



# YEAR 9 PREFERENCES PROCESS





# LETTER



Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to invite you to our Y9 GCSE Preferences Evenings at school on Thursday 25th January. This event is the main introduction to the Y9 GCSE preferences process which engages students, parents and carers in partnership with the school. We would like students to accompany their parents or carers throughout the evening.

All the information needed is available at <https://www.lythamhigh.lancs.sch.uk/students/year-9-preferences>. It would be advisable to use this link to re-watch the loom and accompanying letter distributed earlier in January. Paper copies of required information will be provided on the evening.

The preferences process helps each student to carefully consider and then indicate their preferred subjects to study in Year 10 and Year 11. Student preferences then inform the process by which we ensure that all students ultimately follow a broad and balanced curriculum suited to their needs, aspirations and many future careers.

**The most important principle to remember is that year 9 students are not selecting their preferences based on a single current careers plan. All students will study a broad and balanced curriculum in year 10 and year 11.**

An outline of the career work available during year 10 and 11 will be provided as part this evening. This work will provide multiple opportunities to consider many different careers and therefore will support careers and education decisions made at 16 years old and 18 years old. Furthermore, when students indicate their preferences, they can sign up to our Aspiration and Careers Excellence Programme.

#### Logistics for the evening

Please be aware that there are limited options available for parking on our new site and in the former Lytham Sixth Form College car park. If you are street parking, please kindly consider our neighbours.

Different form groups will arrive at school at either **5.15pm, 6.00pm or 6.45pm** as shown below.

On arrival, go to the Assembly Hall to collect an information pack and be seated promptly for the presentation.

Following the presentation, move to the Dining Room to see subject leads and as necessary see the SEND team, colleges and help desk colleagues.

Two phases of Y9 GCSE preferences evening	Forms: 9EBR 9ESM 9GBU 9HWS 9DBO	Forms: 9LFI 9MAM 9MGD 9NSP	Forms: 9RAK 9SFT 9SSA 9TBI
<b>Assembly Hall</b> – Presentation – will start promptly.	5:15pm	6:00pm	6:45pm
<b>Dining Room</b> – Visit relevant subjects in the marketplace, visit the help desk, colleges, SEND Team as necessary.	6:00pm	6:30pm	7:15pm

Yours sincerely

Mr. T Cubbon  
Deputy Headteacher



## A summary of the key principles of the preference process

1. The first key principle is to avoid making their GCSE preferences around a single career. Careers experts advise students to prepare for five careers over their working lives. A broad and balanced range of subjects is more useful than a narrower range of subjects and should be considered as a whole, alongside the core and additional careers activities provided during Year 10 and 11. The preferences process is not a chance to simply 'drop' a subject because it is challenging. No subjects should not be ruled out yet and students must continue working hard in all subjects.
2. Secondly, consider the whole Y10 and Y11 curriculum to help students see the impact of their preferences. All students have 50 learning hours per fortnight, including 30 core hours of English, Maths, Science, Physical Education and Personal Development. There is a further 10 core hours for which students can make a preference between Geography and History and between French and German. Finally, there are 2 two blocks of 5 hours for open choice subjects. Some students may prefer to use one 5 hour open choice block to increase their science time up from '10 hours of combined science in the core', up to '15 hours to study single sciences'.
3. The preferences chosen by each student will be considered on an 'case by case' individual basis. We will endeavour to provide the subjects preferred, but only where this makes for a suitable curriculum and supports onwards study and employment routes. Students will indicate three reserve preferences and may be advised to study a reserve choice. In such cases, there will be thorough consultation, support and guidance for students, parents and carers. Changes are difficult once Y10 subjects are confirmed in July. Please assume late changes won't be possible. Late problematic changes are rare when there is good communication between home and school. Please don't hesitate to contact the preferences team at any stage of the process by emailing [GCSEpreferences2024@lsahigh.org](mailto:GCSEpreferences2024@lsahigh.org).

## Subject Information

There are 50 hours of learning each fortnight over week A and week B combined.

Core subjects – All students take GCSEs in mathematics, English Literature and English Language.

