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## Year 9 Options

2020

Deadline

Midday on  
28<sup>th</sup> February,  
2020

...learning on the hill

## What is Key Stage 4?

- Key Stage 4 is the time at school where students study for and take their Level 2 examinations.
  - These include GCSE's and BTEC's.
- Key Stage 4 is a critical time of a young person's life where they start to take important steps towards the career of their choice.
- Students have a greater responsibility to work hard and perform in their subjects.

## What has changed with GCSE's in recent years?

- GCSE have become more challenging
- New Assessment System
- Less Controlled Assessments / More emphasis on Summer Examinations
- Greater Expectations in terms of quality of skills / literacy

## GCSE's are becoming more challenging!

- Specification content has become more challenging and also there is more of it
- Old Level 3 content is now in Level 2 Courses
- The assessments are more rigorous
- Greater Percentage of Final Grade placed on examinations
- Highest ever percentage awarded for SPaG
- Texts in English are now 'unseen'

## New Assessment System

- Exams in the United Kingdom will be graded from 9 to 1, instead of A\* to G, where a 9 is the top grade assigned, achieved by the top 3% of all students in the nation.
- Statistics will be used to ensure there is alignment between the new and current grading structures, such that:
- Broadly the same proportion of students will achieve a grade 4 and above as currently achieve a grade C and above
- Broadly the same proportion of students will achieve a grade 7 and above as currently achieve a grade A and above
- Broadly the same proportion of students will achieve a grade 1 and above as currently achieve a grade G and above

Ofqual

Grading new GCSEs from 2017

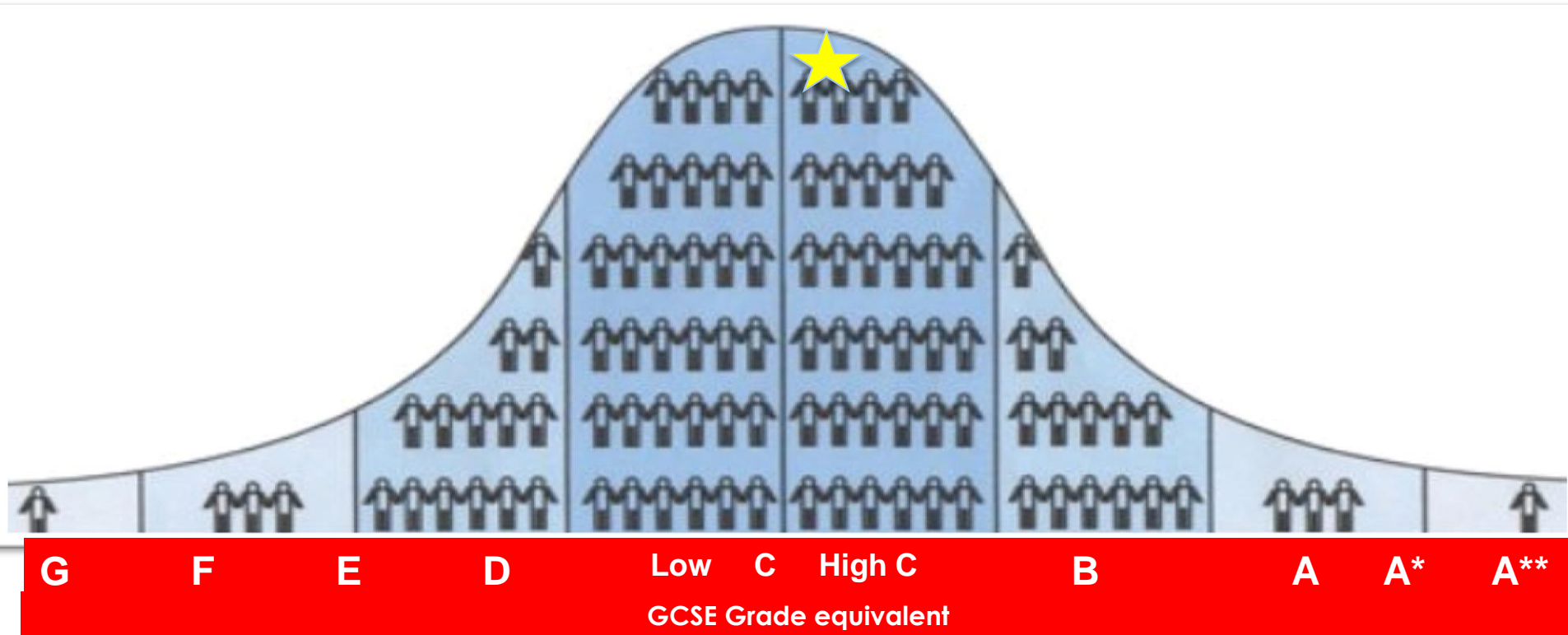
New grading structure	Current grading structure
9	
8	A*
7	A
6	B
5	
4	C
3	D
2	E
1	F
	G
U	U

