

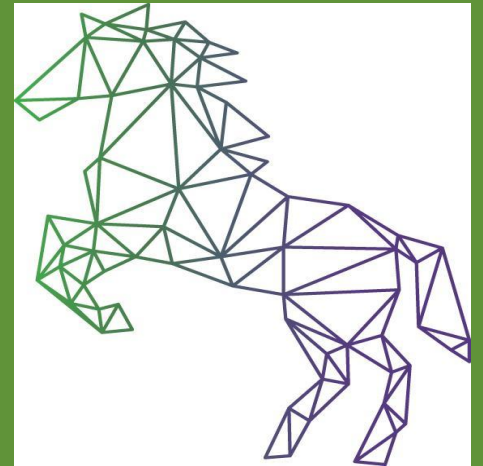
Welcome to our Year 8 into 9 Options Evening

Monday 30th January 2023

6.00-7.30pm

Mrs Comiskey (Deputy Headteacher)

Mrs Wright (Assistant Headteacher)

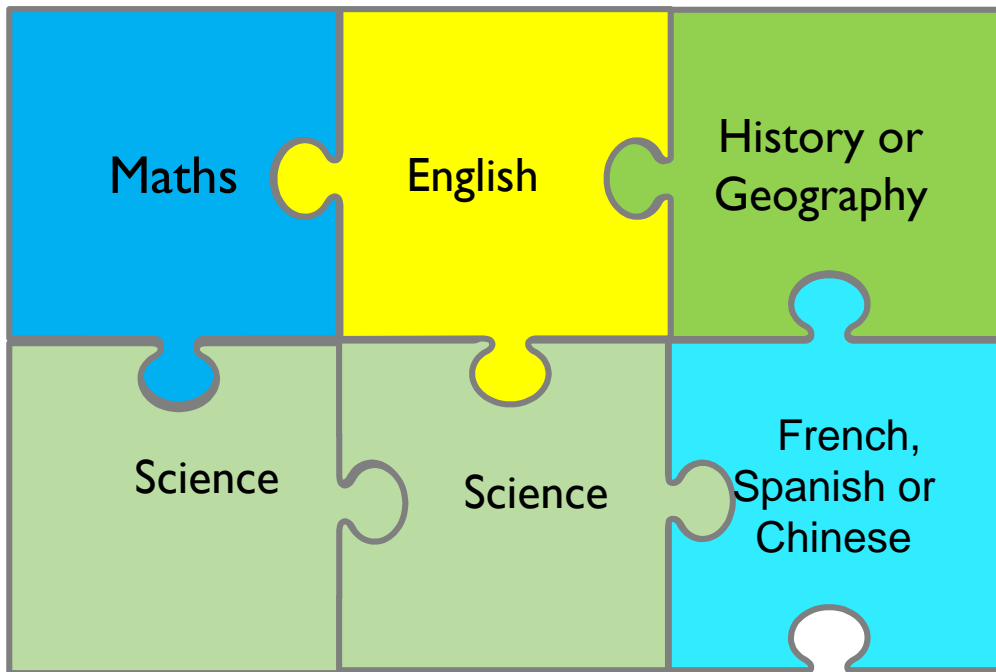


Why do students pick options for Year 9?

- To enable students to have some say in the curriculum they are taught.
- To ensure that our students select the subjects which will allow them to achieve and progress to the next phase of their education successfully.
- To allow students to continue to study a wide range of subjects, whilst choosing some to focus on in **greater depth.**



What is the English Baccalaureate (eBacc)?



- Achieved at the end of GCSE
- Requires students to study one humanity and one modern foreign language
- Awarded with Grade 5+ in English, Maths, two sciences, a humanity and a language
- Increasingly high profile status with universities
- We **strongly** recommend continuing with this route when choosing options in Year 10

In Year 9, students will continue to study all elements of the eBacc.



What will Students study in Year 9?

