

YEAR NINE OPTIONS 2024

ALL pathways

Options booklet

- Option pathway
- Course information
- Guidance on how to choose
- Aspirational Target grades

Qualifications

- GCSEs
 - Graded 9-1
 - Exams at the end – no controlled assessments
- BTECs and CNATs
 - Graded Pass to Distinction*
 - Include at least 1 externally examined unit
 - Work is externally moderated
 - Continuous assessment – you must meet deadlines

Compulsory Subjects

1. Mathematics
2. English Language
3. English Literature
4. Dual Award Science or Triple Science – this is NOT an option. Science will be choosing a group of the most able students later on in the academic year.
5. Religious Studies
6. PSHEE, PE

Options Subjects

Art, Craft and Design GCSE	Food Preparation & Nutrition GCSE	Music BTEC
Computer Science GCSE	French GCSE	Photography GCSE
Dance BTEC	Geography GCSE	Physical Education GCSE
Design & Technology GCSE	Health & Social Care CNAT	Spanish GCSE
Drama BTEC	History	Sport BTEC
Engineering CNAT		

Attendance matters

- No matter what courses you take good attendance is important.
- Vocational courses – poor attendance may mean you fail the course.
- Most vocational courses require you to complete three to four units of work.
- If you have missed large chunks it is very difficult to catch them up.



Work in year 10 counts!

- You will complete at least one unit in a vocational course in year 10.
- The grade that you achieve will contribute to your final grade.
- Resitting a unit is rarely possible.
- Get it right first time.

Home learning matters

- In the GCSEs you will complete about 2/3s of the content in year 10
- Home learning tasks help you consolidate learning and build up knowledge in your long term memory.
- You are unlikely to reach your full potential if you wait until year 11 to try and memorise this content.

Option Pathways - EBACC

- Geography or History
- French or Spanish
- Option choice

Why take a language?

- Improves communication skills
- Shows you are open minded and tolerant
- Learning a language makes you smarter by improving your reasoning and problem solving skills
- Enhances your thinking skills
- Enhances your memory and creativity
- Gives you confidence and focus

