children's options.
- This is often the point where disappointment sinks in as:
- There may be combinations that won't be possible
- Where courses may be over-subscribed or options need to be re-thought

We may ask our children to choose from option blocks if we can't make their choices fit.

## Dry Runs

- In the past three years we have been able to find an excellent fit based on open choices.
- The of students will be given their first choice of subjects, but because we have constraints on what we can offer there will be students for whom we are unable to offer the combination of subjects they requested.

- If this is the case, we will talk to you and your child to discuss the best possible solution.


Year 9 Core Assessments
15-17 April

Morning Exams (09:05)

| Exam | Board | Duration |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Maths Paper 1 | AQA | 1 h |
| Non-calculator |  |  |
|  |  |  |


| English Writing | AQA 1 h | Tuesday | Science Paper 1 | AQA |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 16 |  |  |


| Maths Paper 2 | AQA 1 h | Wednesday | Science Paper 2 | AQA |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Calculator |  | 17 |  |  |

## Mathematics <br> Year 9 Core Assessment

You will complete TWO 1 hour mathematics papers.
Everyone completes the same papers.
The questions on each paper will consist of:
The first $25 \%$ will be basic numeracy skills that you have learnt and practiced throughout KS3.

The remaining $75 \%$ will be a mixture of different skills that you have learnt in Year 9, building in difficulty from easiest to hardest.


Geometry - angles, constructions Algebra - coordinates, graphs, formulae

> Statistics - charts, averages

# YEAR 9ASSESSMENT - ENGLISH WHAT WILL I HAVE TO DO? 

## Paper One - Reading (one hour)

Read an extract from a story and:
Q1 list four things about.....
Q2 explain how the writer has used language to describe.....
Q3 write about the structure of the story
respond to a statement about the story

## Paper Two - Writing writing tasks to complete. <br> No right or wrong answer - just show off your creative writing skills!

You will choose one of two creative
 This is your opportunity to show us how fabulous you are!

## Science Assessment

How many papers will there be?
There are 2 papers, each 1 hour in length.
What will the papers include?
Paper 1 and 2 will include questions based on what students have studied throughout KS3 in Biology, Chemistry and Physics lessons.

What type of questions will there be?
There will be a range of multiple choice, structured and closed short answer questions.

What is the best way to prepare for the science assessment?
Revision is important. Each student will be provided with a list of topics to revise, supported with online videos to assist, all of which will be found on the their google classroom.

Hendance
ehaviour
oursework, classwork and of course homework

## Attendance and Attainment

As a school we want to ensure you can make the most of your time here. We know that high attendance and the success of your future is linked.

You are more likely to achieve success at GCSE level if you attend. The more you attend, the better your chances.
How much education is your child missing ${ }^{\text {*? }}$

| Descriptor | Threshold <br> Attendance | Actual <br> Attendance | Whole <br> Days <br> Absent | Learning <br> Hours <br> Lost |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Excellent | $100 \%$ | 190 days | 0 | 0 |
|  | $99 \%$ | 188 days | 2 | 10 |
|  | $98 \%$ | 186 days | 4 | 20 |
| Good | $97 \%$ | 184 days | 6 | 30 |
|  | $96 \%$ | 182.5 days | 7.5 | 37.5 |
|  | $95 \%$ | 180.5 days | 9.5 | 47.5 |
| Cause for | $94 \%$ | 179 days | 11 | 55 |
| concern | $93 \%$ | 177 days | 13 | 65 |
|  | $92 \%$ | 175 days | 15 | 85 |
|  | $91 \%$ | 173 days | 17 |  |
|  | $90 \%$ | 171 days | 19 | 95 |
| Unsatisfactory | $89 \%$ | 169 days | 21 | 105 |
|  | $88 \%$ | 167 days | 23 | 115 |
| Serious cause | $87 \%$ | 165 days | 25 | 125 |
| for concern | $86 \%$ | 163 days | 27 | 135 |
|  | $85 \%$ | 161.5 days | 28.5 | 142.5 |
|  | $84 \%$ | 159.5 days | 30.5 | 152.5 |
| Critical | $83 \%$ | 158 days | 32 | 160 |
|  | $82 \%$ | 156 days | 34 | 170 |
|  | $81 \%$ | 154 days | 36 | 180 |
|  | $80 \%$ | 152 days | 38 | 190 |



Average Progress 8 score by \% absence in Year 10 and 11
Pupils in 2022 Key Stage 4 performance tables
III
$\square_{-0.28} \underbrace{}_{-0.64} \underbrace{}_{-0.95}$


## Contact details

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