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

**AWARDING**  
4 and above = bottom of C and above

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Bottom 5%	than 6-15%	16-35%	36-55%	56-70%	71-85%	86-92%	93 - 97%	Top 3%



## Less Controlled Assessments

- Previously there have been a number of Controlled Assessments or Coursework elements which allow students the opportunity to work outside of the exam hall.
- There is now a larger emphasis on the final examinations in Year 11.
- This means that students are required to recall their knowledge in the summer examinations of Year 11.

## More emphasis on Summer Examinations

1. All GCSE external exams are now taken at the end of the course.
2. Students can no longer re-sit individual modules, although they can re-sit the full GCSE
3. GCSE exams will take place in May/June.
4. Controlled assessments are internal assessments and usually a minor part of the GCSE
5. Marks are awarded for accurate spelling, punctuation and use of grammar in external GCSE exams



BTEC courses are very much based on coursework and the need for independent study.

- Students complete **Core and Optional** modules
- Evidence for assessment may be in a number of formats; video recordings, diary entries, audio recordings, PowerPoint presentations
- All modules are marked by the course leader and verified in school. Students are given an **opportunity to increase their grade** within a 15 day extension. Samples are assessed by an external verifier.

- "Students have always had to work hard for good grades... and with the introduction of the new GCSEs, they will have to work harder still."
- Paul Clayton, the director of the National Association for the Teaching of English

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## Secondary accountability measures

A brief introduction...

## Progress 8

- P8 measures a student's progress across 8 subjects between Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 4 across eight key subjects.
- It shows whether students have performed to expectation, based on a value-added measure using Key Stage 2 English and Maths as a baseline.

## Attainment 8

- A8 measures a student's average grade across eight subjects – the same subjects that count towards [Progress 8](#).
- **Calculating Attainment 8**
- A student's Attainment 8 score is calculated by adding up their points for their eight subjects and dividing by 10 to get their Attainment 8 score. Students don't have to take eight subjects, but they score zero for any unfilled slots.

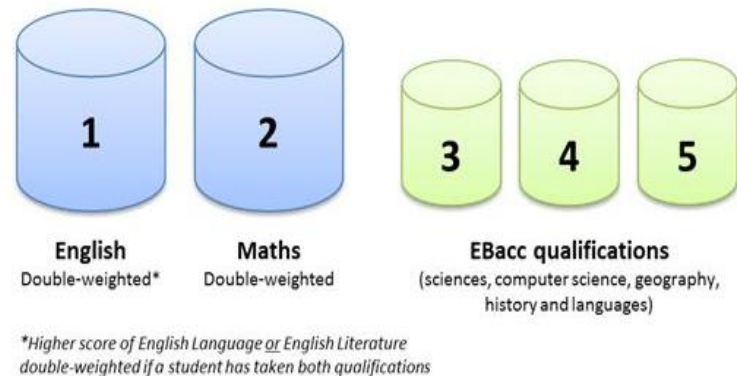
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## How these measures impact curriculum design in schools

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## Compulsory Subjects at Key Stage 4?

