

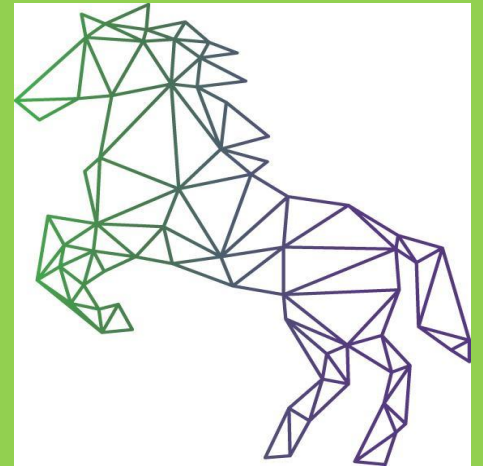
Welcome to our Year 9 into 10 Options Evening

Monday 9th January 2023

6.00-7.30pm

Mrs Comiskey (Deputy Headteacher)

Mrs Wright (Assistant Headteacher)



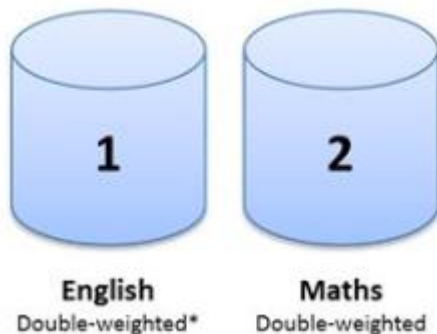
Why are option choices so important?

20 years ago:-
5 GCSE's at C+

2017:-
Grades 9-1
replaced A* -G

2023:
Grade 5 + in
English and maths
plus the best
grades

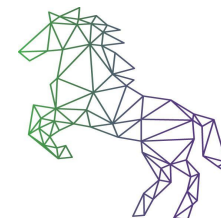
Future: The total
attainment 8 score
(or eBacc score)



EBacc qualifications
(sciences, computer science, geography,
history and languages)



'Open group'
**Remaining EBacc qualifications and
other approved qualifications**
(GCSEs and other approved academic, arts or vocational
qualifications)



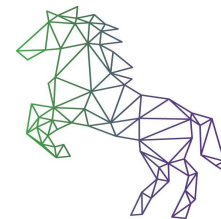
Why are option choices so important?

Progression to sixth form/ university/ college or an apprenticeship relies on:-

Grade 5 in English

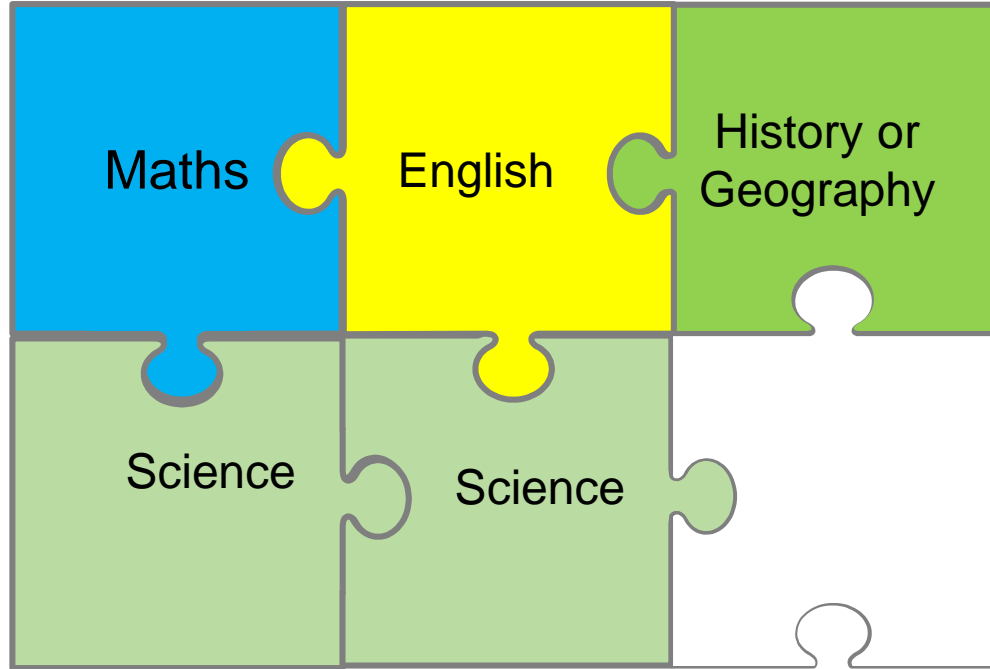
Grade 5 in Maths

A high average
progress score across
all of your subjects

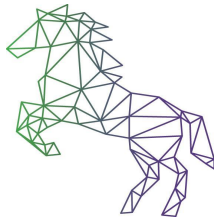


What is the English Baccalaureate (eBacc)?

