

Remember to **look up at the stars** and not down at your feet.

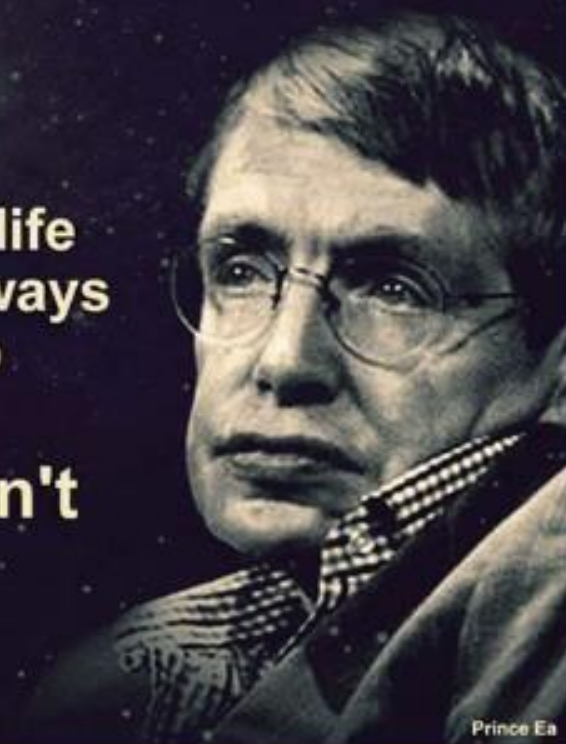
Try to make sense of what you see and **wonder** about what makes the universe exist.

Be curious.

And however difficult life may seem, there is always something you can do and **succeed** at.