- The 'Core Subjects' are the subjects that all students across the country study in Key Stage 4. The core subjects are:
- English Literature
- English Language
- Mathematics
- Triple or Double Science
- This pathway is decided through end of Yr9 test



- Students also participate in Core Physical Education, but they are not assessed Nationally in this.

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## Option Subjects

### Humanities

- History or Geography

### Modern Foreign Languages

- Spanish, French Mandarin  
[+MEP]

### Sciences

### Computer Science



### EBacc qualifications

(sciences, computer science, geography,  
history and languages)



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## Open 'Bucket'

Art and Design (Fine Art)	BTEC: Health and Social Care
Photography	BTEC: Creative Media Production
Drama	BTEC: Sports Studies
Dance	GCSE: Physical Education
Media Studies	DT: Product Design
Economics	DT: Engineering
Religious Studies	DT: Textiles
Sociology	DT: Hospitality and Catering
GCSE: Music	Business
BTEC: Music Technology	LINC: Prince's Trust on advice only
LINC: Numeracy / Literacy / curriculum support	
*Also the English that is not used in the first bucket can appear in here!	

*History, Geography, Science can all count in here when buckets 3,4,5 are already full*



**'Open group'**  
**Remaining EBacc qualifications and other approved qualifications**  
 (GCSEs and other approved academic, arts or vocational qualifications)

## Mandarin Excellence Programme

- Students already on the programme who went through the rigorous selection process in Year 7 are required to select the MEP in their first four options.
- This is part of the five year programme of study.

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So when we put it all  
together...

## Progress 8 measure



**English**  
Double-weighted\*

**Maths**  
Double-weighted

*\*Higher score of English Language or English Literature double-weighted if a student has taken both qualifications*



**EBacc qualifications**  
(sciences, computer science, geography, history and languages)



**'Open group'**  
**Remaining EBacc qualifications and other approved qualifications**  
(GCSEs and other approved academic, arts or vocational qualifications)

### Section 1

- English
- Double weighted
- Maths
- double-weighted

### Section 2

- **Three** EBacc qualifications
  - Sciences
  - Computer science
  - Geography
  - History or
  - Languages

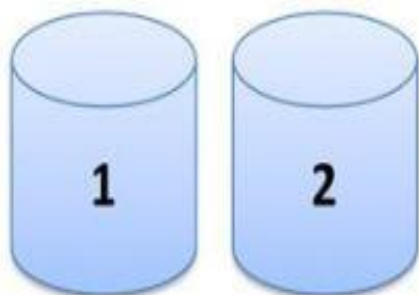
### Section 3

- **Three** "other" slots
- Any remaining Ebacc qualifications
- Other approved academic, arts or vocational qualifications
- Also the English that is not used in Bucket 1

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What does that look like for  
you?

# Progress 8 measure



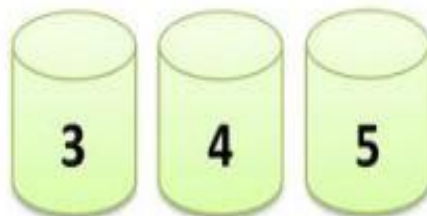
**English**

Double-weighted\*

**Maths**

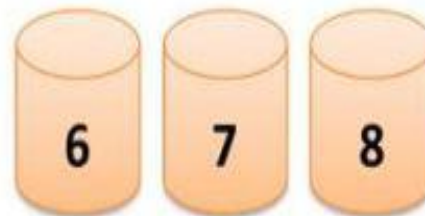
Double-weighted

*\*Higher score of English Language or English Literature double-weighted if a student has taken both qualifications*



