



2026-28 : GCSE Options

How do options subjects fit into the year 10 & 11 curriculum?

GCSE Options 2026 (Class of 2026 - 2028)

Which of the four school values does the topic of today's assembly most closely link?

Respect

Integrity

Aspiration

Responsibility



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KS3: Core Curriculum

Yr9
Options

KS4: Core Curriculum

Post-16
choices

KS5: Core Curriculum

Post-18
choices

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Our curriculum is designed to....

- Allow our students access to a broad and balanced programme of study.
- Provide an enriched experience that allows students to understand and respect both themselves and others.
- Enable all students to achieve.
- Encourage our students to **aspire** and challenge themselves.

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Core Curriculum

Option choices

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Core Curriculum							Option choices	
English		Maths	Science			Core PE	Life Curriculum	Culture and Faith
Lang	Lit		Biology	Chemistry	Physics			
8 lessons 4 exams, no coursework (S&L endorsement)		8 lessons or 7 lessons	9 lessons or 10 lessons Separate Sci OR Combined Sci			3 lessons Range of sports to choose After school teams and clubs	1	1
						Personal, social, health, economic and careers education	Faiths and cultures from the UK and around the world.	

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Core Curriculum							Option choices
Lang	English		Maths	Science			Core PE Life Curriculum Culture and Faith
	Lit	Biology		Chemistry	Physics		

= 30 lessons

= 20 lessons

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Core Curriculum								Option choices				
English		Maths	Science			Core PE	Life Curriculum	Culture and Faith	Option choice A	Option choice B	Option choice C	Option choice D
Lang	Lit		Biology	Chemistry	Physics							
					5 lessons	5 lessons	5 lessons	5 lessons				

= 30 lessons

= 20 lessons

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English Baccalaureate

The English Baccalaureate (EBacc) is a set of subjects introduced by the DfE at GCSE level with the intention of providing a sound academic background for students wishing to continue their studies to degree level.

EBacc Subjects:

- English
- Maths
- Science
- History or Geography
- French

We encourage all students to consider a broad and balanced curriculum. Whilst we do not insist upon the EBacc route, we do require students to select at least ONE of the following options:

- History
- Geography
- RE
- Sociology
- Travel & Tourism



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<u>GCSE</u>	<u>Vocational Courses</u>	<u>Literacy Plus</u>
Academic qualifications that are recognised and valued by schools, colleges and employers. These qualifications are graded 9-1. Some qualifications have different levels of entry; higher or foundation tiers	BTEC / VCert These qualifications are work related courses suitable for a wide range of learners. These qualifications are Level 1/2 qualifications, graded Pass, Merit, Distinction, Distinction*	This is an invitation only option which includes two lessons of Literacy and three lessons of a Level 1 qualification – Construction or Home Cooking.



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Option choices: Questions to ask

What will I learn?

What skills will I develop?

How will I learn?

What qualification do I get?

How will I be assessed?

What could I do with this qualification?

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Option choices FAQs

Art
(Textiles or Fine Art)

Childcare

Design Technology
(Graphics or Product Design)

Drama

Engineering

French

Geography

History

Hospitality & Catering

Media Studies

Music

Photography

PE
(GCSE or Vcert)

RE

Sociology

Travel & Tourism

Lit+ (Invitation Only)

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Option choices FAQs

A	B	C	D
Art	French	Drama	Art
Childcare	Geography	Geography	DT
DT	History	History	Engineering
Hospitality & Catering	PE	Hospitality & Catering	Geography
Music	Photography	Sociology	History
Photography	Travel & Tourism	RE	Media
RE	Lit+ Construction (Invitation Only)	Lit+ Home Cooking (Invitation Only)	

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Option choices FAQs

BLOCK A	BLOCK B	BLOCK C	BLOCK D
Subject 1	Subject 1	Subject 1	Subject 1
Subject 2	Subject 2	Subject 2	Subject 2
Subject 3	Subject 3	Subject 3	Subject 3
Subject 4	Subject 4	Subject 4	Subject 4
Subject 5	Subject 5	Subject 5	Subject 5
Subject 6	Subject 6	Subject 6	Subject 6

CHOOSE **ONE**
SUBJECT FROM
BLOCK A

CHOOSE **ONE**
SUBJECT FROM
BLOCK B

CHOOSE **ONE**
SUBJECT FROM
BLOCK C

CHOOSE **ONE**
SUBJECT FROM
BLOCK D

Preferences:
Make sure you put
your four choices
into priority order

Reserves:
Please choose **two**
subjects as reserve
choices, these can
come from any
block

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Option choices FAQs

How should I choose my key stage 4 options subjects?

Good reasons to consider a subject:

- You think you will enjoy it
- You are good at the subject
- You are interested in studying this subject later in life
- You are interested in a career linked to this subject
- This subject will give you plenty of choice in the future

Bad reasons to consider a subject:

- Your friend has chosen it
- People say it is easy
- You think boys/girls should/shouldn't study this
- You like the teacher you have at the moment in this subject
- You haven't taken your time to consider all the options.

