

Year 9 options evening 2021

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Deputy Headteacher



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Curriculum for KS4

Lessons per fortnight:

Maths	7 hours
English	8 hours
Science	9 hours
PE	4 hours
Social and Moral Education (SME)	2 hours
4 x options	4 x 5 hours
Period 1	8x30min 2x20min



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GCSE English Language

- Two written exams – 1 hours 45 minutes – 40% of GCSE 2 hours – 60% of GCSE
- Non-examination assessment – spoken language – 0% of GCSE
- To be awarded a GCSE all three assessments must be completed



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GCSE English Literature

Two written exams

- 2 hours – 40% of GCSE
- 2 hours 30 minutes – 60% of GCSE



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GCSE Mathematics

- Foundation tier (grades 1 – 5) and Higher tier (grades 4 – 9) 9 being the highest grade
- Students must sit all three papers at the same tier, in the same series
- Three written exams
 - 1 hour 30 minutes
 - One non-calculator
 - Two calculator
 - Each 33 1/3% of the GCSE



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Mathematics and English post-16

- Students who do not achieve at least a grade 4 or above in English and /or mathematics have to continue to study these subjects post-16
- The funding is removed for that student if they do not study mathematics and /or English
- Some colleges will accept English Language or English Literature at Grade 4 for English but some insist on English Language



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GCSE Science

- All students study science - trilogy
- Some students will opt to study triple science



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GCSE - Trilogy

- All students study science and Trilogy is worth 2 GCSEs
- Foundation tier (grades 1 – 5) and Higher tier (grades 4 – 9) where 9 is the best grade
- Students must sit all 6 exams at the same tier in the same series
- 6 exams: 2 biology, 2 chemistry and 2 physics
- Each exam 1 hour 15 minutes and worth 16.7% of the GCSEs



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GCSE - Triple Science

- Leads to 3 separate GCSEs in biology, chemistry and physics
- Students would study triple science for 14 hours a fortnight
- Assessed by 6 exams, 2 for biology, 2 for chemistry and 2 for physics
- Exam 1 hour and 45 minutes and worth 50% of the relevant GCSE



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Key points

- We expect all of our students to study a strong academic core: maths, English, sciences and **at least one** from computer science, geography, history, MFL and triple science.
- We encourage our students to study a language.



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Universities

- Specific courses will want specific subjects at GCSE and A Level – do your research.
- Universities want students to have a broad range of GCSEs at high grades.
- English Baccalaureate (Ebacc) is a performance measure for schools and not a qualification.
- Entry requirements in the future may change with the government push for students to study the EBacc subjects (English language, English literature, mathematics, sciences, languages and geography or history).



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Post-16 institutions

- College websites e.g. Worthing College, Northbrook Metropolitan College, Chichester College, BHASVIC
- Look at specific courses and any entry requirements



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Apprenticeships

- Students can apply post-16 to become an apprentice
- They work part of the week and attend college the rest of the week
- Paid for the hours they work
- Local colleges: Worthing, Northbrook Metropolitan and Chichester all have information on apprenticeships on their websites



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Decisions about courses in years 10 and 11



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Information that will help students choose the right subjects for them:

- Online assemblies considering different subjects.
- SME - completing work which will help them decide what the best choices are.
- Toby Henry and the careers team on Google Classroom – discuss careers, booklet and form.



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Information that will help students choose the right subjects for them:

- Discussing how to decide their options in company tutor time.
- Form will go out electronically on Friday 12th Feb. Paper one if you want one – collect from reception.
- Parents/Carers can ask questions of teachers on Parents/Carers' Evening and can ask me questions (Mr Woodcock and Mr Fuller also available).



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Kudos

- Online careers guidance and information
- Helps young people explore future careers
- Year 9 students should have their own log-in details



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Beware of peer pressure

- No lessons taught in company tutor groups in Years 10/11.
- Students split into 2 bands.
- Do not choose a subject because a friend is studying that subject or because they like a specific teacher.
- Students should choose subjects that they think they will enjoy but be realistic!!



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So what will they study:

- English Language and English Literature
- Mathematics
- Science Trilogy (2 GCSEs)
- Core PE
- Social Moral Education (SME)
- 4 Options



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1	
Subject	
Art	
Business	
Citizenship Studies	
Drama	
French	
Geography	
History	
Media	
Music	
Spanish	
Additional English and Maths	

2	
Subject	
BTEC Digital Information Technology	
BTEC Performing Arts Acting	
Business	
Computer Science	
Drama	
Design Technology	
Graphics	
Geography	
History	
Music	
Textiles	

3	
Subject	
Art	
Citizenship Studies	
Computer Science	
Design Technology	
Food Preparation and Nutrition	
French	
Geography	
History	
Spanish	
Textiles	
Triple Science	

4	
Subject	
Business	
Dance	
French	
Geography	
History	
PE	
Photography	
Spanish	
Triple Science	



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- For GCSE all subjects are examined at the end of the course. The results will go from a grade 1 to grade 9 at GCSE with grade 9 being the highest. Some courses do still have non-exam assessment.
- Spanish, French, mathematics and science subjects have two tiers of entry: foundation (1 - 5) and higher (4 - 9)
- Check the exam board websites to find out more about the course (use the specification code).

GCSE



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- For BTEC courses you have written examinations and have coursework that counts towards your result during the course. Grading is Pass, Merit and Distinction.



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Additional English and Maths

- A letter will be sent to parents of students who we feel would benefit from this course.
- A student can only choose for additional English and maths if Mrs Blight (SENCO) has written to their parents.



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Will students get all of their choices?

- It is rare that there are clashes where students cannot do three out of four choices.
- There may be occasions when not all requests can be met. This could be due to over subscription. Also specialist staffing and resourcing.
- We will always discuss with you where students have not got their 4 choices or their 2 reserves.



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Timeline for options

- Wednesday 24 February – Parent / Carer Evening
- Monday 1 March – decision form to be completed through electronic link by 9.00am (paper copies can be collected by you from reception if you prefer)
- March / April – students will be seen if choices are not possible
- May – students will be informed of subjects to be studied in Years 10 and 11 and you will receive a letter home



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Instructions for the form which must be completed by 1st March 2021:

- Look at the form in the Options Booklet and make your mind up before completing the electronic version of the form.
- You must have a different choice for each of the 4 columns.
- You must then have two reserves that you haven't already picked.



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Instructions for the form which must be completed by 1st March 2021:

- You **MUST** pick at least one from computer science, french, geography, history, spanish or triple science as a first choice in at least one column. All subjects are GCSE unless BTEC is stated.



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1

Subject	
Art	
Business	
Citizenship Studies	
Drama	
French	
Geography	
History	
Media	
Music	
Spanish	
Additional English and Maths	

2

Subject	
BTEC Digital Information Technology	
BTEC Performing Arts Acting	
Business	
Computer Science	
Drama	
Design Technology	
Graphics	
Geography	
History	
Music	
Textiles	

3

Subject	
Art	
Citizenship Studies	
Computer Science	
Design Technology	
Food Preparation and Nutrition	
French	
Geography	
History	
Spanish	
Textiles	
Triple Science	

4

Subject	
Business	
Dance	
French	
Geography	
History	
PE	
Photography	
Spanish	
Triple Science	



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“The best way to predict your future is to create it.”

Abraham Lincoln



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