**EBacc qualifications**

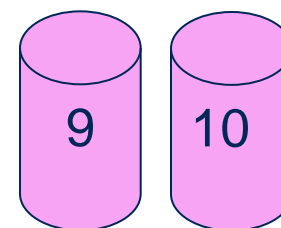
(sciences, computer science, geography, history and languages)



**'Open group'**

**Remaining EBacc qualifications and other approved qualifications**

(GCSEs and other approved academic, arts or vocational qualifications)



English Literature (Double) 1

Maths (Double) 2

Combined Science [3+4] History [5]

English Language [6]

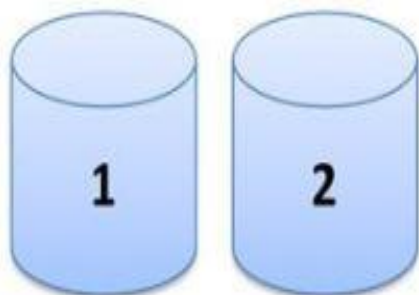
GCSE PE [7]

German [8]

DT [9]

Business Studies [10]

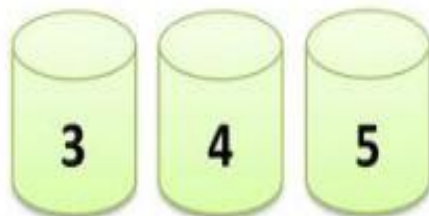
## Progress 8 measure



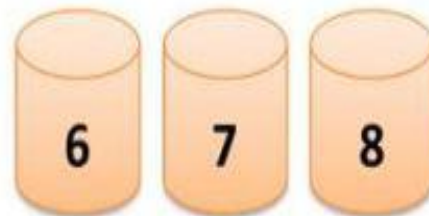
**English**  
Double-weighted\*

**Maths**  
Double-weighted

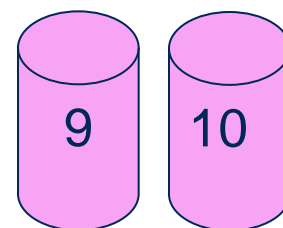
*\*Higher score of English Language or English Literature double-weighted if a student has taken both qualifications*



**EBacc qualifications**  
(sciences, computer science, geography, history and languages)



**'Open group'**  
**Remaining EBacc qualifications and other approved qualifications**  
(GCSEs and other approved academic, arts or vocational qualifications)



English Literature (Double) 1

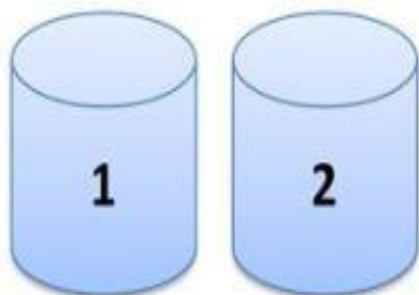
Maths (Double) 2

Combined Science [3+4]  
Geography [5]

English Language [6]  
Economics [7]  
Spanish [8]

Sociology [9]  
Business Studies [10]

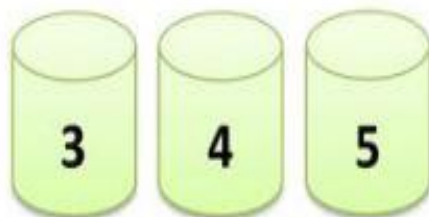
## Progress 8 measure



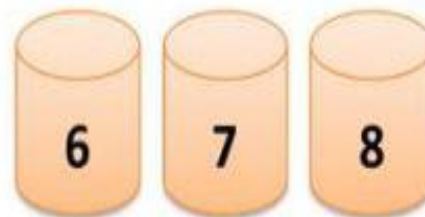
**English**  
Double-weighted\*

**Maths**  
Double-weighted

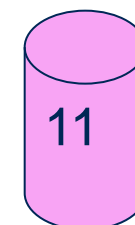
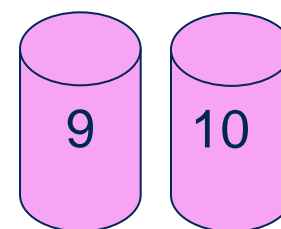
*\*Higher score of English Language or English Literature double-weighted if a student has taken both qualifications*



