



# YEAR 9 CHOICES PROGRAMME

## 2024 – 2026

"EVERYONE EXCELS EVERYDAY"

# WELCOME

**Mr McGinty:** Welcome and Introduction

**Mrs Whittle:** Head of MFL

**Mr Larkin:** The Choices Programme

Mr McGinty  
Headteacher

# Key Messages

- Significant changes over recent years in relation to qualifications: content and assessment.
- Schools should have responded to the changes to better support their students.
- The majority of a student's timetable in years 10 and 11 is already determined.
- There is an increased significance placed on the English Baccalaureate subjects.



# GCSE SPANISH

**Mrs H Whittle**  
Head of MFL

**"EVERYONE EXCELS EVERYDAY"**

# WHY IS IT BENEFICIAL TO LEARN A LANGUAGE?

- Enables a better understanding of the English language.
- Develops analysing and problem-solving skills.
- Strengthens the brain's memory.
- Adds 20-35% to a salary.
- Can go alongside any degree / apprenticeship / career.
- Opens up a world of opportunities.

# WHY IS IT BENEFICIAL TO LEARN A LANGUAGE?

## Ofsted Research Review Series: Languages

- Languages are an integral part of the curriculum as they help to equip students with the knowledge and the cultural capital that they need to succeed in life.
- Communicate with others.
- Discovering more about other cultures and people.

# WHY IS IT BENEFICIAL TO LEARN A LANGUAGE?

## The Department for Education:

- New GCSE changes from September 2024 to make it more accessible to students.
- Learning a language is hugely important for a modern global economy.



## EMPLOYERS STRESS THE IMPORTANCE OF FOREIGN LANGUAGE SKILLS FOR UK WORKFORCE

**Martyn Heather, Head of Education at the Premier League, said:**“Language skills are just as important for a young aspiring footballer as they are for someone who wants to enter the world of international commerce. Being able to speak another language opens up a world of opportunities to play and coach in football leagues across the globe. It is the people who understand languages and feel confident with other cultures who will be able to make the most of these opportunities and thrive the most overseas.”

HR review

## Demand for Bilingual Workers More than Doubled in 5 years, New Report Shows

### Employers reveal 'killer skills' they look for – including speaking foreign language

More than half (57 percent) said foreign language skills are something they look for, while 62 percent said this ability make candidates a "more attractive proposition".

### Which foreign languages will be most important for the UK post-Brexit?

Five languages top the list: **Spanish**, Mandarin, French, Arabic and German

British Council



Offer free language courses

Globalisation has blown the job search wide open. You're no longer competing against the other candidates in your city; you're competing against the world. This means that giving yourself the best possible chance to **get the edge** over the competition has never been more important.

ESL Stories

“EVERYONE EXCELS EVERYDAY”

# WHAT ARE EMPLOYERS LOOKING FOR?

<b>SKILLS THAT EMPLOYERS ARE LOOKING FOR:</b>	<b>SKILLS GAINED WHEN LEARNING A LANGUAGE:</b>
Enhanced communication skills.	Enhanced communication skills.
Empathy and awareness of other cultures and identities.	Empathy and awareness of other cultures and identities.
Enhanced memory skills.	Enhanced memory skills.
Ability to analyse Information and solve problems.	Ability to analyse Information and solve problems.

# GLOBAL BRITAIN – THE DEMAND FOR LANGUAGES

- CBI has identified that Britain needs employees that speak different languages to communicate across the world.
- England is trailing behind Europe when it comes to learning languages

LEARNING A LANGUAGE WILL FUTURE PROOF YOUR CHILD'S CAREER.