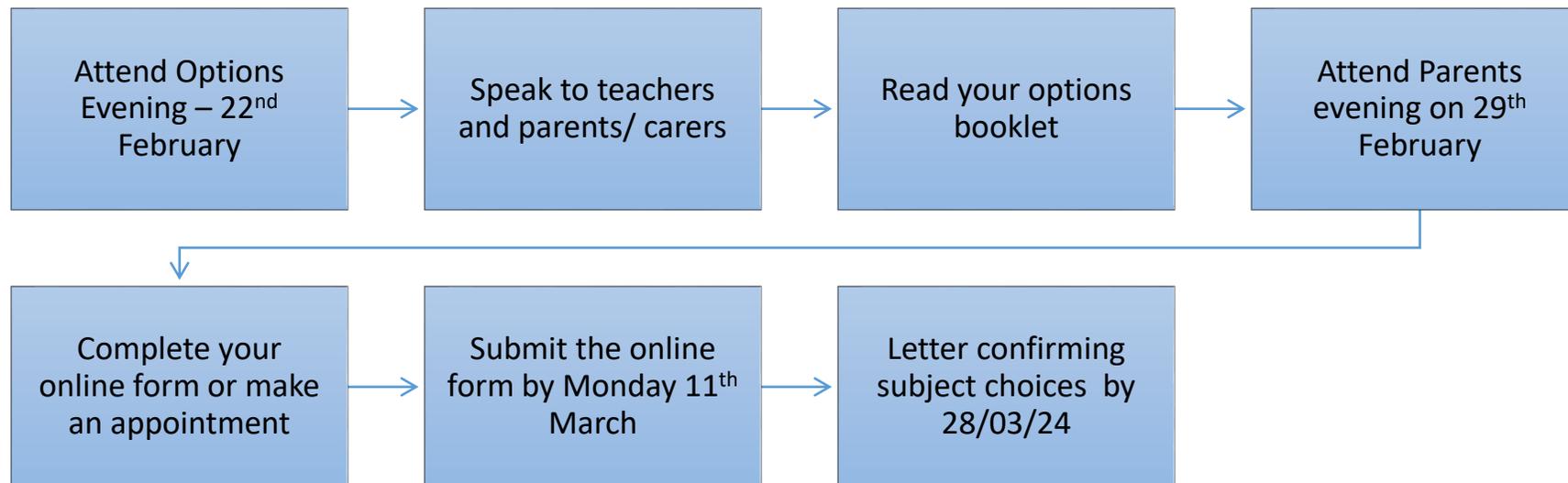
Option Pathways - CORE

- Computer Science, French*, Geography, History or Spanish
- 2 more subject choices – this can include one or even two more EBAC subjects

Option Pathways – LEVEL 1

- Additional English OR Additional Maths OR BOTH
- ASDAN
- One or two option choice
- Please make an appointment at parents evening or Thursday the 7th March to make choices

Options Process



Year 9 OPTIONS - CORE pathway 2024

Please use the form below to submit your option choices.

Do not leave any gaps as you will not be able to submit the form if you do. Please note that a reserve subject must be different to a main choice.

When options are allocated **no student** will be given a reserve choice unless there has been a discussion with Miss Jordinson and contact with parents/carers.

On the CORE pathway everyone must choose an EBACC subject. The EBACC subjects are Computer Science, French, Geography, History or Spanish. You then have two more choices - which could be further EBACC subjects should you wish to take them.

Remember - some combinations of subjects are not allowed because there is too much overlap or narrowing of the curriculum with those subjects.

You cannot choose the following combinations of subjects:

Art **AND** Photography
Computer Science **AND** Creative Imedia
Design & Technology **AND** Engineering
Dance **AND** Drama
Physical Education **AND** Sport

If you want some advice and guidance then please sign up for an options appointment during parents evening next week or phone reception to arrange a face to face appointment with a member of SLT.

Online form

How do I choose?

- Get advice from teachers
- Likely target grades
- Read all the subject information
- Sit down with parents and carers and complete the personal data section together – what are your interests and goals? What are your career plans?

LEP PILLARS OF GROWTH

- Advanced manufacturing
- Digital
- Energy and low carbon
- Health and social care
- Tourism, Culture and Place
- Food and Agriculture

Lancashire Local Skills
Improvement Plan



WHAT EMPLOYERS WANT MOST

The most common observation from employers from all sectors is how those young people coming from full-time courses are not “work ready”

- The right attitude and aptitude to work
- Basic communication skills – ability to make phone calls, converse with colleagues or outside organisations
- Time management and organisational skills
- Resilience and adaptability



THE CURRENT PICTURE

ACADEMIC

A Levels

Subject based qualifications delivered over 2 years by school sixth forms, sixth form colleges and FE colleges.

Mainly terminally assessed

VOCATIONAL

Applied Generals

Also subject-based and similarly delivered over 2-3 years.

Often 'mixed' with A Level

Combination of internally assessed coursework and external assessments

TECHNICAL

T Levels

Classroom based programmes delivered over 2 years by mainly FE providers (80% in provider and 20% on the job)

Variety of assessment methods

Apprenticeships

Work based training for a minimum of 12 months (80% on the job and 20% off the job)

On the job assessment plus end point assessment

WHAT IS A T LEVEL?

- T Levels are qualifications for 16 to 19 year olds taken after GCSEs
- Broadly equivalent in size to 3 A levels and focus on technical and vocational skills
- Rigorous qualifications with similar entry requirements to A levels
- Designed with employers to get students work ready
- 80% of the course in college gaining the skills that employers need & 20% in an industry placement, putting these skills into action



DON'T choose a subject because
your friend is taking it



In Pursuit of Excellence

Proud to Belong

Don't choose a subject because you like the teacher



In Pursuit of Excellence

Proud to Belong

DO choose subjects you enjoy



In Pursuit of Excellence

Proud to Belong

DO choose subjects that will help your career



What happens next?

- Meet the deadlines – online form must be completed by **Monday 11th March**
- Once forms are processed Miss Jordinson will talk to students directly if all option choices cannot be accommodated
- Letter home confirming option choices by Friday 28th of March