**EBacc qualifications**  
(sciences, computer science, geography, history and languages)



**'Open group'**  
**Remaining EBacc qualifications and other approved qualifications**  
(GCSEs and other approved academic, arts or vocational qualifications)



English Literature (Double) 1

Maths (Double) 2

Separate Science [3,4 +5]

English Language [6]

MEP [7]

Dance [8]

DT [9]

Business Studies [10]

Music Tech [11]



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## Making good choices

## How to make decisions on which course to take?

- What subjects do you enjoy?
- What subjects are you doing well in?
- What Career Path would you like to follow?
- What University Course do you want to do?
- What College Course do you want to do?
  
- Do not pick a subject because ...
- You like a teacher.
- Your friends are picking it.
- You think it will be easy.

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**When helping your child to make their choices, the following questions might help:**

- Are **they** getting a good **balance**?
- What are **they** really **interested** in?
- What are **they** **good at**?
- What do **they** **enjoy** doing?
- What is **relevant** to **their** future?

## In school support

- Tutors
- Subject teachers, especially subjects they haven't studied.
- All students in Year 9 will meet with their tutor in form time to discuss their options.
- Options Assemblies
- Make good use of this evening
- School careers staff
- DLC 11<sup>th</sup> Feb – Parents and students will be invited in during the day to meet with their tutor or another relevant teacher to discuss Options, receive guidance and populate paper version of form.
- Options Booklet on the school website

KEY STAGE 3

KEY STAGE 4 (Y10 & 11): OPTIONS

DEPARTMENTS

ASSESSMENT AND STUDY SKILLS

INCLUSION LINC

EMOTIONAL SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS: PLACE2BE

LIBRARY

EXTRA-CURRICULAR

HOME > LEARNING > KEY STAGE 4 (Y10 & 11): OPTIONS

## KEY STAGE 4 (Y10 & 11): OPTIONS

### CHOOSING OPTIONS

In Key Stage 4 students study up to 10 GCSEs, depending on their ability. The varied options system allows for the study of three separate sciences, as well as two languages and a range of courses, including vocational options. We have produced lots of information to help parents/carers and students make decisions about their Options. On this page you will find:

+ [Options Timetable](#)

+ [Options Booklet](#)

#### IN THIS SECTION

KEY STAGE 3

KEY STAGE 4 (Y10 & 11): OPTIONS

DEPARTMENTS

ASSESSMENT AND STUDY SKILLS

INCLUSION LINC

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## Where could your Fortismere journey take you?

**Mia:** *Midwifery at Kings College London*  
English Lit (A\*)  
Sociology (A)  
Drama (A)



**Milad:** *Economics at Uni of Edinburgh*  
Maths (A\*)  
Geography (A)  
Economics (B)

**Rosie:** *Theatre at Uni of Leeds*  
Drama (A)  
English Lit (B)  
History (B)

**Oscar:** *Natural Sciences at Uni of Cambridge*  
Further Maths (A\*)  
Maths (A\*)  
Chemistry (A\*)  
Physics (A\*)

**Kezhe:** *History at Uni of Cambridge*  
English Lit (A\*)  
History (A\*)  
Art (A)  
EPQ (A\*)

## We hope you'll go on to study at our Sixth Form!

### Requirements for progression into sixth form and colleges to study A levels

- Minimum of five grades at 9-5 including maths and English and
- Grade 7s+ in maths and sciences to study A Level maths, biology, chemistry and physics.

