

Welcome

Year 9 Options Evening

2018



Excellence in all we do.



Year 9 Options Assembly	Monday 29 January 2017
Year 9 Options Information Evening	Monday 29 January 2017
Tutorial Information/Drop down day/PSHE	Thursday 25 January
Year 9 Parents Evening (4.00pm -7.00pm)	P Band: Thursday 1 February 2018 - JPH, DRW, RPM, AMC Q Band: Thursday 8 February 2018 - AD, JRD, DB.
1:1 Guidance meeting with a member of our leadership team or Mr Gray	1 Feb - 8 Feb 2017
Hand in Options forms - final deadline	Friday 9 Feb 2018
Option confirmation letter	May/June 2018

Support and Guidance

Form Tutors

Know the process and able to answer most questions

Subject Leaders

Speak to the teacher who runs the course

Alastair Gray

Head of Achievement and Learning - Year 9

Elaine McStravick

Careers Advisor

Michael Smith

Deputy Headteacher: Data, Timetable and Curriculum



DO: aim to support your child in choosing a balanced range of subjects that will give a solid foundation for the future

DO: encourage your child to choose subject he/she enjoys

DO: find out which subjects will help your child if he/she has a particular career or course of study in mind for the future

DO: get your child to make decisions on his/her own rather than copying friends

DO: remember that there is a limit to the number of rooms, equipment and teachers for some subjects- For this reason we will ask students to tell us of alternative choices (reserve choices)

DO: check Sixth Form options also

DO: try to be impartial!!!



Compulsory Courses - Core (examined)

- **English Language**
- **English Literature**
- **Mathematics**
- **Science (*2 Pathways – either trilogy or separate science)**
- **I.C.T (* for students taking trilogy science)**



Grading new GCSEs from 2017

New grading structure	Current grading structure
9	A*
8	
7	
6	B
5	
4	C
3	
2	D
1	
U	E
	F
	G
	U

GOOD PASS (DfE)
5 and above = top of C and above

AWARDING
4 and above = bottom of C and above



GCSE English Language and Literature Edexcel

No Tiers

One exam for all students

Grades of 1 to 9

Increased emphasis on spelling, punctuation & grammar, a closed book exam , set texts, Poetry and a Shakespeare play.



GCSE Maths

AQA

Two Tiers

Foundation (1-5) & Higher (grade 4-9)

Grades of 1 to 9



Science Pathways - AQA

We have two Science pathways for our students

Trilogy and an ICT qualification

Separates

Decided by Science staff in May/June time, staff will consider science ability, attitude in Science lessons, test results and specific Science tests and then allocate students to most suitable courses.



Compulsory Courses - Core (non examined)

- **P.E. (Can also be taken as an option subject)**
- **Social and Ethical Studies - covers topical issues, PSHE and aspects of careers guidance**



The English Baccalaureate

- The English Baccalaureate recognises students who achieve grades 5 - 9 in English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, two sciences, a language (ancient or modern) and a humanity (Geography or History).
- Entry into our Sixth Form will not be dependent on students achieving this qualification and the latest information we have from universities is that they will not use this qualification as an entry requirement.
- Universities (the Russell Group) may look back at GCSE grades as a basis for making an offer but they are more concerned that students achieve the highest possible grades at GCSE level.
- We continue to advise students to choose subjects which they will enjoy and which they believe will give them the greatest chance of success.



Vocational & 'New' Subjects

- Think carefully before your child chooses one of these subjects
- Find out about them
- Much of the work in the technical and vocational subjects is not all practical and requires a pen
- GCSE PE has written exams it does not just mean more practical PE
- Strongly consider a technology subject, but you can only choose one
- There are no easy choices



Your child's subject choices

- Your child will choose- top four subject choices (✓) plus two reserves (R)
- Must include at least one of these four subjects: French, Geography, History, or Spanish
- Students will have 5 hours per fortnight of 4 option choices in years 10 and 11



You must choose at least one subject in the first grid (you can choose more than one) and you must make four choices (✓) plus indicate two reserves overall (R). You may only choose one of either Art and Design or Art Textiles.