**Core Subjects** – ensure a broad and balanced curriculum and maximise study and employment opportunities.

- Every student must study History OR Geography
- Every student must study French OR German
- Every student must study either Combined science or Single sciences

**Science preference** – 10 hours of Combined Science or 15 hours of Single Science

Please re-watch Mrs Downey's Science subject loom available on the website.

Science teachers will advise further during our Video Consultation Evening on Thursday 1st February.

### **Open choice subjects**

These subjects are limited in space so please order your preferences carefully, including 3 reserve subjects. Selecting Single Sciences reduces open choice subjects from two open choice subjects down to one subject. Combined Science students study French or German, Geography or History and two open choice subjects. Single Sciences students will study French or German, Geography or History and one open choice subject.

### **Subject combinations allowed or not allowed**

It's possible to study both French and German. Select a second language in your open subject preference. It's possible to study both Geography and History. Select the second subject in your open subject preference. It is not possible to select both GCSE PE and Sports Studies OCR on any part of your preference form.

# GCSE Preferences Process 2024



Contact us at  
[GCSEpreferences2024@lsahigh.org](mailto:GCSEpreferences2024@lsahigh.org)

All information at  
<https://www.lythamhigh.lancs.sch.uk/students/year-9-preferences>

ASPIRATION ENDEAVOUR INTEGRITY RESPECT

## Content of this presentation

Mr Cubbon

Aims

Timeline

Three key principles

Key subjects

Mrs Clegg

Careers provision

Aspiration and Careers Excellence Programme

Mr Howard

How to make your preferences

ASPIRATION ENDEAVOUR INTEGRITY RESPECT

## Aims of the Preferences process

Provide students with a  
broad and balanced curriculum  
which meet their needs, aspirations  
and many future careers

qualifications attained

careers experiences

21<sup>st</sup> century employability skills

ASPIRATION ENDEAVOUR INTEGRITY RESPECT

## Timeline / Key Dates – Part 1

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February - 3.30pm-7pm

- Subject Consultation Evening

Likely English Maths Science and five other subjects

General preferences support appointments - Mr Howard

Mon 5<sup>th</sup> & Tues 6<sup>th</sup> - 4pm-6pm

- online general preferences support appointments

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> Feb

- submit online form - link on website

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## Timeline / Key Dates – Part 1

Through , February to June we:

- fairly check every form individually
- consult as necessary
- build the timetable - suitable preferences
- consider future learning and careers

No guarantee  
of all  
preferences

Early July - confirmation of Y10 subjects

Plan for a multiple careers

Order preferences in order

GCSE subjects rarely 'block' or 'facilitate' careers ... science!...

ASPIRATION ENDEAVOUR INTEGRITY RESPECT

## What questions will help or hinder?

What subjects are  
my friends taking?

Who is my favourite  
Y9 teacher?

I don't know what  
job I will do so how  
can I choose?

Shall I choose my  
subjects based on a  
single career plan?

Can I just drop  
everything I don't like?

What further advice  
do I need?

Which subjects open  
many doors for later  
study or careers?

Should I worry if I  
can't study all the  
subjects I'd prefer?

What careers experiences  
are available in lesson time  
and beyond lessons?



ASPIRATION - ENDEAVOUR - INTEGRITY - RESPECT

## Three Key Principles for students

### 1. Plan for multiple careers, don't 'rule out' any subjects yet!

Experts say you will have **five careers** over your working life

Subject choices rarely defines a **career path** (science)

**Broad and balanced** range rather than a narrower range

ASPIRATION ENDEAVOUR INTEGRITY RESPECT

## Three Key Principles for students

### 2. You don't need a specific subject for most careers

You don't necessary need to study:  
Engineering to be an Engineer or  
Business Studies to work in Business or  
Single Sciences to work in Science

We provide subjects you need for **many future paths**

**Careers experiences** supplement the qualifications gained

ASPIRATION ENDEAVOUR INTEGRITY RESPECT

## Three Key Principles for students

### 3. '50 hour fortnightly curriculum'

**30 core hours** English, Maths, Science, Core PE and PD

10 further core hours with two 'either or' preferences

**Geography or History**  
**French or German**

10 hours of **open choice – 2 subjects** of 5 hours each

**Science** preference affects one open choice – see later

ASPIRATION ENDEAVOUR INTEGRITY RESPECT

## A Broad and Balanced Curriculum maximises next study and careers

Every subject offers educational value and routes

we strongly recommend a broad and balanced curriculum, which supports a wide range of onwards study and employment

Core subjects provide breadth and balance

**French or German and History or Geography**

- particularly powerful body of knowledge - 'cultural capital'

- supports other subjects in post-16 study, university & careers

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## Core Subjects French or German

Is a language only really necessary for foreign travel?