It matters that you **don't just give up.**

Stephen Hawking

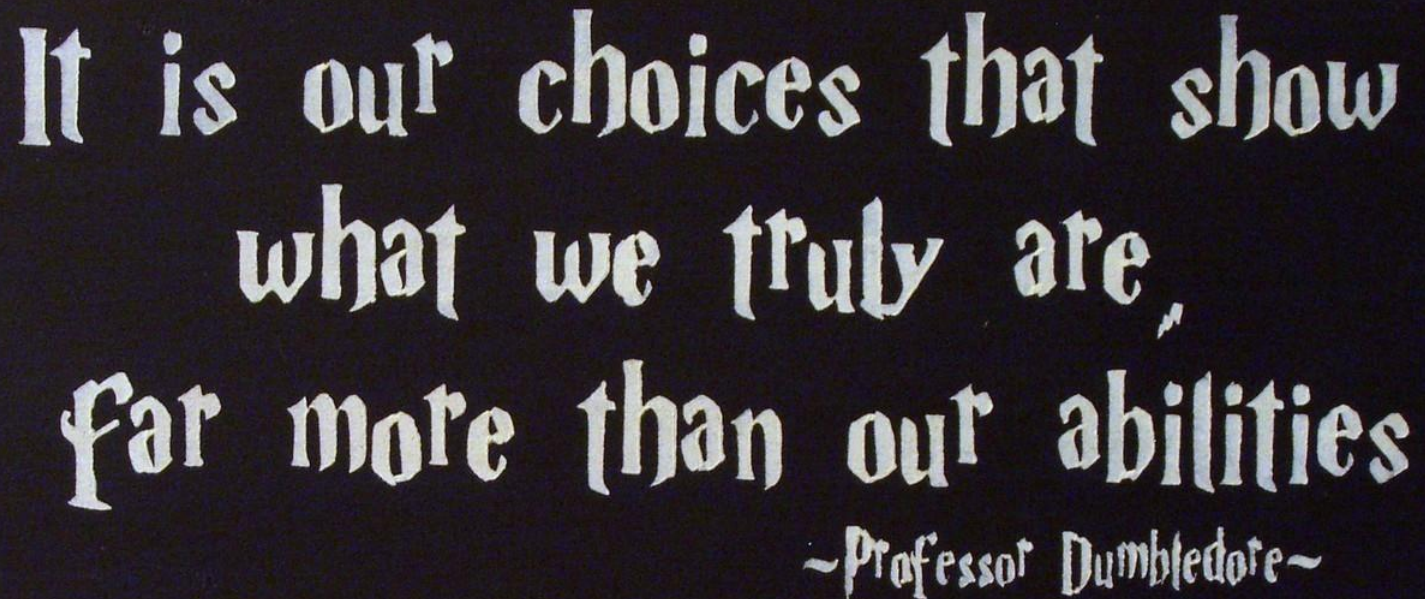


Prince Ea

Barnwood Park

Year 9 Options Evening 2023

What When How Why?

A rectangular wooden frame containing a black plaque with white text. The text is a quote from Professor Dumbledore, written in a stylized, slightly gothic font. The quote is arranged in three lines, with the attribution on a fourth line at the bottom right.

It is our choices that show
what we truly are,
far more than our abilities
~Professor Dumbledore~



What I'll cover now

- The timeline for Options 2023
- What all students will study
- What are the options choices
- Some information about courses
- Indicative choices and how Options will be chosen
- Things to think about
- Advice from Year 10 & 11



Options 2023 timeline

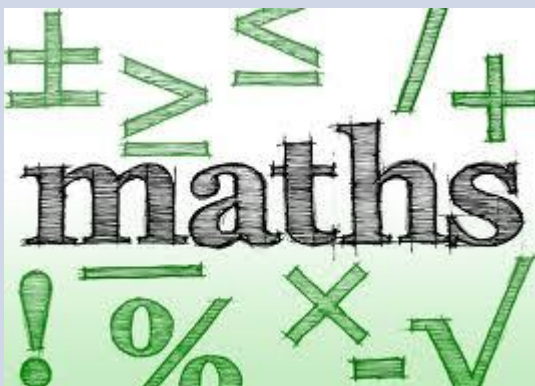
- Parents' Evening
- Subject information presentations in lessons
- Options Evening – **tonight!**
- Indicative Choices – **next week**
- Options Meetings **week beg. 13th March 2023**
- Options Choices Returned **week beg. 27th March 2023**

What you will all study in Years 10 and 11



- Everyone will study English Language & Literature, Maths, Statistics, and Science
- Everyone will take PE and PSD
- You will all be able to choose 3 other subjects to study
- Most students will gain 9 qualifications, or 10 if taking Triple Science

Maths



Everyone will study Maths in Y10 & Y11

You will all take **two** GCSEs

GCSE Statistics in Y10
GCSE Maths in Y11

English



All students will study English.

You will take **two** GCSEs

English Language and English Literature,
both taken in Y11

Science



All students will study GCSE Science.

You will take **two** or **three** Science GCSEs

Decision depends on Y9 attainment and is separate to Options

What students can choose to study in Years 10 and 11

- Students will all study **3** other subjects in Years 10 & 11
- Students will need to choose 3 subjects to study plus 2 reserves in case they cannot study your chosen 3



Subject you can choose

You are able to choose **any** of these subjects,
subject to school agreement

Spanish (e)	Religious Studies	Fine Art* or Textiles*
French (e)	Drama	Physical Education* (PE) or Sport Studies*
Computer Science (e)	Photography	Btec in Performing Arts (Dance)
Geography (e)	Design & Technology	Child Development and Care
History (e)	Food Preparation & Nutrition	Business Studies
	Music	

(e) – Ebac Subject

* Can only choose one of these

Some Information about Choices

Not all subjects offered may run.

This will depend on for, example, how many students choose each subject.

Students **cannot** choose *more than one* of:

- Art or Textiles
 - Physical Education (PE) or Sports Studies
- in their choices.



Technical Awards

We offer courses which are Technical Awards

They have the same value as GCSEs but are not called GCSEs.