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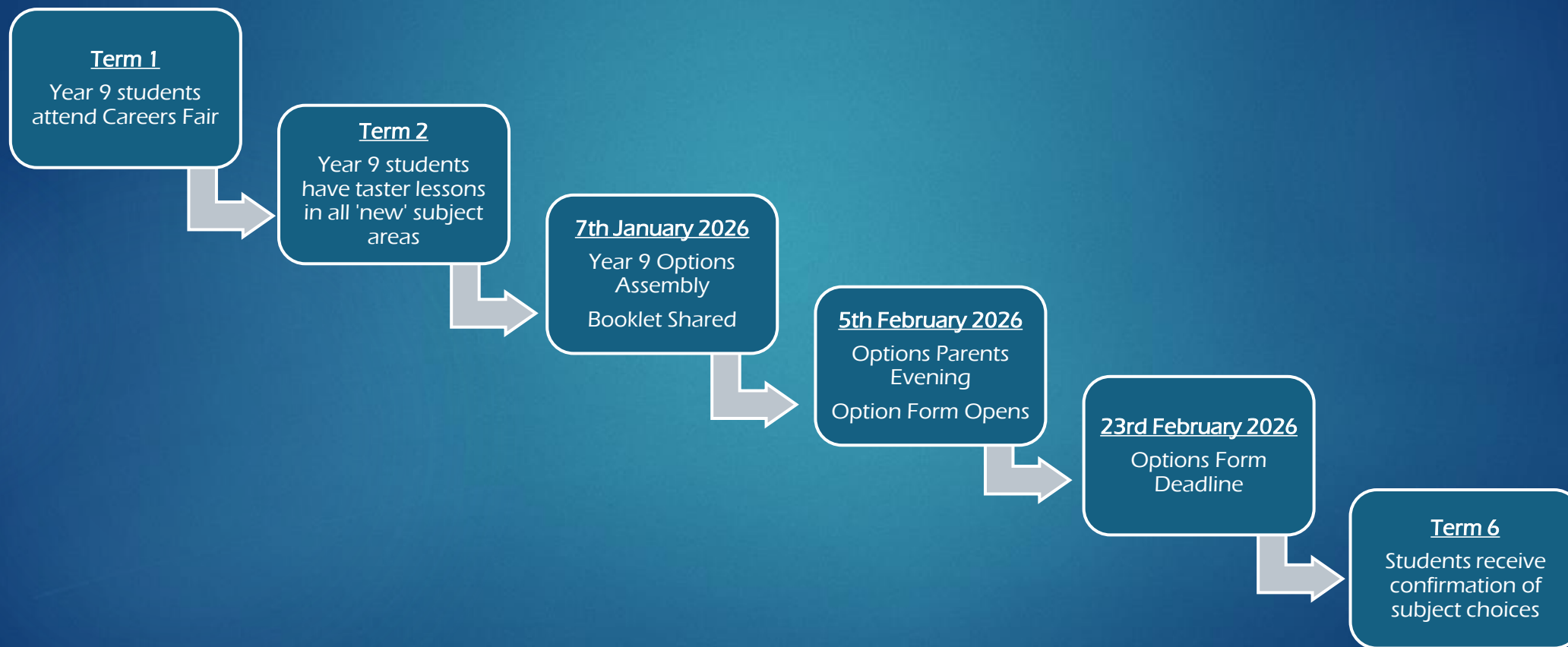
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OPTIONS TIMELINE



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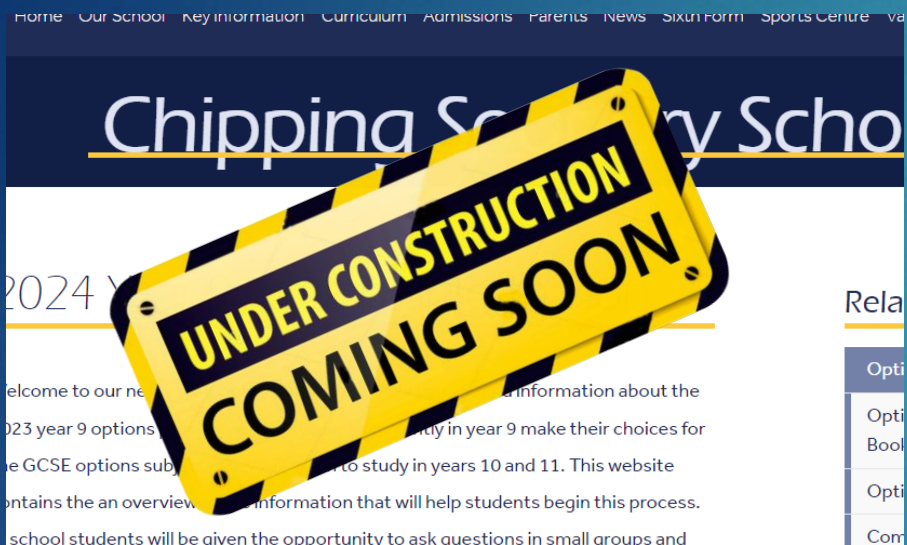
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Option choices FAQs



Year 9 Options Form 2026

Please make

1. Block A Choice *
2. Block B Choice *
3. Block C Choice *
4. Block D Choice *

5. Please indicate your choices in order of preference:

	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice
Block A Subject	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Block B Subject	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Block C Subject	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Block D Subject	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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Option choices NEXT STEPS

- ✓ Read all the information in the booklet which is being sent out to parents
- ✓ Speak to your teachers about KS4 courses
- ✓ Consider future aspirations and pathways
- ✓ Discuss choices as a family
- ✓ Consider 'new' subjects after the taster sessions
- ✓ Think about the subjects you are interested in and have an enthusiasm for
- ✓ Think about your learning strengths and which subjects / qualifications might go well with this
- ✓ Consider the balance of controlled assessment and exam content

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Option choices FAQs

- How many choices do I need to make?
- Why do I need to put them in order of preference?
- Why do I have to make reserve choices?
- Why do some subjects have 'Or' between them?
- Are options first come, first served?
- Can I change my mind after the deadline?
- I am not sure what I want to do in the future, what should I do?
- The combination of subjects I want to do is not possible, what can I do?
- I have further questions

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