There are many other benefits include improvements in:

- understanding your language, its grammar and literacy
- yourself as a learner and therefore learning other subjects
- your 'marketability' to colleges and universities
- communication skills greatly valued by employers
- insight into world communities, languages, and cultures
- business opportunities abroad and in the UK
- travel opportunities

.....'languages are hard!' .....

..... all GCSE's are hard!.....

ASPIRATION ENDEAVOUR INTEGRITY RESPECT

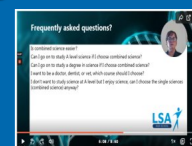
## Combined Science or Single Sciences

Y9 = 6 hours of science

Combined Science = 10 hours

Single science = 10 + 5 = 15 hours

5 hours removes one open choice!



Combined Science and Single Sciences are equally difficulty

Single Science simply covers more topics

Both cover Biology, Chemistry and Physics equally

Choose single science:

- Vet., medicine or dentist
- if science is 'your thing'

Don't choose it:

- For other science degrees
- Because of your current set

ASPIRATION ENDEAVOUR INTEGRITY RESPECT



## The Wider Curriculum More Than Grades



- Available to all pupils
- Pupils should experience something in each of 6 areas EVERY year of school
- Increasingly important in Years 10 and 11
- Logbook can be taken to college & apprenticeship interviews
- See Mr Reid in the ACC



## Aspiration & Careers Excellence Programme

This is a new opportunity, designed to enrich the curriculum for students who are **motivated, aspirational and have a thirst for knowledge**.

**6 week programme of practical hands/ brains on workshops tackling activities alongside industry professionals.**

**Designed to broaden pupils' horizons, consider a range of career paths and undoubtedly support their applications for competitive apprenticeships, college and university courses.**

ASPIRATION ENDEAVOUR INTEGRITY RESPECT

## Aspiration and Careers Excellence Programme

It takes place 1 day a week from 3.00pm to 4.30pm for 6 weeks.

There are 3 Programmes on offer.

- 1. The STEM Excellence Programme** - Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths including coding and cyber security.
- 2. The Creative & Digital Excellence Programme** - Including the arts, graphic design, digital media, marketing, journalism and architecture
- 3. The Caring Professions Excellence Programme** - Including the legal professions, law and order, medicine, teaching and social work.

**Completion of each programme will be certificated.**

**Motivated Year 10 pupils can apply for one programme and a reserve programme.**

## Completing the GCSE preference form

**The Microsoft Forms link will be on the website from Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February.**

**Complete on a phone, tablet, laptop or PC.**

**Deadline Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February.**

**LSA Year 9 GCSE preference form**

This form is to be completed to select the preferred subjects to be studied during year 10 and year 11. Curriculum is 50 hours per fortnight, of which 30 hours is mandatory.  
 Maths = 8 hours  
 English Language and Literature = 8 hours  
 Personal Development and Core P.E. = 4 hours  
 (please note there is a minimum of 10 core hours for Science).  
 This form gives you the opportunity to state your preferences for the remaining 20 hours.



## Three 'Non-GCSE Subjects'

**Engineering Manufacture – OCR National Cambridge Level 1 / 2**  
**Creative Media production – BTEC Level 1 / 2 – Technical award**  
**Sports Studies - OCR National Cambridge Level 1 / Level 2**

**Have some key differences to GCSEs in that they have**

- a wider range of learning and assessment styles
- assessment throughout the course not just at the end

**Are similar to GCSE in that they are:**

- academically rigorous
- have examined elements - not all NEA (coursework)
- equivalent 'points values' to GCSE grades
- equally valuable to college, university and careers routes

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Open choice subjects	
Art and Design – GCSE	
Business – GCSE	
Computer Science – GCSE	
Creative Media Production – BTEC Level 1 / Level 2 Technical Award	
Drama – GCSE	
Engineering Manufacture – OCR Cambridge National Level 1 / Level 2	
Food, Preparation and Nutrition – GCSE	
French – GCSE	
Geography – GCSE	
German – GCSE	
History – GCSE	
Music – GCSE	
Physical Education – GCSE	
Religious Studies – GCSE	
Sport Studies – OCR Cambridge National Level 1 / Level 2	

**Open choice subjects** These subjects are space limited so order your preferences carefully.

Single sciences reduce your open choice by 1 subject.

