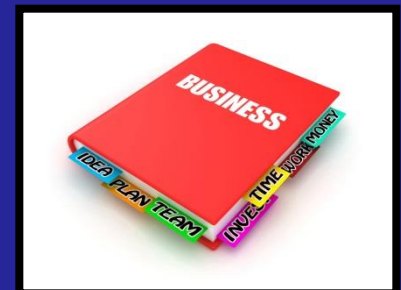
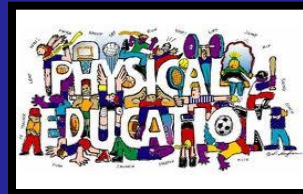


GCSE Options 2017



Something you are good at



Take your time to make decisions

Something you enjoy 😊

Ask for help



Subjects which could work well together

A balanced curriculum



Think about the long term

Good Options



Pick subjects
because you like
that teacher



Forget to consider
the longer term
future



DON'T



Pick subjects
because your
friend is going to



Do your option
choices in a hurry



FEBRUARY 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

Options Assembly

Wednesday 1st February

Options booklet on website

Tuesday 7th February

Parents /Options Evening

Thursday 9th February

Deadlines for choices

Thursday 16th February

Reminder - Year 9 Parents / Options Evening -
held in both the Sixth Form and Septimus Hall venues
between 3:20pm and 6.45pm.

There are no formal appointment times as this is a 'drop-in event' to allow your parents/carers the opportunity to speak to:

- staff of subjects you may be considering opting for and to get some curriculum advice;
- staff of subjects where they would like to discuss your progress.

Science staff have told you which teacher to see on Thursday - this teacher has the overview of your progress to date in all 3 Science disciplines.

Please note: there is no requirement to see all of your subject teachers.

GCSE assessment - Reminder

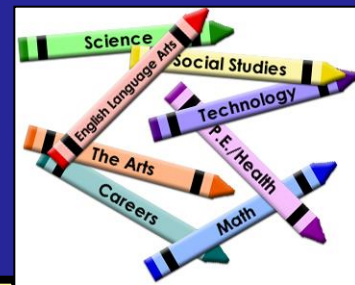
Your reports will be issued w/b 6th February 2017.

Your GCSE grading system uses numbers **1 to 9** in all subjects to identify grades of performance, with **9** being the top grade.

Exams will be taken at the end of the 2 year course in May or June 2019.

There are fewer short-answer and more essay-style exam questions.

Core Curriculum



English Language and English Literature

Maths

PSHE (Not GCSE)

PE (Not GCSE)

RE

Science * Combined Science (2 GCSEs)
or Separate Science - (3 GCSEs)

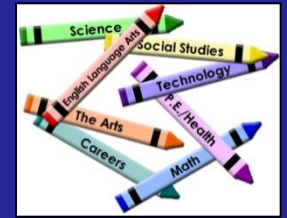
We carefully track your progress using Key Assessment data from Years 9, 10 and 11. This data will be used to determine whether or not we feel that you will be able to cope with the demands of three separate science GCSEs. If this is not the case then you will follow the AQA GCSE Combined Science: Trilogy.

All of
these
are
compulsory



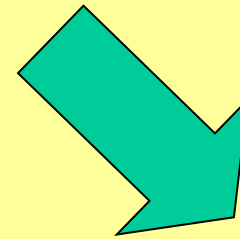
6 or 7
GCSE
Grades

Option Subjects



You can choose **3 subjects** from the following list:

- Art
- **Business Studies** (*new subject*)
- **Computer Science** (you need a grade 5 in Maths by the February Key Assessment)
- Design and Technology
- Food Preparation and Nutrition
- **French** (*studied it in Y8/9*)
- Geography
- History
- ICT -Tech Award (GCSE equivalent)
- **Media Studies** (*new subject*)
- Music
- PE GCSE
- **Spanish** (*studied it in Y8/9*)

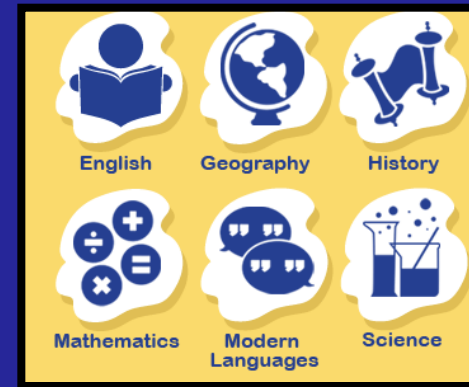


3 GCSE / GCSE equivalent
Grades

The ENGLISH BACCALAUREATE

is a 'performance measure' which will recognise pupils achieving at least 5 good passes (**Grade 5 or above**) which **MUST** include English, Mathematics, Science, one Humanities subject and one Modern Foreign Language. **There is no additional exam and no certificate!**

You must study the following combination of subjects in order to achieve the 'ENGLISH BACCALAUREATE'.