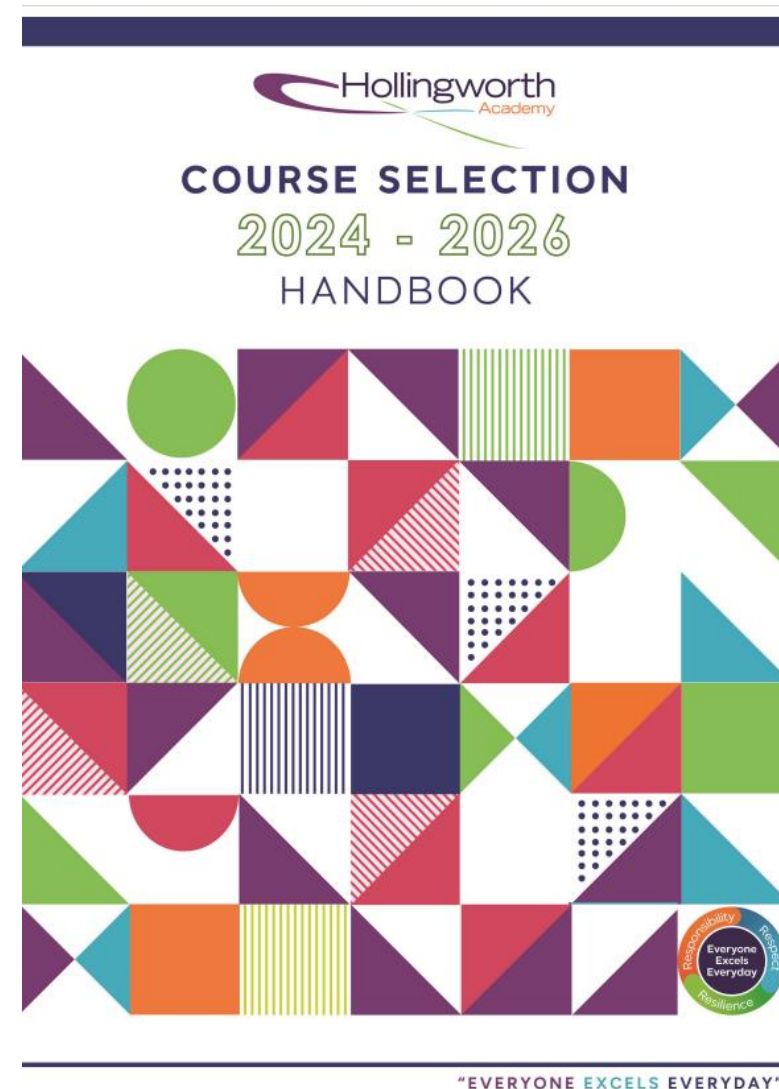
# Mr Larkin

## Assistant Headteacher

# OPTION CHOICES KEY DATES

EVENT	DATE
Distribution of Course Selection Handbook	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> January 2024
GCSE Options Information Evening	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> January 2024
'Choices Selection Forms 2024-2026' forms distributed via Google Classrooms	Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January 2024
'Choices Selection Forms 2024-2026' returns via Google Classroom	Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February 2024
Individual Student Interviews	Week commencing Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> February 2024
Confirmation of Choices	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May 2024

# BEFORE CHOOSING YOUR FOUR FOUNDATION SUBJECTS



# WHAT ARE THE FOUNDATION SUBJECTS?

Students must choose three subjects to study plus a backup choice (a fourth choice).

The choices include:

- ▶ Art & Design
- ▶ Construction
- ▶ Dance
- ▶ Digital Information Technology
- ▶ Drama
- ▶ Engineering
- ▶ Enterprise
- ▶ Food Preparation and Nutrition
- ▶ Geography\*
- ▶ Health and Social Care
- ▶ History\*
- ▶ Music
- ▶ Photography
- ▶ Physical Education
- ▶ Design and Technology
- ▶ Religious Studies
- ▶ Spanish
- ▶ Triple Science

All subjects  
are listed in  
the booklet.

# WHEN CHOOSING YOUR THREE SUBJECTS TO STUDY (+1 BACK UP):

## ▶ DO

- ✓ Consider studying a broad range of subjects.
- ✓ Consider subjects that you have **enjoyed** in KS3.
- ✓ Consider which subjects you are **successful** at.
- ✓ If you already have clear ideas about your career / future take this into account – **ask for advice**.

## ▶ DON'T

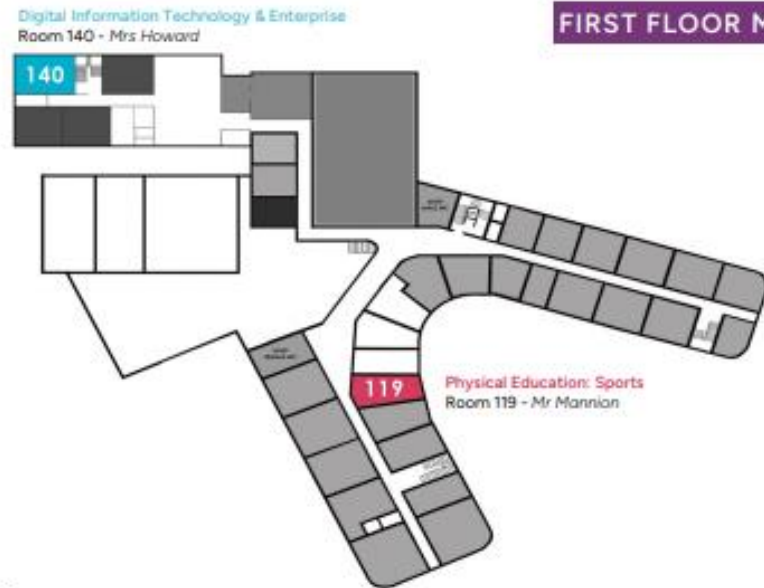
- x Pick subjects to be with your friends.
- x Pick or not pick subjects because of the teacher.
- x Pick subjects because you think they are easy options – **they aren't**.



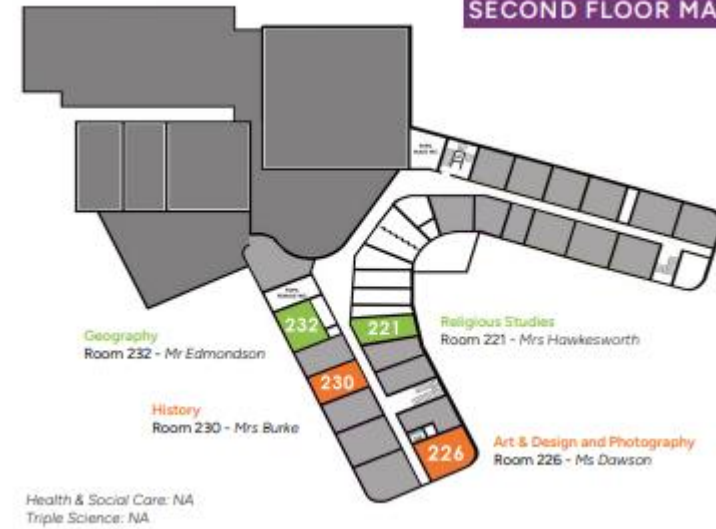
## GROUND FLOOR MAP



## FIRST FLOOR MAP



## SECOND FLOOR MAP



## Who to talk to for support and guidance throughout the Options Programme:

- Head of Year
- Mr Larkin
- Miss Hobbs
- Heads of Department
- Subject Teachers