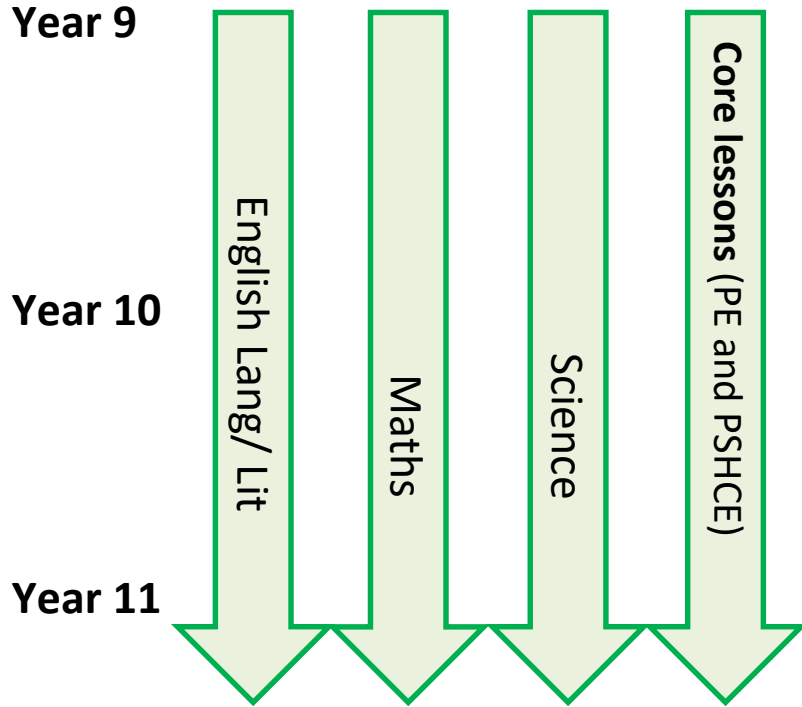
Some universities will also look at eBacc subjects, which are:-



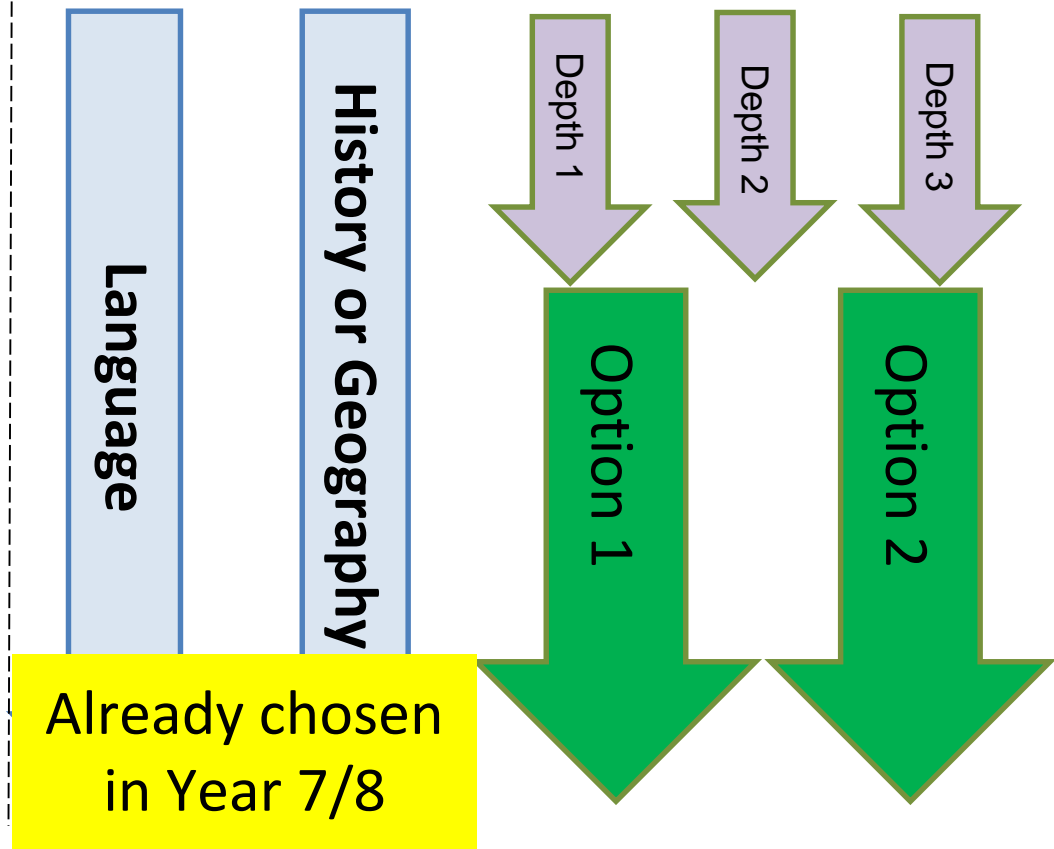
A missing piece of the jigsaw will reduce your eBacc score.