- GCSE English Language
- GCSE Mathematics
- GCSE in Sciences (2 needed – includes Computer Science)
- GCSE in Geography or GCSE History
- GCSE in Spanish or GCSE French



RUSSELL GROUP UNIVERSITIES

RUSSELL INTERNATIONAL EXCELLENCE GROUP

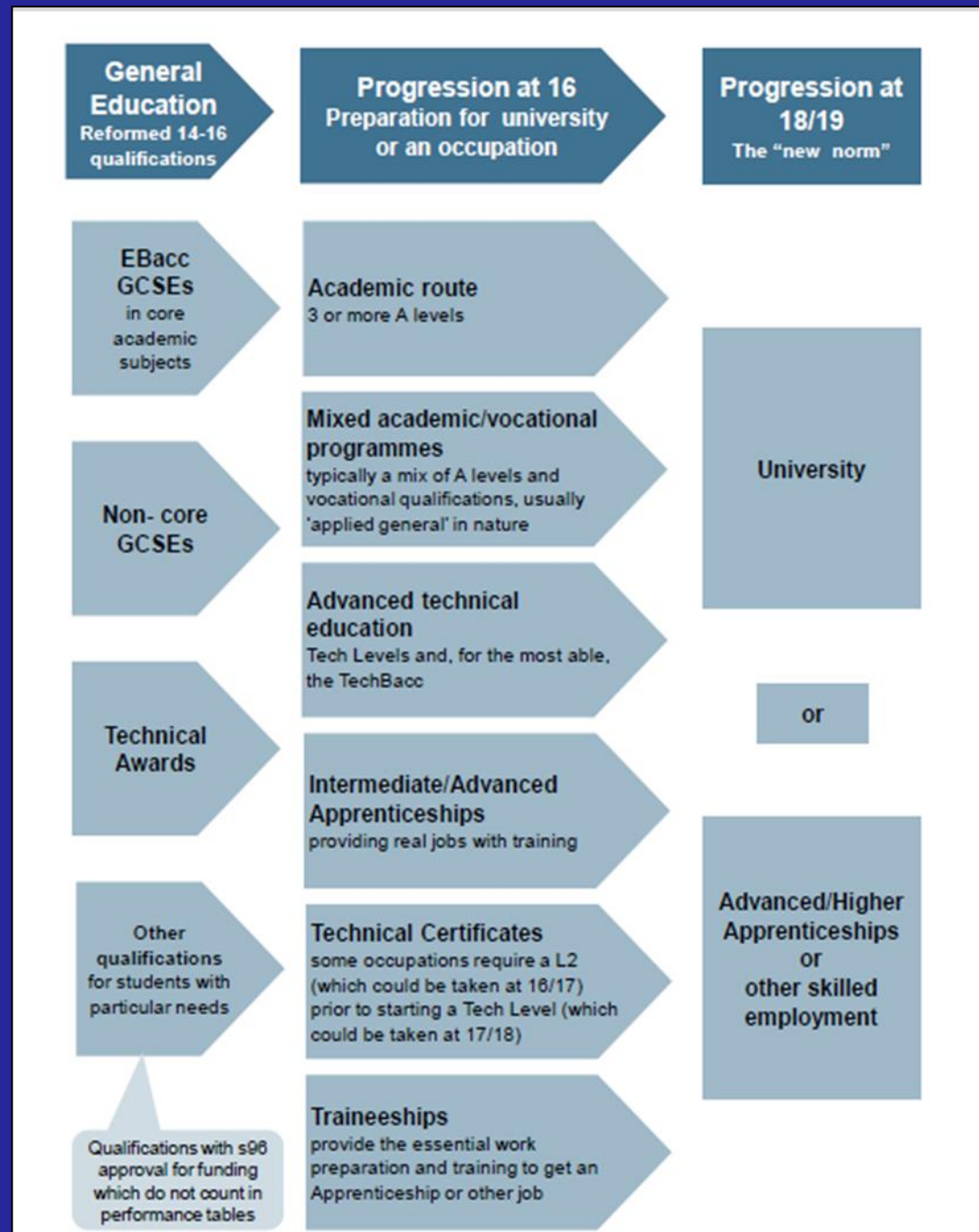
Subjects that can be viewed as 'facilitating subjects' at A level are Maths and Further Maths; Physics; Biology; Chemistry; History; Geography; Modern and Classical Languages; English Literature.



14-19 Academic & Vocational Pathways

(as supplied by the DfE).

Please speak to Mr Moore and Mr Craggs for further details



Choose a balanced curriculum



We offer the EBACC combination to all pupils - but this is **NOT** compulsory.

Instead you must choose **at least** Computer Science, French, Spanish, History **or** Geography as one option.

We value the **new high quality vocational courses** such as the **Technical Award in ICT**. Employers know these are worth the equivalent of one GCSE but offer a more 'hands on' approach to learning due to the portfolio work involved.