All Year 9 students will continue to study the **Core Curriculum Offer:**

- English (8 hours)
- Mathematics (8)
- Science (9)
- A language (5)
- History or Geography or both

- RS (2)
- PSHCE (1)
- PE (3)
- Computing (1)

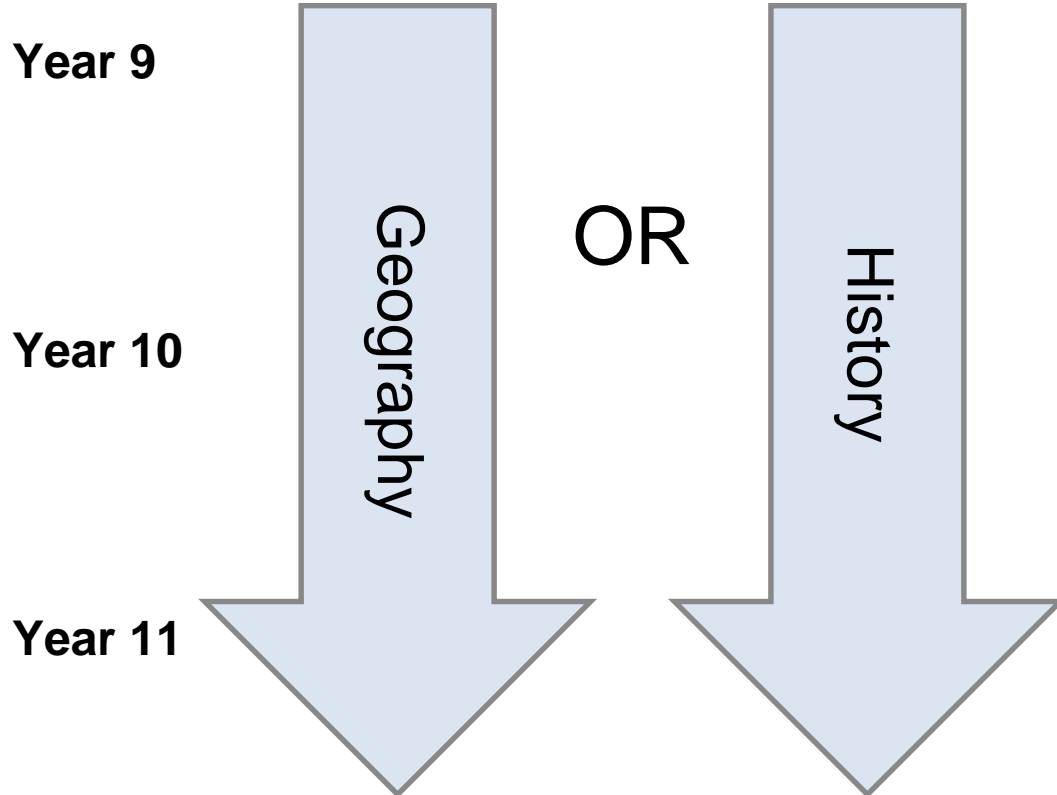
Science in Year 9

- All students study the same science content in Year 9
- There will be an opportunity to study separate sciences in Year 10 and 11
- This will be a guided choice.
- Suitability will be determined by attainment in science.

Students then have a number of choices to make.



