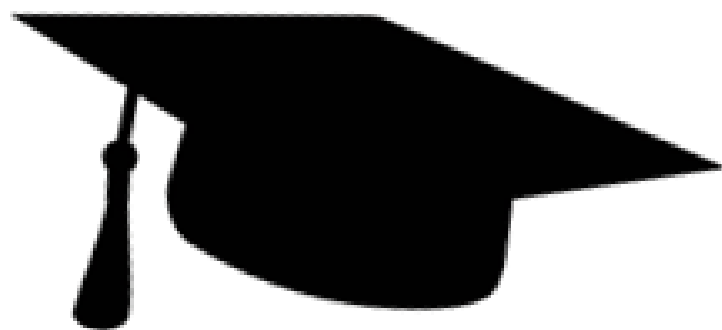


Alder Community
High School

Y9 Options 2026

Class of 2028



Timeline



Options booklet 2026-2028



Alder Community
High School

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Class of 2028 

Name..... Form.....

Year 9 is a very important year for our students; it is the year in which they look to the future and make informed choices about what they want to study at Key Stage 4 and beyond.

We have high ambition for all our students and our aim is to provide everyone with a curriculum that helps them leave at the end of Year 11 with the best possible set of qualifications for their future.

The options process will guide each student to a personalised Key Stage 4 curriculum.

We advocate that all students choose a wide range of subjects, so they keep as many options as possible open for further study and future careers. What your child chooses to study at KS4 will influence what they do once they leave us at the end of Y11. Maybe A levels, T levels or other vocational courses, an apprentice or other work-based training. Your child's options choices open the doors to their future!

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Types of Qualification

GCSE

- These qualifications take a more 'traditional' approach to assessment, with all assessment taking the form of exams at the end Year 11.
- GCSE assessments will require students to apply their knowledge and skills in an examination

Vocational

- Vocational courses offer a mix of theory and practical learning through projects and assignments which are based on realistic workplace situations.
- Assessment is through a range of internal and external practical assignments, as well as an exam.

Compulsory subjects

Core Subjects

- GCSE English Language
- GCSE English Literature
- GCSE Mathematics
- GCSE Combined Science

As well as...

- Personal Development/Careers (non-examined)
- PE (non-examined)
- RE (non-examined)
- Computing (iDEA award)

Options subjects

- Art and Design (Art, Craft and Design)
- Art and Design (Textile Design)
- Business Studies
- Computer Science
- Creative iMedia
- Dance
- Design and Technology
- Drama
- Geography
- Health and Fitness
- History
- Hospitality and Catering
- Music
- Photography
- RE
- Separate Sciences
- French

EBacc

The English Baccalaureate (EBacc) is a combination of GCSE subjects the government recommends you study to maximise your options for further study and future careers.

Studying subjects included in the EBacc provides students with greater opportunities in further education.

EBacc subjects

- English language and literature
- Maths
- Sciences/Computer Science
- Geography or History
- A language

Advice to students when making their choices

When making options choices, students should consider what they **enjoy** and are **successful** at. They should think about what they want to do in the **future** at college or as a profession.

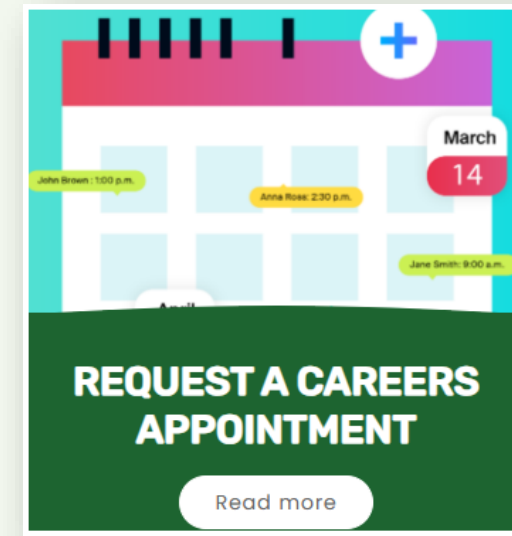
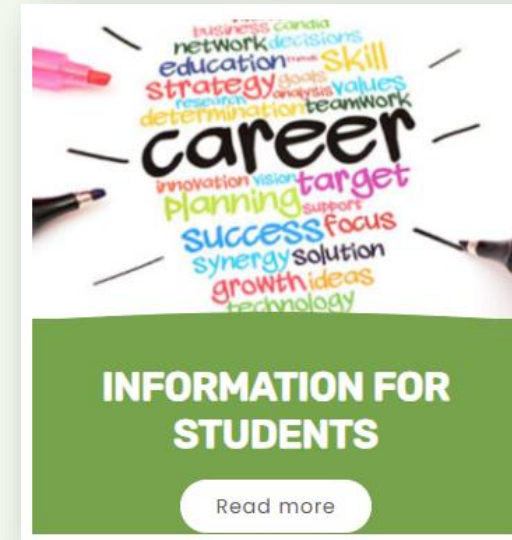
Students shouldn't choose what their friends are doing. What's right for one student may not be right for another. Choosing the same subject doesn't mean you'll be in the same class as friends; some subjects have 3 or 4 options classes.