**Single Sciences** students will study French or German, Geography or History and **one open choice** subject.

**Combined Science** students study French or German, Geography or History and **two open choice** subjects.

It might be possible to study both French and German. Select a second language in your open choice subjects.

Similarly, you can choose Geography and History. Select the other subject in your open choice subjects.

You can only select **either** GCSE PE **or** Sports Studies.

**Students/Parents/Carers - use this box to add further information regarding your preferences**

ASPIRATION ENDEAVOUR INTEGRITY RESPECT

ASPIRATION - ENDEAVOUR - INTEGRITY - RESPECT

## Subject combinations not allowed

If you are interested in a sports / physical education course speak to your PE teacher or Miss Harrison or Mr Fenwick

They will advise which course best suits your skills and needs

You are not allowed to study both  
GCSE Physical Education  
and  
Cambridge National Sports Studies

Do not choose both subjects in open or in reserve choices

ASPIRATION ENDEAVOUR INTEGRITY RESPECT

## Can I take both History and Geography?

'Yes' if other subjects are broad and balanced

Single science and History AND geography is not broad!

## Can I take both French and German?

'Yes' if other subjects are broad and balanced

Single science and French AND German is not broad!

'Yes' if you already study the second language

Simply select your top preference first e.g. History in the core  
Then select e.g. Geography in your open (or reserve) choices  
The same applies to French and German

## For additional support please:

1. Go to the help desk later this evening
2. Email [GCSEpreferences2024@lsahigh.org](mailto:GCSEpreferences2024@lsahigh.org)
3. Book an general preferences online support appointment through school cloud on 1<sup>st</sup> , 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> February
4. Complete the 'further information' box on the form

Students/Parents/Carers - Please use this box to add further information regarding your preferences

## Sources of advice and guidance

All information will be emailed to parents and posted at  
<https://www.lythamhigh.lancs.sch.uk/students/year-9-preferences>

Students - during the day - who can I speak to

- Subject teachers
- Form tutor
- Miss Hindle or Mrs Bradley in the student hub
- Miss Peloe - Aspiration & Careers Centre – Ansdell block

ASPIRATION ENDEAVOUR INTEGRITY RESPECT

## What happens right now?

Go to the subject market place in the Dining Room for around 30 minutes

SEND team, Colleges and Help desk available if you need them

You are free to leave once you have finished in the dining room

**When you leave your seats please:**

- Take care descending the stairs
- Exit this hall to your left to access the dining room

ASPIRATION ENDEAVOUR INTEGRITY RESPECT



## The More than Grades Programme

At Lytham St Annes High School we know that the best education takes place both inside and outside the classroom.

We also understand the importance employers and Universities place on the wider achievements of candidates. Through the More Than Grades Programme we hope to ensure that all our pupils are able to develop wider achievements and have interesting, valuable skills and experiences to talk and write about.

Each one of our pupils is more than a collection of grades; they are unique individuals each with different talents, skills and abilities. Some of which they haven't even discovered yet.

In each year of school the More than Grades Programme seeks to introduce every pupil to new experiences or events out with the classroom in each of the following 6 areas

Aspiration & Careers  
Love of Learning  
Leadership & Citizenship  
Sport  
STEM  
The Arts

To ensure our pupils get the best experience possible during their time in school, **every year all pupils must participate in at least one activity or event in each of the 6 areas** and document it in their More Than Grades Logbook.

Of course we hope pupils will get involved in lots more than that and there are no limits on how many events and activities pupils can experience.

Form Tutors are vitally important in supporting ALL pupils to get involved, helping them to decide what to do and to make sure they have all the information they need. **The Programme is also designed to develop independence** and it is every pupil's own responsibility to make sure they participate in something within each of the 6 More Than Grades areas across the year.