Geography		History	
French		Spanish	

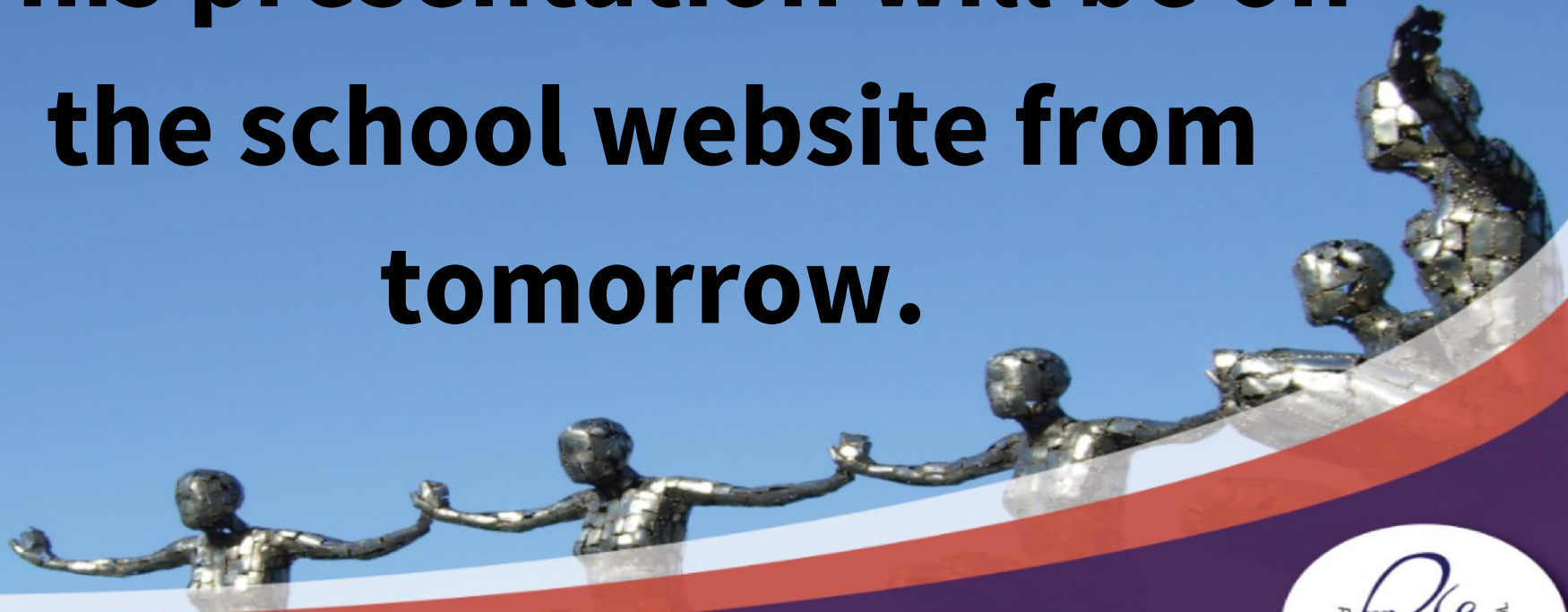
Art & Design		Art Textiles	
Business Studies		Music	
Computer Science		Philosophy and Ethics	
Drama		Physical Education	
Engineering (BTEC)		DT: Timbers	
Food Nutrition and Preparation		DT: Paper and Boards	
Health and Social Care (BTEC)			
Parent/ Carer Comments			

Important Points

- Courses need to be viable. If the number opting for a course is not high enough then it may not run....
- Reserve choices are therefore very important – the option pool model will be the best fit for the year group
- Some of our students will get a reserve choice as it may not be possible to give all students their first choice



**This presentation will be on
the school website from
tomorrow.**



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