### Requirements for progression into higher education

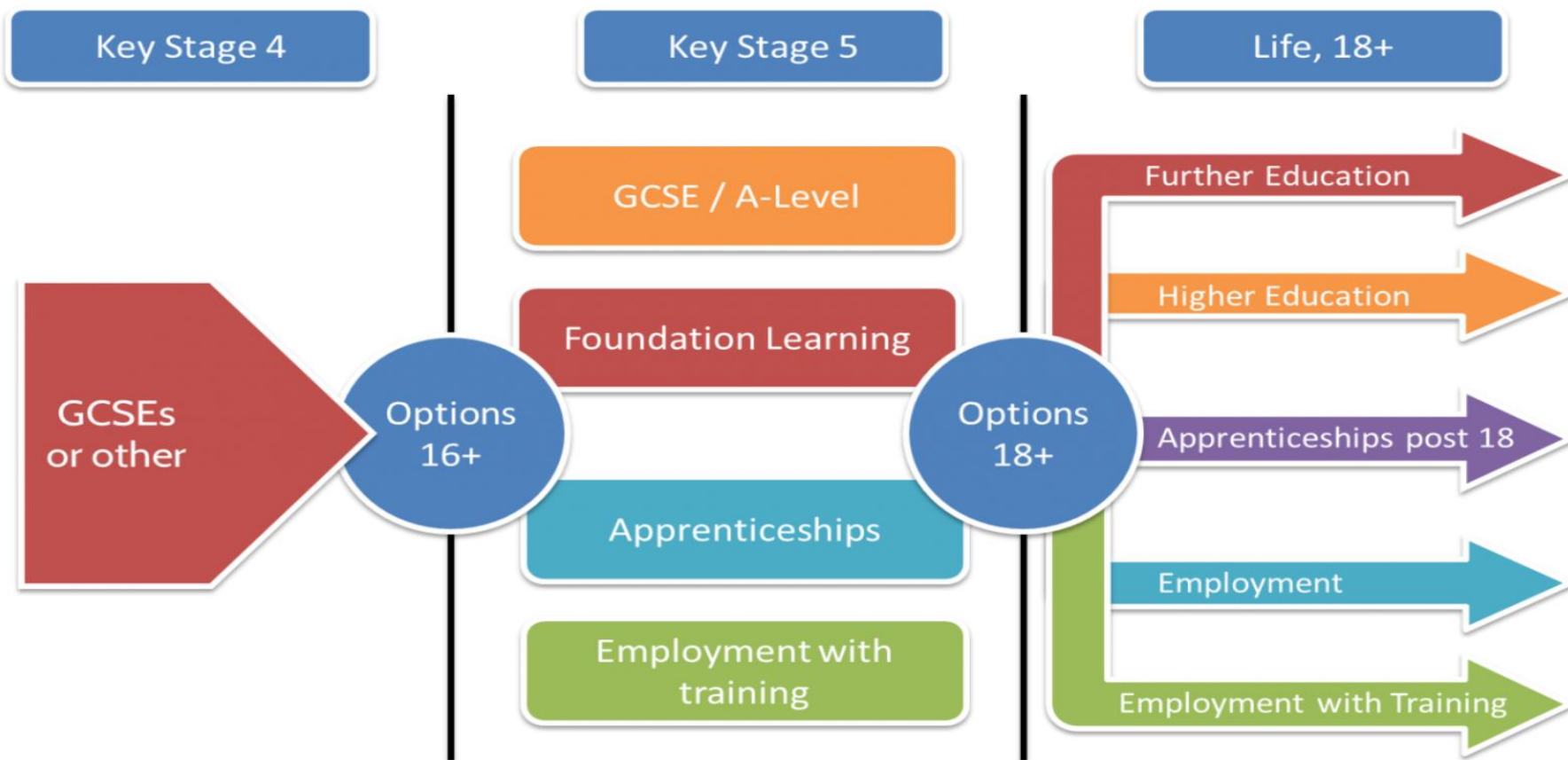
- Study a minimum of 3 A levels or a BTEC level 3
- The most competitive universities require GCSE grade 6s in English Language and 6 in maths



# RESOURCES

## POST-16 PATHWAYS

A handy diagram showing your options at 16 and 18.