All students study:-



Students choose to study:-



Science options

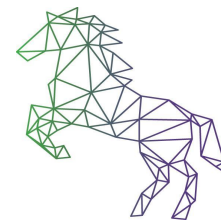
- All Year 10 and 11 students will study for a Combined Science Award and will gain 2 GCSE Science grades.

Unless:

- They select Triple Science (3 GCSEs in; Biology, Chemistry and Physics) as 1 of their 2 option choices

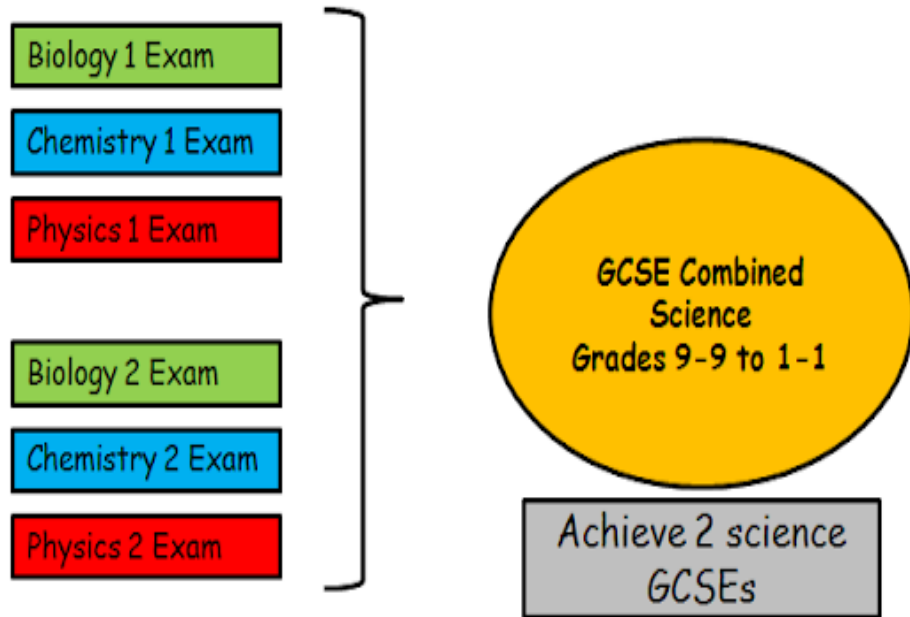
Please note:

- Students choosing this option will have to study for a GCSE in Statistics in Year 10 and then use the additional time in Year 11 to complete their Triple Science qualification
- Acceptance onto this option course will be determined by prior attainment in Science.
- **This is a guided option choice.**