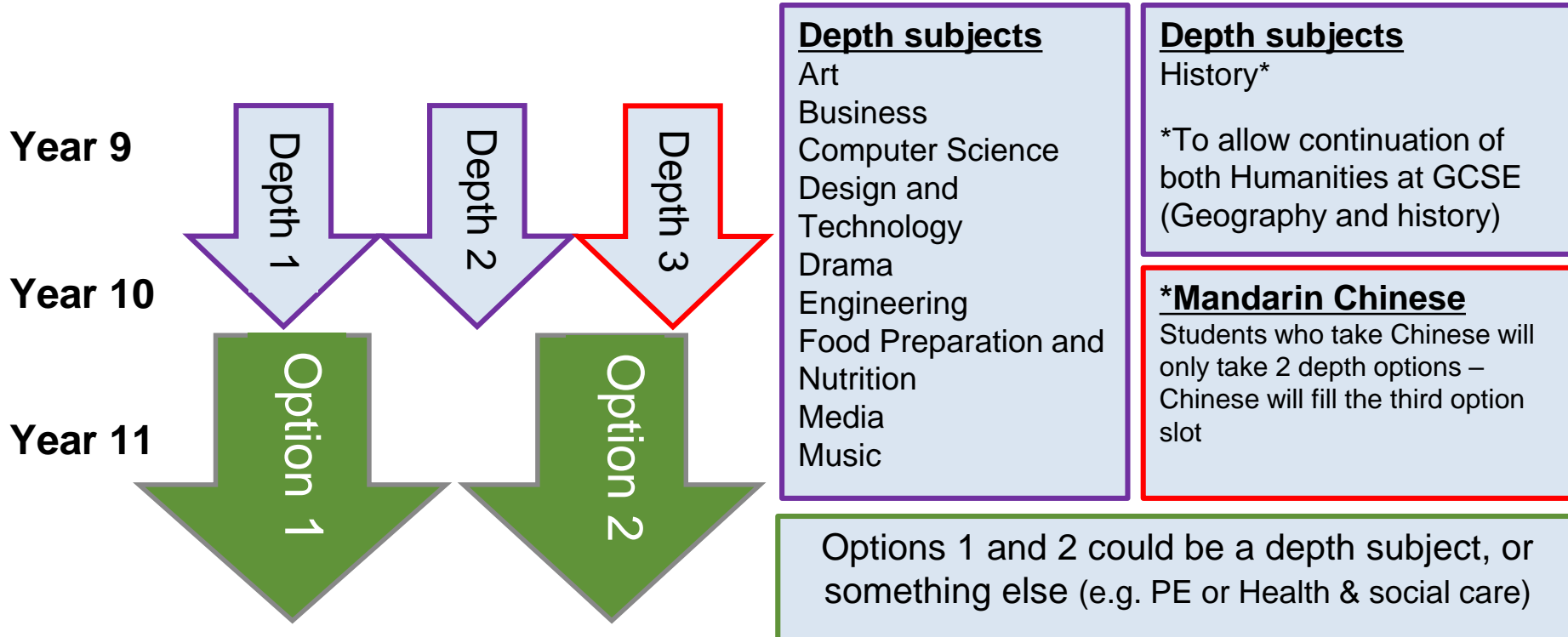
Choice 1 – The Humanities Option



- Pick either History or Geography to study in more depth in Year 9, for 3 hours per fortnight.
- **All students will continue to study the other subject for one hour per fortnight.**
- If they are considering **both** subjects for GCSE, they must pick Geography as their humanities option and then History as a **depth option**

