



**BURSCOUGH  
PRIORY ACADEMY**

# **OPTIONS EVENING 2020**

# Options Evening

- Update of reformed GCSEs.
- An explanation of the options process.
- Time for discussions with subject staff and current GCSE students on the content and structure of the Key Stage 4 courses.
- A opportunity to discuss future choices with local colleges.



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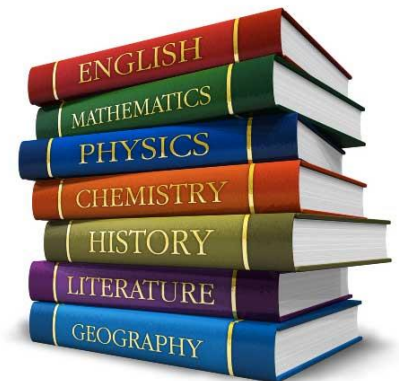


# Reformed GCSE qualifications

- All subjects are now graded from 9 – 1 with 9 being the highest grade.
- The majority of subjects will now be solely examination based.
- The courses will be linear, so all examinations will be taken at the end of the course.
- There has been an increase of content for most specifications.



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# Reformed GCSE qualifications

- In the A\*-G system a 'good' pass was defined as a grade C.
- A 'standard' pass will now be defined as a grade 4.
- A 'strong' pass is a grade 5.
- This will affect college applications and associated entry requirements.

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



# Choices for your future

- There are thousands of possible careers.
- Your individual path towards those careers started in Year 8.
- At the end of year 8, students chose two options from Art, Computer Science, Creative I-Media, Drama, Design Technology, French, Food and Music.
- As a result, they have been able to get a more detailed understanding of the subjects chosen, before ultimately making a decision on their GCSE curriculum.

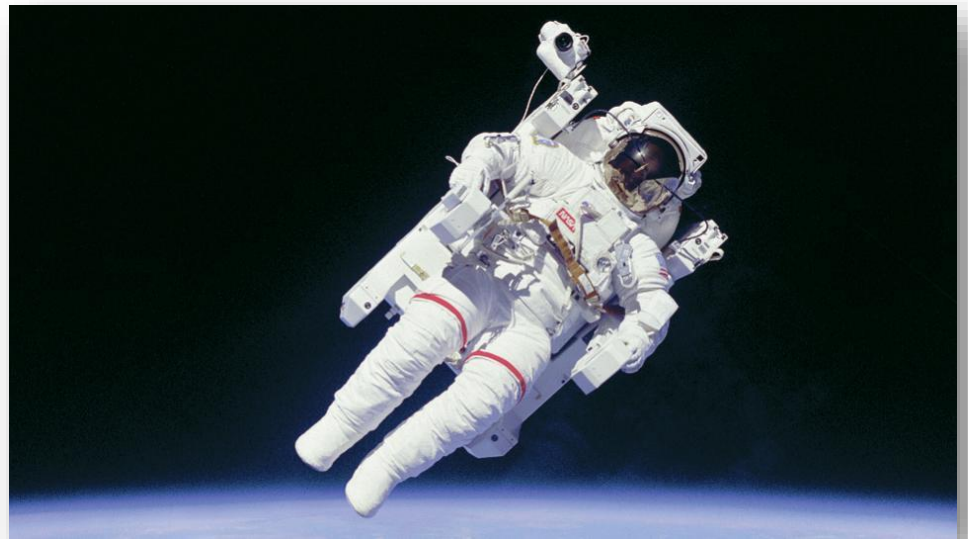


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# Options Evening

- Very few of us end up doing what we set out to do.
- All of us should keep our options as open as we can.
- All of us should choose what we enjoy and are genuinely interested in so that we keep motivated.



# Compulsory subjects

- Maths
- English Language
- English Literature
- Science (Separate or Combined)
- Core PE
- PSHCE -(inc. Citizenship, compulsory RE, enterprise, careers, sex & health education, Work Related Learning etc.)