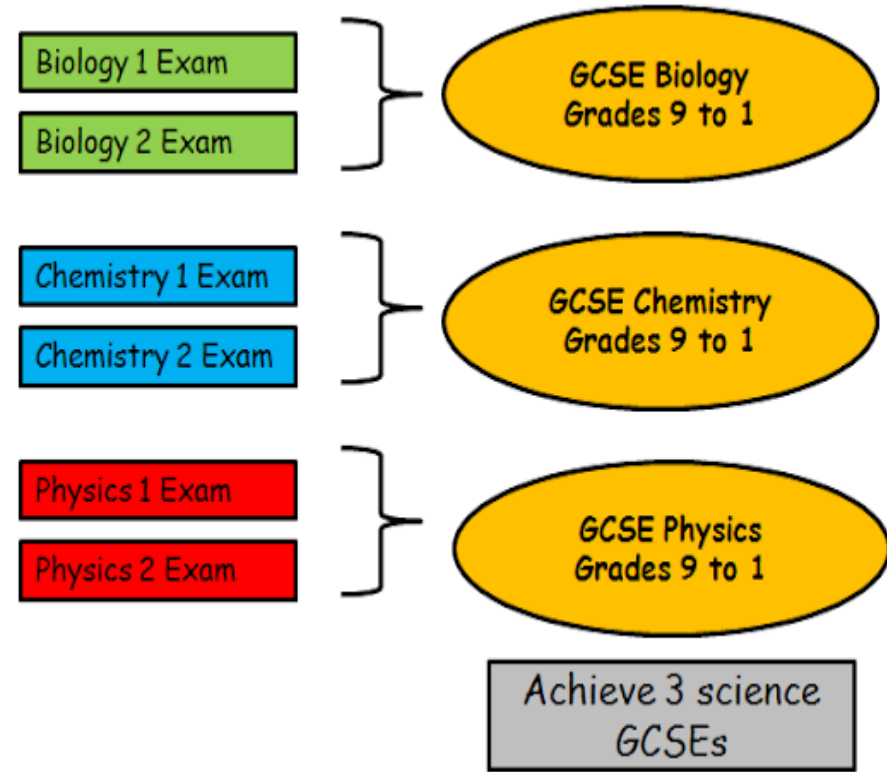


Combined OR Triple Science?

Combined Science



Triple Science



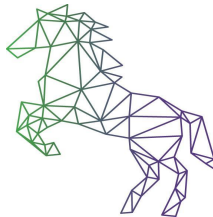
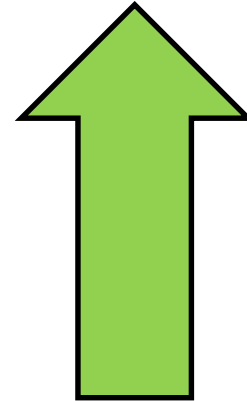
What do students study in Year 10?

CORE

- English (10 hours per fortnight)
- Mathematics (8)
- Science (9)
- PE and PSHCE (3)
- History or Geography (5)
- Language (5)

OPTIONS

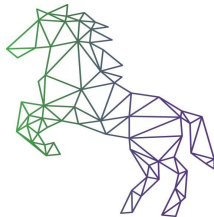
- Option 1 (5)
- Option 2 (5)



Option subjects (Choose 2 + 1 reserve)

- Art (GCSE)
- Business Studies (GCSE or BTEC)
- Computer studies (GCSE)
- Drama (GCSE)
- Engineering (BTEC)
- Food Tech (GCSE)
- Health and Social Care (BTEC)
- IT (BTEC)
- Media (GCSE)
- Music (GCSE)
- PE (GCSE or BTEC)
- Photography (GCSE)
- Religious studies (GCSE)
- Technology (GCSE)
- Triple Science (plus Statistics) (GCSE)

This options process is only about students choosing 2 subjects (plus 1 reserve) from this list to study in Years 10 and 11



Which type of qualification?

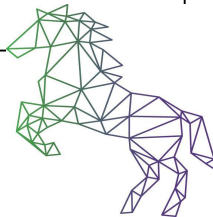
GCSE

- More challenging content, taken from the old A-Level courses
- Less or no coursework/controlled assessment
- More exams, mostly at the end of the course
- 9-1 replaces A*-G

Level 2 qualifications / BTECs

- Equivalent to a GCSE but graded Pass / Merit / Distinction
- Recognised by employers
- More coursework and internal exams
- Will allow entry into our sixth form

**We also run Level 2 qualifications in;
IT, Engineering and Health and Social Care**



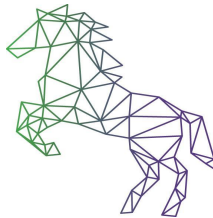
Please note...