Choice 2 – Depth subjects

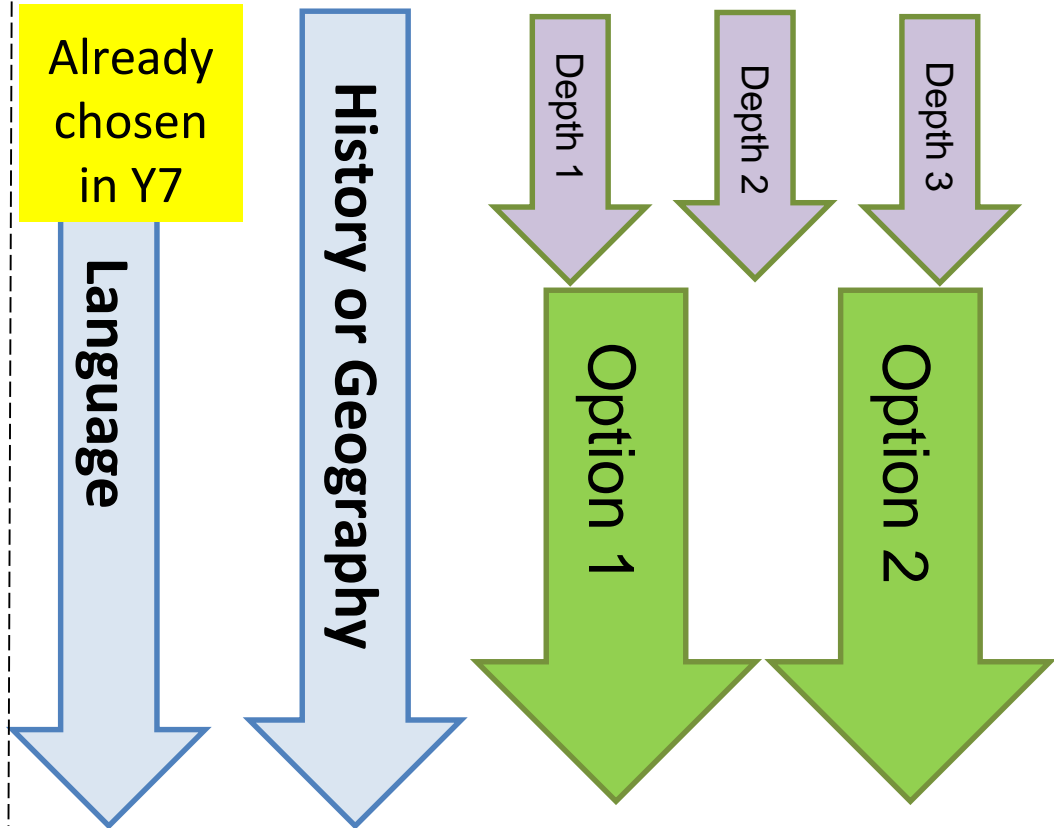
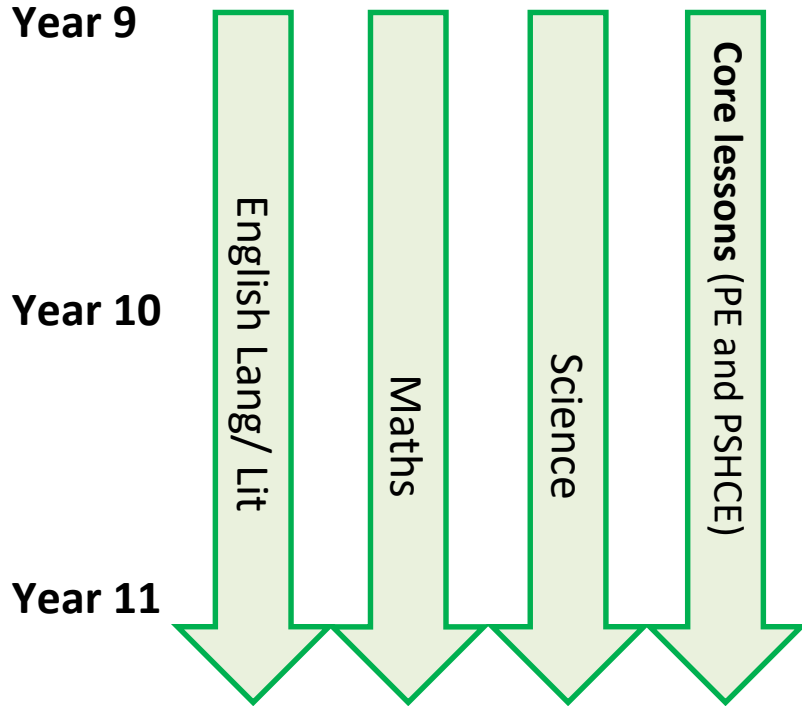
Students select **3*** Depth subjects to study next year.
This will help inform students' final GCSE options chosen whilst in Year 9.



Summary of subjects

All students study:

Students choose to study:



Examples: Humanities option

| Humanities option | | | | Depth option 1 | | |
|-------------------|---|---|---|----------------|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

Examples: Depth option

| Humanities / Language | Depth 1 | Depth 2 | Depth 3 | R |
|-----------------------|---------|-----------|-------------|-----|
| History French | Food | Media | Drama | DT |
| Geography Spanish | History | Business | Engineering | Art |
| History Chinese | Chinese | Computing | Music | Art |



Please note...

It is important that all parents/carers and students are aware of the following points:

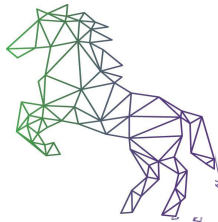
- *Courses will only run if there is sufficient student demand and the course is economically viable*
- *The number of classes and class sizes may have to be limited for practical reasons meaning that some courses may have limited places*
- *Unfortunately we cannot guarantee students will be allocated all of their choices*
- *All final decisions must, of course, rest with the school*
- *Opting for a course does not necessarily guarantee entry for a particular examination at the end of that course – entries will depend upon student progress over two years*

Option choices are NOT on a first come, first served basis.

Supporting them choosing options

Talk to them – ask them...

- What they currently study and are doing well in
- If they are interested in trying a completely new subject
- Which subjects they currently find enjoyable and interesting
- What their future plans are and if certain subjects will help them get where they want to go...



