

## **GCSE Preferences Process 2025 – Key dates and events – Over three main phases**

From early **January** form tutors will show students a series of '**subject information looms**'.

We encourage students to re-watch looms with parents and carers, selecting from:

- **core subjects** of English, Maths and Science (Combined Science or Single Sciences)
- **core subjects** of Geography or History and French or German
- **open choice subjects** for the eleven other subjects on offer.

On 9th January students (in form time) and parents and carers (by email) will receive an **introductory letter, timeline and loom** mapping out the key aims and dates of the preferences process.

Please note this is not a full description of the preferences process, that follows on the 30<sup>th</sup> January.

On **Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2025** (approximately) **the Assessment 2 spring term full report** will be emailed to parents and carers and distributed to students on paper.

On **Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2025** the main event, the **GCSE Preferences Evening runs** from 5.15pm – 8.00pm.

This event is designed for students to accompany their parents and carers.

Different forms arrive at invited half hour intervals and move through three phases.

We start by providing a talk in the **Assembly Hall** to explain the whole preferences process.

We will explain how lesson time goes 'hand in hand' with our Aspiration and Careers Excellence Programme to support future careers through providing both academic qualifications and wider careers experiences.

You also collect a paper copy of both booklets '**Y10 subject information**' and '**Year 9 Preferences Process**'.

This is followed by a marketplace in the **Dining Room** where heads of subject are available to provide general advice for each subject on offer.

There is also a help desk, SEND advice and college representatives in the **Dining Room**.

On **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2025** we have the **Y9 Subject Video Consultation Evening** during which teachers provide specific feedback on student progress across eight subjects. We expect most parents to book to see teachers from English, Maths, Science and 5 other potential subjects. General support appointments are also available. Parents and carers will receive an emailed invitation one week ahead of this event.

On **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February** you can book into a general advice appointment by emailing [GCSEpreferences2025@lsahigh.org](mailto:GCSEpreferences2025@lsahigh.org)

By **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February** students must electronically **submit their online GCSE preference form**.

On a Microsoft Form students indicate preferences for:

- Geography **or** History
- French **or** German.
- Combined Science **or** Single sciences.
- Open choice subjects in preference order, **including reserve** preferences, from the subjects on offer.
- The Aspiration and Careers Excellence Programmes. Apply for 'Main' and 'reserve' from three offers.

From **February to June**, we will carefully scrutinise the preferences indicated by every student contacting and consulting with parents and carers as necessary. We will endeavour to accommodate the most suitable preferences that students have indicated. We guarantee every student a fair preference process and a curriculum package which supports career and study paths.

We are unable to guarantee every student all their top preferences in the open choice subjects meaning students must thoroughly consider all open choice subjects and accurately indicate their preferences and their reserves in priority order.

In **July**, students, parents and carers will receive a **final confirmation of Y10 subjects** once the timetable for September 2025 is completed.