# English Baccalaureate

The English Baccalaureate (E-Bacc) is not a qualification in itself; it is the name given to a collection of subjects which include;

- English
- Mathematics
- two Sciences (including Computer Science)
- a Language
- either History or Geography

To achieve the English Baccalaureate students must have secured a grade 5 in each of their subjects within this collection.



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# English Baccalaureate

- All students who want to make their future applications stand out academically are strongly advised to choose subjects which would lead to the 'E-Bacc' as this may give them an advantage when their applications are considered.
- This is particularly the case if you hope to go to university or want to make your application to college or for a higher level apprenticeship.
- Ebacc subjects are not compulsory as a whole, however **ALL** students **MUST** choose at least one of the following:
  - **History**
  - **Geography**
  - **Spanish**
  - **Computer Science**



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# Choosing your Options

- We divide our option subjects into blocks. Pupils must then choose their curriculum from these blocks.

A	B	C
<b>Geography</b>	Art	Creative I-Media
<b>History</b>	<b>Computer Science</b>	Design and Technology
Physical Education	Drama	Food Preparation and Nutrition
<b>Spanish</b>	Design and Technology	<b>Geography</b>
Religious Studies	Food Preparation and Nutrition	<b>History</b>
	<b>Geography</b>	Music
	<b>History</b>	<b>Spanish</b>

- If there is a combination you wish to take but is not currently available, please note this on your Options form.

**DEADLINE: 28<sup>th</sup> February** – Return options form with your **initial preferences** to tutors



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# Choosing your Options

- You **MUST** choose one subject from each of three option blocks
- You **MUST** choose at least one of either History, Geography, Computer Science or Spanish.
- You will **only** be able to choose the following subjects if you have studied them in Year 9 – Art, Music, Drama, Design Technology, Creative i-Media, Computing and Food Preparation and Nutrition.
- In some practical subjects such as Art and Food Preparation and Nutrition, class sizes will be limited due to health and safety requirements.
- We shall do our best to provide the choices that you have selected but **we cannot guarantee that this will be achieved in every case.**



# Important dates

- **15<sup>th</sup> January 2020**– PSHCE day - focused on options and subject expressions of interest made.
- **13<sup>th</sup> February 2020**– Options Evening
- **28<sup>th</sup> February 2020**– Students to return options form with their initial preferences to Form Tutors
- **March/April 2020** – Students who have any issues or who are still unsure will have an individual options discussions with their Progress Leader or a member of the Senior Leadership Team
- **May 2020** – Staff review of decisions / preferences and options decision published to Students and Parents



# Some advice....

- Make sure the choice is right for **YOU**, not just what your friends are doing.
- Talk to students in the higher years.
- Talk to your parents and teachers.
- Hand in your form to your Tutor, don't miss the deadline on the 28<sup>th</sup> February.



# Options booklet

- Further information about all of our courses and the Options process is in our Options Booklet, available on the school website.



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The cover of the 'Options Information Booklet' features a blue header with a white wave-like pattern. Below the header is the Burscough Priory Academy crest and logo. To the right of the logo is the school's address: 'Burscough Priory Academy, Trevor Road, Burscough, Lancashire L40 7RZ', telephone number '01704 893259', email 'enquiries@burscoughprioryacademy.org', and website 'www.burscoughprioryacademy.org'. Below this is the name of the Executive Headteacher, Mrs L. A. Gwinnett. The central part of the cover is a grid of 16 circular icons representing various subjects: a graduation cap, a pencil and paper, a document, a calculator, a magnifying glass, a clock, a beaker, a classical building, a microscope, a book, a lightbulb, a globe, a pair of lungs, an atom, a microscope, and a medal.

**WHAT OPTIONS DO I HAVE FOR  
MY KEY STAGE 4 EDUCATION?**

**Options Information Booklet**  
Key Stage 4 is the name given for the two years (Years 10 and 11) during which the majority of courses are studied that lead to the final external qualifications that your son or daughter will leave us with.

# Staff Discussions

## Ground Floor



- Teaching staff are located in rooms 1 to 10 (see plan).
- Colleges are in the dining room.



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