



# 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.**

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

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



**C** – has started higher degree apprenticeship with Boeing.

# 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 – 14<sup>th</sup> 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

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

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

## What you need to do next:

1. Use the booklet to make notes and draft your preferences – we will need you top 5 preferences, ranked 1 – 5.

Year 10/11 Subject Preferences Form

For courses beginning July 2020

Here is a copy of the preferences form for you to keep and use as a rough draft. Please submit your preferences using the online form that will be emailed to all parents. We will not be able to run all of these courses the way you prefer your child to study in 2019.

**Selected pathway** – please select one

STEM/IT/CCSC: Science, Chemistry, Physics

Creative/Arts: Art

Clear options – use NUMBERS below to indicate your preferences for the other options, starting with 1 (your first top preference) and going down to 5.

Subject	Rank
Computer Science	
Great Expectations & Care	
Design & Technology	
Music	
Engineering	
Spanish	
Geography	
History	
Languages & Literacy	
Maths	
Art & Design	

2. Fill in the Microsoft preferences form that we will send out to parents at the end of next week, and submit it by the end of this term (20 December).

# Key staff

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



# Outstanding Achievement for All