

# Pathways Process and Key Dates

<p><b>January/ February 2022</b></p>	<p><b>Pathways Information Assemblies/Videos</b></p> <p>Videos were shown during form time informing students about each course to help them decide on their subject pathways.</p> <p>The subject videos are available on the <a href="#">school website</a>. If after looking at the online subject assemblies, you have questions relating to the individual subjects you are considering you can email <a href="mailto:pathways@alderchs.uk">pathways@alderchs.uk</a> with your questions.</p>
<p><b>Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> February 2022</b></p>	<p><b>Pathways Information</b></p> <p>Information about each subject, the pathway your child is on the school website. In addition, you can find information about careers and how to access 'Xello'.</p>
<p><b>Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2022</b></p>	<p><b>Year 9 Parents' Evening (online)</b></p> <p><a href="#">Information about Parents' Evening can be found on this link.</a></p> <p>If, after Parents' Evening, you still have subject specific questions please contact school via email at <a href="mailto:pathways@alderchs.uk">pathways@alderchs.uk</a> If necessary, a follow up telephone call can be arranged.</p>
<p><b>Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2022</b></p>	<p><b>Pathways Form</b></p> <p>Students will be given a pathways form to bring home and complete. Parents are asked to sign the form to confirm they are in agreement with their child's final choices.</p>
<p><b>Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> March 2022</b></p>	<p><b>Deadline for the submission of the Pathways form.</b></p> <p>By the end of the summer term all pathway choices will be confirmed.</p>

# Pathways and Choices

Here is a brief guide to help you understand the process of deciding which subjects your child will study at Key Stage Four.

Your child will follow a pathway based on their current teaching set:

- Red Pathway (9R and 9O)
- Yellow Pathway (9Y, 9G, 9B, 9I)
- Violet Pathway (9V)

For all pathways, students will need to give a priority ranking for each choice and choose a reserve subject in case one of their preferred choices is unavailable.

## Red Pathway (Students in 9R and 9O)

Red Pathway students will be studying the following compulsory subjects: English, Mathematics, Science (double award), French and Citizenship (with RE).

Students must also choose to study either History or Geography.

They will then choose two additional subjects to study. This is the English Baccalaureate (Ebacc) pathway.

## Yellow Pathway (Students in 9Y, 9G, 9B and 9I)

Yellow Pathway students will be studying the following compulsory subjects: English, Mathematics, Science (double award) and Citizenship (with RE).

Students must choose to study one of the following subjects: Separate Sciences, Computing Science, Geography, History, French.

They will then choose three additional subjects to study.

## Violet Pathway (students in 9V)

Violet Pathway students will be studying the following compulsory subjects: English, Mathematics, Science (double award), Citizenship (with RE) and additional literacy and numeracy.

They will then choose three additional subjects to study.

# Advice for Parents and Carers

**It is important that you should support your child by:**

- reading all the information carefully;
- discussing the courses which are available;
- assisting your child to make suitable choices.

**Over the next two years it is important that you continue to support your child by:**

- encouraging regular and punctual attendance;
- supervising homework/independent learning;
- attending parents' evenings;
- assisting with revision;
- keeping regular communication with your child's teachers and form tutor.

The grade scale for GCSEs now range from 9 to 1, with 9 being the highest.

Since 2018, it has applied to all GCSEs and Technical Qualifications.

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

BTEC	
Level 2 Distinction*	8.5
Level 2 Distinction	7
Level 2 Merit	5.5
Level 2 Pass	4
Level 1 Distinction	3
Level 1 Merit	2
Level 1 Pass	1.25

# Post 16 Pathways

## T Levels

T is for technical. They are new courses to do after GCSEs and some will be available from September 2020.

They are equivalent to A Levels but are much more focused on gaining the knowledge and skills required to work in a particular industry e.g. digital or finance industries.

T Levels are 80% classroom based and 20% with an employer.

## A Levels

A Levels are traditional academic qualifications where you study a smaller number of subjects in much more depth.

They are very academic and are assessed by terminal exams.

They are equivalent to T Levels and are 100% classroom based.

## Traineeships

If you are not quite ready to apply for a job or an apprenticeship, you can top up your skills and knowledge after leaving school, with a traineeship.

It is similar to a work placement with an employer and provides additional training from a college or training provider.

You won't be paid but you will be ready for your next step towards paid employment.

## BTECs

BTEC stands for the Business and Technology Education Council.

They combine practical learning with subject and theory content. BTEC qualifications are flexible and you can take one alongside (or instead of) GCSEs and A levels in schools and colleges.

BTECs are divided into units, which cover specific areas of knowledge, skills, and understanding of a particular sector or industry.

## Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships are a paid job with an employer plus structured training with a college or training provider.

You'll spend 80% working and 20% studying.

You can do an apprenticeship at any time in your life and there are different levels depending where you are in your career.

## Post 16 providers:

- Tameside College
- Clarendon College
- Ashton Sixth Form
- The Manchester College
- Stockport College
- Marple Sixth Form College
- Aquinas College
- Xaverian College