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*

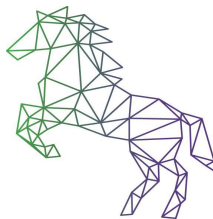
Advice for choosing options

- Consider something that your child is currently studying as a 3 hour subject depth option and has enjoyed.
- Consider something that we are offering that is a new subject for them (eg Health and Social Care).
- Choose subjects that are enjoyable and interesting, NOT ones which other students are selecting or because they like a particular teacher.
- Consider their favoured learning and assessment styles when selecting either BTEC or GCSE courses.



Making Option Choices - Options online

- Options on-line can be found at <https://www.sims-options.co.uk>
- Enter via the Google icon on the system home page (School log in)
- Check email next week (Tuesday) for instructions
- All students only need to make **2 option choices and 1 reserve.**
- Students can edit option choices online until the deadline of **Friday 10th February.**
- Parents can view the options choices via the Sims Parent App but cannot make changes – the student must do this themselves.



Making Option Choices - Options online

Option Choice

You have chosen 0 of 2 courses and 0 of 1 reserves from this list

Art GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course <input type="button" value="Reserve"/>	Business Studies BTEC Tech Award Level 1/2 <input type="button" value="Reserve"/>
Business Studies GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course <input type="button" value="Reserve"/>	Computer Science GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course <input type="button" value="Reserve"/>
Drama GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course <input type="button" value="Reserve"/>	Engineering BTEC Tech Award Level 1/2 <input type="button" value="Reserve"/>
Food Tech. GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course <input type="button" value="Reserve"/>	Health & Social Care BTEC Tech Award Level 1/2 <input type="button" value="Reserve"/>
Info. Tech BTEC Tech Award Level 1/2 <input type="button" value="Reserve"/>	Media GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course <input type="button" value="Reserve"/>
Triple Science with Stats GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course <input type="button" value="Reserve"/>	Music GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course <input type="button" value="Reserve"/>
P.E. BTEC Award Level 2 <input type="button" value="Reserve"/>	P.E. GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course <input type="button" value="Reserve"/>
Photograph GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course <input type="button" value="Reserve"/>	Religious Studies GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course <input type="button" value="Reserve"/>
Technology GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course <input type="button" value="Reserve"/>	

Making Option Choices - Options online

History or Geography

You are currently studying both History and Geography for 3 hours per fortnight. Please indicate below which one you would like to continue with in Years 10 and 11 to GCSE. (If you would like to continue both, select Geography here and History as an option choice below)

You have chosen courses from this list

Geography GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

History GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

i This course is also available in Options H

Business BTEC Tech Award Level 1/2

Reserve

Computer Science
GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

Reserve

Drama GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

Reserve

Engineering
BTEC Tech Award Level 1/2

Reserve

French GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

Reserve

Food Prep and Nutrition
GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

Reserve

History GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

Reserve

Health and Social Care
BTEC Tech Award Level 1/2

Reserve

i This course is also available in History or Geography

Students will only be able to see this section of the on-line form if they opted for both History AND Geography when choosing humanities options in Year 9

Next steps...

- Read the subject options booklet carefully
- Watch the individual subject YouTube videos
- Re-read your child's annual school report from Year 8
- Use **Year 9 parents' evening on Thursday 26th January** to speak to individual subject teachers and get advice directly.
- Use the subject stalls tonight to get more information about each different course on offer
- Finally, **decide upon 2 subject choices plus 1 reserve and complete the form before the deadline** (Friday 10th February)

Key Dates and Deadlines

Date	Event
Mon 9 th – Wed 11 th January	Year 9-10 options assemblies for students
Monday 9 th January	Year 9-10 Options' Support evening
Thursday 26 th January	Year 9 parents' evening
Friday 10 th February	Option choices deadline

- Options can be edited until the deadline of **Friday 10th 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** and **Mrs Wright** 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 – this should be done at the upcoming parents evening)
- **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

L-shaped diner:

- Art / Photography (Mr Questa)
- Business (Mr Green)
- Computing (Mr Hood)
- IT (Mr Emmet)
- Engineering (Mr Dillon)
- Drama (Mrs Bevan)
- Media (Mr Lee)

Main diner:

- Food & Technology (Mrs Mayo)
- Health and social care (Ms Broughton)
- Music (Ms Botham)
- PE (Mr Fraser)
- Sport (Mr Steele)
- RE (Miss Lewis)
- Triple science & Statistics (Mr Caden)

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 link to the Options on-line system, guidance on completion of the form, a copy of the options booklet and links to the subject specific videos for them to watch.

A log-in and activation guide will also be sent to any students who have not logged onto the system before.