



Year 9

Pathways Booklet

2021-2022



The pathways process ensures that you study a wide range of subjects that meet your needs and prepare you for life beyond school.

You will study strong subjects that you can be successful in and that lead to a wide variety of courses in FE and HE.

You will have 8 slots for subjects. These are the compulsory subjects:

- English (2 slots)
- Science (2 slots)
- Maths (1 slot)
- BTEC PE (1 slot, full qualification not just normal PE lessons)

Mastered

The DfE have advised us that pupils wanting to study at university should study the EBACC award subjects. They will be more successful in securing a university place with good grades in these subjects:

- Maths
- English Language and Literature
- Combined Science/Separate Science
- Geography or History
- French

You will be able to choose one additional slot and must secure above a Grade 5 in these.

Secure

Entry requirements for colleges used to be based on 5 Grade 9-5s including Maths and English. The new requirements now specify:

- Maths
- English Language and Literature
- Double Science (minimum)
- History or Geography
- Any other GCSE or BTEC qualification

You will be able to choose two additional slots and must secure above a Grade 5 in these.

Developing

All pupils need to be successful in English and Maths. To ensure that all pupils can get to this point by the end of Year 11, some pupils will keep this as their focus and may not study the EBACC subjects. You will still leave school with 8 GCSEs or equivalent. You must secure above a Grade 5 in these.

Subjects on Offer

GCSE

- Maths
- English Language
- English Literature
- Combined Science
- Separate Sciences*

- 3D Design
- Art
- Computer Science
- French
- Geography
- History
- Photography
- RE
- Textiles

*GCSE Separate Sciences are 3 GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry, and Physics. You are selected for this by Team Science based on your DC data (above a minimum Grade 7)

BTEC

- Health and Social Care
- Music
- Performing Arts
- PE

WJEC

- Level 1/2 Hospitality and Catering

Assessment

All exams will be sat at the end of Year 11 except for English Literature and BTEC PE which will be sat at the end of Year 10.

Most subjects are now 100% examination.

BTEC subjects do have coursework components that have to be completed to a good standard for you to be awarded a qualification. All BTEC subjects do have an exam component too.

Advice from Year 10

- *“Don’t choose a subject just because your friends are.”*
- *“Don’t assume you will be in the same class as your friend.”*
- *“Pick subjects that you enjoy.”*
- *“Don’t base your decision on teachers you like or don’t like because the teachers change.”*
- *“Discuss your choices with your parents but remember that you want to get the best grades and some subjects will suit you better than others.”*
- *“Ask what the exam will be like to make sure it suits you.”*

Advice from Year 11

- *“To study A Level subjects you need to be successful in all of your GCSEs.”*
- *“To study A Level subjects or get an apprenticeship you must pass your Maths and English.”*
- *“The top colleges want grades 7-9. They do not mind which subjects they are in.”*
- *“Don’t base your choices on a specific career because you might change your mind. Choose different subjects that you enjoy.”*

Timeline

W/B 29 November 2021 - Tutors will show pupils the assembly video on guided choices.

Please Note

We reserve the right to withdraw or change any courses offered due to low numbers or a lack of resources.

You are not guaranteed your first or second choice. We may have to limit pupil numbers for some subjects.

The more successful you are at the GCSE level the more options you have after school.

Useful Link(s)

- <https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/Pages/Home.aspx>