



Key Stage 4 Options 2020

INFORMATION FOR Y9 STUDENTS & PARENTS

Mrs G Jones, Principal



Exciting times



Where do you want to go in life?

J is now
working for



**RUSSELL
GROUP**

A has a first class degree in Psychology from Exeter University. She has just returned from working in a Monkey Sanctuary Sierra Leone and is about to start an internship.

G owns and runs his own plastering company.

J – finalist on the *East Midlands Apprentice of the Year*

T – About to graduate after five years of study in Medicine

H – now designing Knitwear in California, including a piece for **Lady Gaga.**

C – has started higher degree apprenticeship with Boeing.

50% of our Y11 went onto A levels in September 2019

99% of our students went onto further education and employment in September 2019



What's different in Y10 and Y11?

- **Individual timetable with fewer subjects, but more time for each subject.**
- **Exams and coursework.**
- **GCSEs and BTECs.**
- **An opportunity for work experience.**

“Broad, balanced and responsive to individual need”.

- **Building on success at Key Stage 3.**
- **New courses.**
- **Personalised choices.**
- **Preparation for the future.**

What is the English Baccalaureate?

The EBacc is a suite of subjects made up of:

- English.
- Maths.
- The Sciences, including Computer Science.
- History or Geography.
- A language.

The EBACC suite of qualifications can be obtained through taking GCSE language in Option A and using Options B/C/D to choose either History or Geography (or both).

Choosing courses

Good reasons:

- You like the subject.
- You are good at the subject.
- It will help you progress in the future.
- You have researched what this new subject entails.
- You know how you will be assessed.

Bad reasons:

- Your friend has chosen the subject.
- You like the teacher you have now for the subject.
- It is a new subject and you have not found out about it.

Think about your next steps

Preparation for A-levels or Level 3 courses?

- **The EBacc is a suite of subjects valued by universities and keeps your options open.**
- **You will need at least 3 A-levels to gain a place at university.**
- **Over 90% of Sixth Formers go on to university or college.**
- **Entry requirement for Sixth Form is at least 5 GCSEs (including English and Maths) grade 4 or above, and also meeting the entry requirements of the individual courses.**

Think about your next steps

Preparation for college, apprenticeships or career training?

- **Good passes at GCSE mean choice.**
- **Courses linked to your vocational interests.**
- **Aim for GCSEs at 5 or above in English and Maths.**
- **You will retake English and Maths if you do not gain a grade 4.**
- **You will need at least 5 good GCSE passes or their equivalent for a college or school place to study Level 2 or 3 courses.**
- **You can access college or university courses without the EBacc.**

Sources of information

- **Options booklet.**
- **Options evening – tonight!**
- **Options Day – 14th February 2020**
- **Form tutor.**
- **Subject teachers.**
- **Careers advisor.**
- **Family and friends.**
- **Interview with teachers or Leadership Team.**

How many courses do I take?

We give the majority of students the opportunity to study 9 GCSE courses:

Core Subjects – 4 or 5 GCSE's

English Language – 1 grade

English Literature – 1 grade

Science – Core - 2 grades

Triple Science (Physics, Chemistry and Biology) – 3 grades

Option Subjects – 4 or 5 GCSE's

Option A – 2 years – 1 grade

Option B or Triple Science – 2 years – 1 grade if Option subject

Option C (Y10) – 1 year course - 1 grade

Option D (Y11) – 1 year course - 1 grade

Options timeline

5 December	Y9 Options Evening
Thursday 12 December	Preferences on-line form emailed to parents
Friday 20 December	Deadline for completing preferences form
Monday 13 January – Friday 7 February 2020	Guidance interviews
Thursday 13 February 2020	Options form distributed with 9.2 report
Friday 14 February 2020	Year 9 Options Day Options on-line form emailed to parents
Monday 9 March 2020	Y9 Tutor Evening – deadline for submission of on-line options form
May 2020	Confirmed option choices emailed to parents
Thursday 18 June	9.3 data and student Timetable for 2020/21 sent home
Tuesday 30 June	Y10 starts, new timetables implemented

There are **two stages** to the **options process**:

1. Preferences

The first stage is the College trying to find out from you what you would like to do. As well as the information in this booklet you will get opportunities to find out more about each of the subjects available, including visiting some Y10/11 lessons to see them in action. Then you have to tell us your **preferences**.

You are being asked to indicate which subjects you would **prefer** to study by ranking the subjects you think you would most like to study from 1 to 5, with 1 being your top **preference**. You should consider ranking highly those courses that you think you would enjoy and be successful in. **We cannot guarantee that we will be able to offer all of these courses**. We will construct an Options grid that reflects the **preferences** of as many students as possible. You will not automatically be able to study your top **preferences**.

2. Choices

With the Year 9.2 report on **Thursday 14 February** you will get the Options Form, a grid that will give you the **choices** you can make for the next one/two years. Using this booklet, and the Options Form, you will have to choose which courses will work best for you.

We will use Microsoft Forms to collect preferences. A link will be sent out by email to all parents, and should be filled in and submitted by Friday 20 December.

Possible Option course combinations:

	Option A	Option B	Option C/D
Student A Year 10	German	Triple Science	Engineering
Student A Year 11			Geography
Student B Year 10	Spanish	History	PE
Student B Year 11			Art

Key staff

Principal	Gaynor Jones
Assistant Principal for Curriculum	Richard Beeden
Assistant Principal for Inclusion	Debbie Petts
SENCO	Mr Griffin
Careers Team	Kevin Lennox



Outstanding Achievement for All