Making their Option Choices:

- Check their school email account on **Tuesday 31 January** (tomorrow) for an email with a link to Options Online.
- Follow the instructions in the email to register with Options Online. <https://www.sims-options.co.uk>
- Choose **1 humanities option** first
- Choose **3 depth subjects + 1 reserve** (Unless they take Chinese – then choose 2 depth + Chinese + 1 reserve)
- Edit their options up until the deadline of **Friday 24th February.**



Options Online - Humanities:

Humanities

You will study this choice for three hours per fortnight in Year 9, and continue it into Years 10 and 11. You will still continue with the other humanities subject for one hour per fortnight, but in Year 9 only.

If you would like to continue with both humanities in full at this stage, pick Geography here and select History as a depth option. You can then continue with both in Year 10 if you like, or drop one.

You have chosen 0 of 1 courses from this list

Geography Key Stage 3

History Key Stage 3

i This course is also available in Depth Subjects



Options Online – Depth subjects:

Depth Subjects

You have chosen 0 of 3 courses and 0 of 1 reserves from this list

Art Key Stage 3

Reserve

Business Studies Key Stage 3

Reserve

Comp.St. Key Stage 3

Reserve

Drama Key Stage 3

Reserve

Engineering Key Stage 3

Reserve

Food Tech. Key Stage 3

Reserve

History Key Stage 3

Reserve

Media Key Stage 3

Reserve

i This course is also available in Humanities

Music Key Stage 3

Reserve

Technology Key Stage 3

Reserve



Options Online – Mandarin Chinese:

You have chosen 1 of 3 courses and 0 of 1 reserves from this list

Art Key Stage 3

Reserve

Chinese Key Stage 3

Choice

Reserve

Drama Key Stage 3

Reserve

Food Tech. Key Stage 3

Reserve

Media Key Stage 3

Reserve

Technology Key Stage 3

Reserve

Business Studies Key Stage 3

Reserve

Comp.St. Key Stage 3

Reserve

Engineering Key Stage 3

Reserve

History Key Stage 3

Reserve

i This course is also available in Humanitie

Music Key Stage 3

Reserve



Next Steps

- Read the subject options booklet carefully
- Annual reports will be sent home on **Friday 10th February**, which may help inform their decision.
- Gather information about each different course on offer by visiting the subject stalls tonight
- Finally, they must decide upon their final options and **complete the on-line form before the deadline** (Friday 24th February)



Key Dates and Deadlines

| Date | Event |
|--|--|
| Mon 30th January | Year 8-9 options assemblies for students |
| Monday 30th January | Year 8-9 Options' Support evening |
| Friday 10th February | Year 8 Full reports sent home |
| Friday 24th February | Option choices deadline |

- Options can be edited until the deadline of **Friday 24th February**. Just go online and change them!
- It's NOT first come, first served. We don't look at what students have chosen until **AFTER the deadline**. If at that stage a subject will not run we will contact you.



Support this evening

- **Mrs Comiskey, Mrs Wright and Mrs Marsh** will be available in the hall all evening to answer general questions
- **Subject leaders** will be at their Subject Stalls in the diners upstairs to answer questions and give advice and general course information (Please note that they are not available to give individual student progress feedback tonight)
- **Mrs O'Donnell** (Careers adviser) and **Mr Maxwell** (Year co-ordinator) are available in the diner upstairs to give careers and general options advice



Support this evening – Subject Stalls

JB4:

- Engineering (Mr Dillon)
- Media (Mr Lee)

BOB diner:

- History (Mr Miles)
- Geography (Mrs Collis)

L-Shaped diner:

- Careers (Mrs O'Donnell)

Main diner:

- Art (Mr Questa)
- Drama (Mrs Bevan)
- Food & Technology (Mrs Mayo)
- Technology (Mrs Mayo)
- Music (Ms Cairns)

ELC:

- Business (Mr Green)
- Computing (Mr Hood)



Support after this evening

- If you have a question regarding option choices, please e-mail **info@horsforthschool.org** marked **FAO Mrs Wright**
- If you can't log on to options online, please e-mail **parentlogons@horsforthschool.org** for technical support.

Please ensure that your son/daughter logs on to their school email account tomorrow to open the 'Options email' that will be sent to them. This will include; a log-in and activation guide for the Options on-line system, guidance on how to complete the form and a copy of the options booklet.