Students shouldn't choose subjects because they work well with a particular teacher; they may not have that teacher in Y10.

Careers Information

Our school website has lots of information about careers education, information, advice and guidance.

To make a careers appointment please use the link.



How many subjects can be chosen?

Pool A Subjects - choose one

- ☐ Computer Science
- ☐ Geography
- ☐ History
- ☐ Separate Sciences
- ☐ French

You will also be asked to
make **one reserve**
choice from this list

Pool B Subjects - choose two

- ☐ Art and Design (Art, Craft and Design)
- ☐ Art and Design (Textile Design)
- ☐ Business Studies
- ☐ Computer Science
- ☐ Creative iMedia
- ☐ Dance
- ☐ Design and Technology
- ☐ Drama
- ☐ Geography
- ☐ Health and Fitness
- ☐ History
- ☐ Hospitality and Catering
- ☐ Music
- ☐ Photography
- ☐ RE
- ☐ Separate Sciences
- ☐ French

You will also be asked to
make **two reserve**
choices from this list

Subject combinations which are not possible

- Art and Design (Art, Craft and Design) and Art and Design (Textile Design) cannot be taken together as they are the same qualification.
- Design and Technology subjects cannot be studied together as they are in the same option block.
- Health and Fitness and Dance cannot be studied together as they are in the same option block.

Why are there reserve choices?


Reserve choices are needed in case students are unable to study their first choice

- Some subjects, like the Technology subjects, art and photography, have **smaller class sizes** so places are limited.
- Sometimes, for a variety of reasons, a subject **may not be able to run**. This could be due to staffing or because not enough students have chosen the subject.


Is my child guaranteed their choices?

- We will try to ensure that everyone gets their choices, however **we cannot guarantee this**.
- It is therefore important that students consider their choices carefully; **everyone needs to be happy with the prospect of studying the reserve subject(s)** they choose.

The options form





Alder Community
High School


Class of 2028



Y9 Options form 2026


Name..... Form.....



 Think carefully about your options choices before you make them.


 Speak to your teachers for guidance.


 Choose one subject from Pool A.


 Choose two subjects from Pool B.


 Remember to choose your reserve subjects.


 You cannot take the following subjects together:

- Art and Design (Art, Craft and Design) and Art and Design (Textile Design) cannot be taken together as they are the same qualification.
- Design and Technology subjects cannot be studied together as they are in the same option block.
- Health and Fitness and Dance cannot be studied together as they are in the same option block.

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Name..... Form.....

POOL A

TICK (✓) to choose one of the following subjects and one reserve

Subject	Choice	Reserve
Computer Science		
Geography		
History		
Separate Sciences		
French		

POOL B *EBacc subjects

TICK (✓) to choose two of the following subjects and two reserves

Subject	1 st Choice	2 nd Choice	1 st Reserve	2 nd Reserve
Art, Craft and Design				
Textile Design				
Business Studies				
Computer Science				
Creative iMedia				
Dance				
Design and Technology				
Drama				
Geography*				
Health and Fitness				
History*				
Hospitality and Catering				
Music				
Photography				
RE				
Separate Sciences				
French*				

We will always try to provide you with your choices in Pool A and Pool B; however, we cannot guarantee this. Your reserves **must** be subjects you want to study.

This form must be signed by a Parent/carer to confirm that you are in agreement with the choices made.

Signed..... Date.....



Choose one subject from Pool A.



Choose two subjects from Pool B.



Remember to choose your reserve subjects.



Name..... Form.....

POOL A

TICK (✓) to choose one of the following subjects and one reserve

Subject	Choice	Reserve
Computer Science		
Geography		
History		
Separate Sciences		
French		

POOL B *EBacc subjects

TICK (✓) to choose two of the following subjects and two reserves

Subject	1 st Choice	2 nd Choice	1 st Reserve	2 nd Reserve
Art, Craft and Design				
Textile Design				
Business Studies				
Computer Science				
Creative iMedia				
Dance				
Design and Technology				
Drama				
Geography*				
Health and Fitness				
History*				
Hospitality and Catering				
Music				
Photography				
RE				
Separate Sciences				
French*				

We will always try to provide you with your choices in Pool A and Pool B; however, we cannot guarantee this. Your reserves **must** be subjects you want to study.

This form must be signed by a Parent/carer to confirm that you are in agreement with the choices made.

Signed..... Date.....

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Timeline