Post 16 Pathways

<https://www.grows.ac.uk/resources/education-options/post-16-pathways>



## Another route to getting a Degree is through an Apprenticeship

- An apprenticeship is a “a genuine job, with training”, which means you are “earning while you learning” and gaining the necessary skills, professional competencies and qualifications needed for that industry and job role,
- You can start an apprenticeship from age 16 ½, there’s no upper age limit, but most people start at between age 18 and 21 years old
- Apprenticeships have a built-in progression route; a formal system to work your way up through the different levels, from Level 2 to 7, building your skills, experience, qualifications and earning power
- Apprentices start at Level 2-3, where training will take place at a college or training Centre on a day release basis (1:4)
- On higher and degree apprenticeship, Level 4 – 7, apprentices will be study and work at the same time - attending university on a part time basis (1:4 or block release)

## Fortismere Year 9 Options 2020

Compulsory Core Subjects					
English Language	English Literature	Maths	Science	PE core (non-exam)	PRE (non-exam)
EBacc Qualification					
English Language OR Literature	Maths	2 Sciences inc. Computer Science	History or Geography	1 Language	

NOT recommended	Science	Languages
Subject combinations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Photography and Fine Art</li> <li>• Economics and Business</li> <li>• Music and Music Technology</li> <li>• More than one Design Technology subject</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• End of Year 9 Science tests will determine if a student is timetabled for double or triple science</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A student cannot choose a <b>new</b> language, not previously studied in KS3.</li> <li>• A Modern Language <b>can be</b> a language a student speaks fluently and/or learns outside of school.</li> </ul>

[Click here to view full list of subjects](#)

- Options **forms** are now electronic and you will receive your link on **7<sup>th</sup> February** to complete - it is important that the completed forms are with us by **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March**.
- It will then be a further **two months** before options are confirmed or you are asked to reconsider.
- Once the option columns are generated and set, movement across subject areas can be difficult to organise.

## Key Stage 4 Options 2020

Blue subjects are all EBacc subjects

Computer Science*	Religious Studies
Geography	Sociology
History	GCSE: Music
French	BTEC: Music Technology
Mandarin	BTEC: Health and Social Care
Mandarin MEP	BTEC: Creative Media Production
Spanish*	BTEC: Sports Studies
Art and Design (Fine Art)	GCSE: Physical Education
Photography	DT: Product Design
Drama	DT: Engineering
Dance	DT: Textiles
Media Studies	DT: Hospitality and Catering
Economics	Business
LINC: Numeracy / Literacy / curriculum support	
LINC: Prince's Trust on advice only	