These courses are:

- Btec in Performing Arts (Dance)
- OCR National Child Development and Care
- OCR National Sport Studies





The English Baccalaureate (E-bacc)

The English Baccalaureate (E-bacc) is made up of English Language and English Literature, Maths, Science, plus

- At least one of **History** or **Geography**

AND

- A language (e.g. **French** or **Spanish**)

Computer Science is also an E-bacc subject, and counts as a science.

All students are able to choose subjects that make up the English Baccalaureate, and are encouraged to do so.

The English Baccalaureate (E-bacc)

Choosing the E-bacc at GCSE gives students

- **access to a full range of employment options** and
- **the broad knowledge that employers, 6th forms and universities are looking for when they leave secondary school**
- **Universities** may look at Ebac GCSEs when making a decision about applications – especially for competitive subjects or universities.
- Many of the top Russell Group of Universities—such as Oxford, Cambridge, Bristol , Exeter, Birmingham and Warwick look more favourably at students with the EBacc.
- It helps keep **all** options open

All students are encouraged to choose subjects to make up the Ebac

Choosing at least one E-Bacc subject is strongly recommended

Child Development

NCFE award, not a GCSE

Very valuable qualification for all students

Suitable for students who

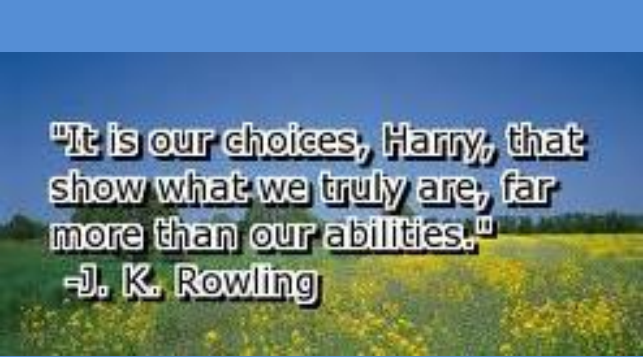
- know they want a career in child care – e.g. working in a nursery and
- know they want to study child care immediately after leaving Barnwood Park.

It is not accepted by all 6th forms or universities

Business Studies

- Is a GCSE, not a technical award
- Includes a lot of **maths**
- Involves learning a lot of new terminologies
- Is assessed by two 90 minute written exams (with calculators)
- Is ***not*** needed to study Business at 6th form or college or university





"It is our choices, Harry, that show what we truly are, far more than our abilities."

-J. K. Rowling

Important questions for students to ask themselves

- What do I want to be doing in 10 years time?
 - in 5 years time?
 - in 2 years time?
- What do I need to study now to achieve my goals?
- What subjects will help me keep my future options open?
- What subjects do I enjoy and want to learn more about?
- What are my strengths and skills now? What do they need to be?
- What type of learner am I?
- Where can I find out the information that I need?
- What subjects if I don't choose will I find it hard to return to in the future?

What subjects if I don't choose will it be *harder* to return to do in the future?

Geography

History

Fine Art/Textiles/DT

Spanish

Dance

French

Drama

Computer Science

Music

PE /Sports Studies

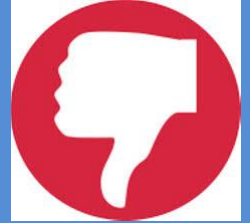
Dos and Don'ts for students

DO



- Ask questions
- Listen to what you hear – be **open minded**
- Do some **research** – find out about subjects careers or courses prefer.
- Be **honest** with yourself about who you are and what you want to do
- Go with subjects that make your heart sing!

DON'T



- Choose what your *friends* choose. You are not them. You are you.
- Choose a subject based on a *teacher*. They may not be teaching you next year.
- Be afraid. Difficult decisions are part of life and lots of people are here to help
- Choose subjects to please others. Your future, your choice, your responsibility

Indicative Choices –next week

You do not need to stick with your indicative choice, it is just an indicator to help *plan* to deliver the options you want.