Media Studies



See Mr Thompson in the Sixth Form block or Mr Smailes on Thursday 9th for further information

Business Studies



See Mr Shaw in the Sixth Form block
on Thursday 9th for further information

Level 2 AQA Technical Awards

We are also looking at the following new *draft* Level 2 AQA Technical Awards that may be approved in readiness for teaching from September.

These are recognised as high quality, robust vocational qualifications which the DfE recognise as being equivalent to a GCSE.

These courses are more practical and involve 60% non-exam assessment.

To find out more click the links below and indicate on your options form if you would be interested in these **IF** they are approved in time :

- Fashion and Textiles

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/design-and-technology/technical-award/fashion-and-textiles-3720>

- Food and Catering

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/food/technical-award/food-and-catering-3725>

- Sport

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/physical-education/technical-award/sport-3750>

N.B. This is not in the Options Booklet as we have just been contacted about this. Please see Mr Moore or Mr Craggs in the Sixth Form on Thursday for more information about this course if you are interested.

The Nissan logo, consisting of the word "NISSAN" in a bold, red, sans-serif font, is centered within a white rectangular box with a thin black border.

NAC Group will be delivering the **EAL Level 2 First Certificate in Engineering** - in conjunction with Nissan.

The course involves 3 mandatory units which are assessed through one online exam (50%) and one optional unit mapped to the F1 in Schools Project (assessed through a portfolio of work, which is worth the remaining 50% of the overall grade).

Pupils will gain either a pass, merit or distinction (this qualification is currently recognised as a vocational 'GCSE equivalent').

All pupils must complete a **1 week Industrial Cadets course** during this **1-year course**. *Progression in Year 2 TBC.*

Non-exam assessment

The term 'non-exam assessment' covers a range of different forms of assessment. Non-exam assessments are not necessarily 'internally' or teacher-marked nor undertaken over an extended period of time. A performance may, for example, be undertaken under timed conditions and marked by a visiting exam board assessor.

Will all GCSEs have non-exam assessment?

No. The percentage depends on the range of skills to be assessed and the most effective way of assessing them.

The breakdown for your courses is shown on the next slide:

Non-exam assessment overview:

English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Combined Science, Business Studies, Geography, History and Religious Studies have **no non-exam assessment**.

Computer Science has **20%** non-exam assessment.

French and Spanish have **25%** non-exam assessment.

Media Studies has **30%** non-exam assessment.

GCSE Physical Education has **40%** non-exam assessment.

Food Preparation and Nutrition GCSE and Design and Technology GCSE have **50%** non-exam assessment.

ICT Technical Award (as do all the new Technical Awards) and Music GCSE have **60%** non-exam assessment.

Art and Design has **100%** non-exam assessment.

Other important information

1. In the core subjects, pupils are **ranked in order** of the marks achieved in their **Year 9 examinations**. This data is used to create **new sets**.
2. Most pupils will remain in the same set throughout Years 10 and 11, although a small number may be moved when progress is reviewed. To make sure you get your option choices, pupils are shuffled from **P band to Q band or vice versa**.

Those **not** gaining a **grade 5 or above** at GCSE level in **Maths** and **English Language** will have to continue with these subjects post 16.

Options 2017

Please look at the option subjects below and rank your 3 choices (number these 1, 2 and 3). Please select **one reserve subject** (number this 4). **Please remember your choices must include at least one of the following subjects - Geography, History, French, Spanish or Computer Science.**

Name:

Form:

Subject	Rank (1-4)
Art	
Business Studies	
Computer Science (grade 5 Maths by February Key Assessment)	
Design and Technology	
Food Preparation and Nutrition	
French	
Geography	
History	
ICT (Technical Award)	
Media Studies	
Music	
PE GCSE	
Spanish	

We are also looking at the following Level 2 AQA Technical Awards that *may* be approved in readiness for teaching from September. These courses are more practical and involve 60% internally assessed work. Please tick if you be interested in these IF they are approved in time:

☐ Fashion and Textiles

☐ Food and Catering

☐ Sport

Please hand this form into your form tutor by Thursday 16th February 2017

Pupil signature:

Parent/Carer signature:

Date form submitted:

Tutor signature:

If, after speaking to Mr Moore and Mr Craggs, you are interested in the Level 2 First Certificate in Engineering Technology - the please write this on the bottom of your form

Eligibility for
Computer Science
(grade 5 in Maths)
will be re-checked
after the key
assessment w/b
27th February 2017

Completing the
Options Form



Advice – Who to speak to



- Parents/carers and other relatives.
- Subject teachers, who know your strengths and weaknesses in their subjects.
- Your Form Tutor, Mrs Rush and Mrs Bengston who have an overall picture of your progress.
- Mr Moore, our Careers Co-ordinator.
- Mr Craggs, our Head of Sixth Form.

We look forward to seeing you on Thursday