**Submit form by midday Friday 28th February 2020**

**Student name \***

Surname

First Name

**Select Tutor Group \***

**Parent Name \***

Title

First Name

Last Name

**Address \***

Street Address

Street Address Line 2

City

Postal / Zip Code

**Parent E-mail \***

**Parent contact  
telephone**

**Parent Signature \***

**Please indicate six preferences in order below**

***1 = most preferred choice; 6 = least preferred choice***

**Option 1 \***

\*EBacc

**Option 2 \***

\*EBacc

**Option 3 \***

\*EBacc

**Option 4 \***

\*EBacc

**Option 5 \***

\*EBacc

**Option 6 \***

\*EBacc

Submit

# MODERN LANGUAGES : HOME LANGUAGE OPTIONS (2020)

LANGUAGE	EXAMINING BOARD
Arabic	Pearson Edexcel Level1/Level 2 GCSE
Bengali	AQA Level1/Level 2 GCSE
Biblical Hebrew	Pearson Edexcel Level1/Level 2 GCSE
Chinese (spoken Mandarin/spoken Cantonese)	Pearson Edexcel Level1/Level 2 GCSE AQA Level1/Level 2 GCSE
Classical Greek	Pearson Edexcel Level1/Level 2 GCSE OCR Level1/Level 2 GCSE
French	Pearson Edexcel Level1/Level 2 GCSE AQA Level1/Level 2 GCSE
German	Pearson Edexcel Level1/Level 2 GCSE AQA Level1/Level 2 GCSE
Greek	Pearson Edexcel Level1/Level 2 GCSE
Gujarati	Pearson Edexcel Level1/Level 2 GCSE
Italian	Pearson Edexcel Level1/Level 2 GCSE AQA Level1/Level 2 GCSE
Japanese	Pearson Edexcel Level1/Level 2 GCSE
Latin	WJEC Eduqas Level 1/Level 2 GCSE OCR Level1/Level 2 GCSE
Modern Hebrew	AQA Level1/Level 2 GCSE
Panjabi	AQA Level1/Level 2 GCSE
Persian	Pearson Edexcel Level1/Level 2 GCSE
Polish	AQA Level1/Level 2 GCSE
Portuguese	Pearson Edexcel Level1/Level 2 GCSE
Russian	Pearson Edexcel Level1/Level 2 GCSE
Spanish	Pearson Edexcel Level1/Level 2 GCSE AQA Level1/Level 2 GCSE
Turkish	Pearson Edexcel Level1/Level 2 GCSE
Urdu	Pearson Edexcel Level1/Level 2 GCSE AQA Level1/Level 2 GCSE

Date	Action Timeline
<b>WB 13.01.20</b>	Options booklet available on website Tutor talks with tutees during form time. Talks to be ongoing throughout half term. Options homework set on Google Classroom.
<b>17.01.20</b>	Assembly 1 – P1 Options timeline, how to complete form, what the performance measures mean, What to Dos and not to do.. Speaker from DWP/Haringey to look at the pathways that exist.
<b>22.01.20</b>	<b>OPTIONS Evening – 4-6.</b>
<b>24.01.20</b>	Assembly 2 – P1 Options presentations from new subjects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Business Studies, Economics, Creative Media Production, Health and Social Care, Media Studies,</li> <li>• Music Technology &amp; Sports Studies.</li> </ul>
<b>31.01.20</b>	Assembly 3 – P1 Options presentations from new subjects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Photography, Engineering, Textiles, Hospitality and Catering, Sociology &amp; Religious Studies</li> </ul>
<b>3.2.2020</b>	<b>Options forms available ONLINE</b>
<b>WB 11.02.20</b>	DLC Tutors to meet with tutees and parents over a day to discuss Options, receive guidance and populate paper version of form.
<b>WB 24.02.20</b>	SLT/Year team to run guidance meetings with ALL of Yr9 who did not have a meeting at the DLC.
<b>28.02.20</b>	<b>DEADLINE FOR OPTIONS FORMS – Midday</b>

## Subjects Choices [what you can and cannot do]

You must choose 6 subjects.

At least one of History, Geography, Language or Computing must be in your top 4

You may study History and Geography

You may choose more than one BTEC.

You will not be able to study both of these subjects :

- **GCSE PE and BTEC Sport**
- **GCSE Music and BTEC Music Technology**
- **Two Design and Technology subjects**
- **Art (Fine Art) and Photography**
- **GCSE Sociology and BTEC Health and Social Care**

You **cannot** choose your teachers

You **cannot** choose to be in the same groups as your friends.



## External help

*Government website identifies careers – good description of jobs – [nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk](https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk)*

- <https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk>
- Seek careers advice
- Browse job profiles

*Or*

Arrange an appointment with our careers officer through your form tutor.

Deadline

Midday on  
28<sup>th</sup> February,  
2020

Please browse our subject stalls with your children – ask questions and try to visit at least one you have never thought of.....



## Good Luck!