For example they indicate:

- how many students may want to choose each subject,
- how many groups we might need in each subject,
- what combinations of subjects are popular, and
- what subjects don't have many people choosing them

Indicative choices are shared with subject leaders who will raise any concerns about choices before Student Options Meetings

Option Choice Form

Will be distributed
later this term

Choices numbered
in preference order
1, 2, 3, 4, 5,

Signed by
parents/carers
and students

**Return by Thursday
30th March**

Subject	Choice (Put numbers 1-6 against your preferred choices. 5 and 6 will be your reserves)
Spanish	
French	
Computer Science	
History	
Geography	
Religious Studies	
Dance	
Drama	
Music	
Physical Education (PE)	
Psychology	
Food Preparation & Nutrition	
Statistics	
Photography	
Design & Technology	
Textiles*	
Fine Art*	
Graphic Design*	
Child Development & Care	
Extra English & Maths	

* You can only study one of Art, Textiles and Graphic Design so only have one of these in your 1-4 choices.

If you are taking a GCSE in another language, or would like to, please write that language here:

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Carer Name (Please Print): _____

Parent/Carer Signature: _____

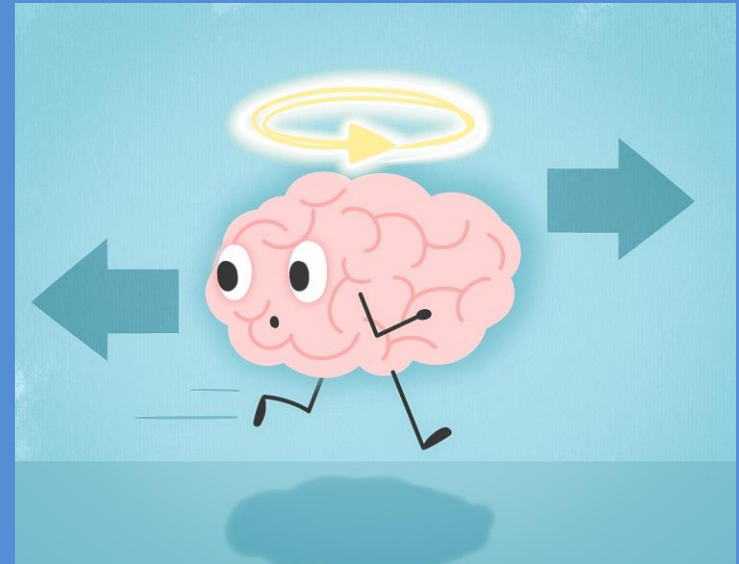
Date Submitted : _____

What if students change their mind?

- We want students to be happy
- See me to complete an *Option Change Form* and have parent/carer and teacher approval
- Allowed for the first 3 weeks of Y10

BUT students may not be able to change because:

- Subjects are full
- Subjects are on at the same time



Advice from Year 10 & 11...

"Year 10 isn't easy and **you will have to work hard**: don't pick what your friends have done because you will not enjoy your subjects"

"Think about what you would like to do when you are older and which options will be relevant and helpful for doing that."

"Don't choose your subjects because of what your friends are choosing because you won't enjoy it if you don't 100% want to do it."

"Choose options that you'll be interested to learn, that you'll be sad to not study any more. This is **your decision**, so make sure you make the right choices for you."

More advice from Year 10 & 11...

“You really need to think about what **YOU** want to take as it's going to be for two years.”

“Choose subjects that you enjoy learning about. Don't choose what your friends are choosing as you **will sit the exam alone.**”

If you know what you want to do choose options that are relevant to what you want to do as a job. However, be careful as you may change your mind!

“Be aware of which subjects will require a lot of your time outside of class – art and dance have been big time commitments.”

“Do pick things you will **ENJOY!**
Don't choose something you know you won't enjoy,
it's two years of your life.”

What now?

- Speak to as many teachers and subjects areas as you can tonight
- Visit the Y9 Options page on the website
- Look at the Options Booklet
- Discuss with your child
- Remember, these choices are for 2 years, and is the students doing the learning and the exam!
- See me or other leadership or pastoral staff, if any questions
- My email is on the information sheet