



YEAR 9 OPTIONS

How do the choices I make now
influence future options?

Which GCSEs should I choose?

- + This is down to a combination of things, including your own interests, which optional subjects your school allows you to choose, and your future plans.
- + You're beginning to shape your own education! This is the first time you can focus on the subjects you like the most and feel you will do well at, so make sure you take time to research your options and make informed decisions.

What to consider...

External Drivers

- + **Career ambitions**- what do I need study to get to where I want to be?
- + **Feedback**- what do my teachers say about my abilities and prospects for success?
- + **Mentoring & coaching**- who inspires me and who can I engage with to help me on my journey?
- + **Challenge**- do I welcome the challenges presented by the subject?

Internal drivers

- + **Satisfaction**- what do I enjoy and what makes me happy?
- + **Self awareness**- what are my values and skills?
- + **Effort**- what am I willing to do when the subject gets difficult?
- + **Vision**- what do I expect to achieve at the end?
- + **Reflection**- do I review what is going well and what isn't and adapt my approach?

What NOT to consider...

External factors

- + **Friends & family**- this is your decision and whilst their guidance might be helpful, only you decide. Don't just pick a subject because your friend did.
- + **Money**- whilst important, a successful career is measured by many other factors than how much you earn.

Internal factors

- + **Self doubt**- employ a growth mindset. Learning takes effort and time. Don't be your biggest critic.
- + **Perfectionism**- this does not exist. Think about what your best could look like and enjoy the journey as much as the outcome



Characteristics of successful students

Accept Responsibility. You see yourself as primarily responsible for your outcomes and experiences.

Are Self-Motivated. You find purpose in what you do by discovering personally meaningful goals and dreams.

Master Self-Management. You plan and take action in pursuit of your goals and dreams.

Are Interdependent. You build mutually supportive relationships that help you achieve your goals and dreams (while helping others do the same).

Have Self-Awareness. You consciously think, believe, and behave in ways that keep you on course.

Believe in Life-Long Learning. You look for lessons in all of your experiences.

Have High EQ's (Emotional Intelligence). You accept your emotions, but you manage them in support of your goals and dreams.

Believe in Yourself. You see yourself as a capable, lovable, and unconditionally worthy human being.

Sciences

Skills & experiences

Science gives you a good grounding for the future.

You gain skills in areas such as:

- Critical analysis and evaluation
- Health & safety, manual dexterity & handling laboratory equipment
- Numeracy, accuracy and handling data
- Team work & collaboration
- Exploring, explaining, modelling and theorising scientific principles
- Presenting a well-researched and evidenced argument



Subjects and Careers

Success in Science can provide access to level 3 courses, including:

- Biology, Chemistry or Physics
- Psychology, Geology or Geography
- Applied Science, Sport or Health & Social Care

In the long term, if you decide to pursue your scientific studies, it can lead to an almost limitless number of job opportunities.

Highly qualified scientists are very much in demand and their skills are required in many jobs, including:

-Research, teaching, medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine and medically aligned careers. Sports science, environmental services, food technologies and pharmaceutical industries

Humanities

Skills & experiences

Humanities give you a good grounding for the future.

You gain skills in areas such as:

- Critical thinking and evaluation of varied sources
- Appreciation of the history of humanity, how people interact with society, what makes a good citizen, and why people turn to religion.
- Academic writing skills and referencing
- Team work & collaboration
- Debate and public speaking
- Presenting a well-researched and evidenced argument or idea



Subjects and Careers

Success in Humanities can provide access to level 3 courses, including:

- Law, History, Philosophy & Ethics or Criminology
- English, English Literature or Sociology
- Geography, Travel & Tourism or Art

In the long term, if you decide to pursue your humanities studies, it can lead to an almost limitless number of job opportunities.

Highly qualified students are very much in demand and their skills are required in many jobs, including:

-Research, teaching, curating, policy writing, law and journalism. Marketing, Entrepreneurship, charity and public services.

Modern Foreign Languages



Skills & experiences

Languages give you a good grounding for the future.

You gain skills in areas such as:

- Written, verbal, reading and oral abilities
- Increased connectivity with others
- Cultural appreciation
- Interpersonal skills
- Conveying meanings correctly
- Memory, problem solving and critical thinking
- Confidence to travel extensively

Subjects and Careers

Success in MFL can provide access to level 3 courses, including:

- French, Spanish or English
- Travel & Tourism, Film Studies or Business Studies
- Law, Art, History or Philosophy & Ethics

In the long term, if you decide to pursue your language studies, it can lead to an almost limitless number of job opportunities.

Highly qualified students are very much in demand and their skills are required in many jobs, including:

-Translating/Interpreting, teaching, logistics, policy writing, law and journalism. Marketing, travel & tourism, charity or public services.

Arts and Performance

Skills & experiences

Art and performance-based subjects give you a good grounding for the future.

You gain skills in areas such as:

- Creativity and self expression
- Aesthetic appreciation and design
- Increased connectivity with others
- Cultural appreciation and historical context
- Interpersonal skills and emotional intelligence
- Manual dexterity and manipulation of resources
- Confidence and performance

Subjects and Careers

Success in Arts and Performance can provide access to level 3 courses, including:

- Fine Art, Graphic Design and Textiles
- Drama, Sport or Media
- English Literature or Film Studies

In the long term, if you decide to pursue your creative studies, it can lead to an almost limitless number of job opportunities.

Highly qualified students are very much in demand and their skills are required in many jobs, including:

-Art and design, teaching, architecture, curating/restoration, acting and journalism. Beauty, wellbeing services, retail or media/TV/theatre or film.



Technology

Skills & experiences

Tech-based subjects give you a good grounding for the future.

You gain skills in areas such as:

- Effective digital communication
- Design and numerical skills
- Project management
- Manual dexterity and manipulation of resources
- Logic and problem solving



Subjects and Careers

Success in tech subjects can provide access to level 3 courses, including:

- Computer Science, IT or Graphics
- Engineering, Science or Maths
- Business, Economics or Media

In the long term, if you decide to pursue your tech-based studies, it can lead to an almost limitless number of job opportunities.

Highly qualified students are very much in demand and their skills are required in many jobs, including:

-Web design, teaching, systems analysis, security, military careers and policing. Business, e-commerce, retail or manufacturing.

Sport

Skills & experiences

Sport-based subjects give you a good grounding for the future.

You gain skills in areas such as:

- Effective communication
- Planning and coordinating
- Coaching and mentoring
- Health and safety, safeguarding and leadership
- Nutrition, biomechanics, anatomy & physiology
- Resilience and flexibility



Subjects and Careers

Success in sport subjects can provide access to level 3 courses, including:

- Sports, Biology, Applied Science or Art
- Travel & Tourism, Business or English Literature
- Health & Social Care or Childcare

In the long term, if you decide to pursue your sports-based studies, it can lead to an almost limitless number of job opportunities.

Highly qualified students are very much in demand and their skills are required in many jobs, including:

-Coaching/instructing, teaching, research, medically aligned careers, military careers and public services. Business, e-commerce, retail or design.

What have I
learned from my
previous work
experience?

What soft and
hard skills do I
have?

What are my
interests?

What kind of
lifestyle do I
want to have?

What education
do I already
have?

What jobs are
available?





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