On completion of each section in their logbook pupils will receive an Achievement Point in one of our 4 values.

The weekly Pupil Bulletin is available on our website and emailed home.

Please encourage your child to get involved. We hope you enjoy hearing about all the different clubs and events they take part in.





## Answers to common queries:

1. Pupil Logbooks are kept by Form Tutors in school.
2. Pupils use Form Time on a Friday to complete their log books.
3. Parents, carers & guardians will be able to see the More Than Grades Logbook at Meet the Form Tutor Evening.
4. Pupils can include events that they participate in outside of school too. They should document anything extra that fits into one of the 6 More Than Grades areas.
5. Pupils can take part in as many activities as they like; there are no limits.
6. We know some pupils will specialise in one area but we still want them to explore each of the 6 areas. Who knows what new skills they may discover!
7. Extra Curricular activities at school are all advertised in the Pupil Bulletin on a Friday which Form Tutors will go over during Form Time. The Pupil Bulletin is displayed around the school and in form rooms too.
8. Sometimes activities that take place during the school day are worth recording in the logbook too. (E.G. If pupils experience a theatre performance, work with a visiting poet or complete a science workshop; perhaps take part in a STEM competition or an athletics workshop with an Olympian. Anything out of the ordinary is worth documenting as a record of the experiences they have had.)
9. Pupils may wish to bring in a photograph of an event to glue into their logbook as evidence of what they have taken part in.
10. At the end of Year 11 pupils will be given their 5 completed logbooks to support them in their applications for colleges, apprenticeships, employment and/or university.

We hope that this programme will ensure that ALL our pupils are introduced to Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths, The Arts and Sport in ways that are not simply class based. We hope to nurture a true love of learning and support our pupils in being able to evidence the ways in which they are aspirational and endeavour to give their best. To encourage pupils to be both team players and independent thinkers. We hope that they will have more confidence in applying for leadership roles because of their wider experiences. In short we hope we continue to encourage every pupil in our learning community to be the very best they can be.

If you have any questions about the **More Than Grades Programme** or would like to offer to deliver an activity or workshop please contact Gill Clegg Deputy Head Teacher on 01253 733192 or via e mail [gillian.clegg@lythamhigh.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:gillian.clegg@lythamhigh.lancs.sch.uk)



## The Excellence Programme

In 2023 Year 9 Pupils have the opportunity to put themselves forward to be part of The Excellence Programme in Year 10.

The Excellence Programme is a new opportunity, designed to enrich the curriculum for students who are **highly motivated, aspirational and have a thirst for knowledge.**

The programme is designed as a 6 week programme of active hands/brains on workshops tackling activities alongside industry professionals.

Taking part in the Excellence Programme will provide pupils with a range of experiences to broaden their horizons, consider a range of career paths and will undoubtedly support their applications for competitive apprenticeships, college and university courses.

The Excellence Programmes will take place 1 day a week from 3pm to 4.30pm for 6 weeks.

**There are 3 Programmes on offer.** Motivated Year 10 pupils may choose just 1 or even choose to take part in all 3 across the school year. Completion of each programme will be certificated.

1. The STEM Excellence Programme - Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths including coding and cyber security.
2. The Creative & Digital Excellence Programme - Including the Arts, graphic design, digital media, marketing, Journalism and architecture.
3. The Caring Professions Excellence Programme - Including the legal professions, law and order, medicine, teaching and social work.

**More details of The Excellence Programme will be shared in the talks at the GCSE Preferences Process.**

# LABOUR MARKET INTELLIGENCE (LMI)

## Labour Market Intelligence (LMI)

### What is LMI?

Labour Market Intelligence is the term used to describe a wide range of information that helps inform decisions about work and training. From the recent LMI report 7 priority sectors have been identified for this area of Lancashire.

### What are the 7 Priority Sectors?

These are the industries with exciting job opportunities due to investment and a growing demand for young people in the sector. The sectors that have been identified as the 7 key sectors for Lancashire are:

#### Advanced Manufacturing.

Lancashire is one of the UK's leading centres for Advanced Manufacturing and Engineering – with products manufactured in Lancashire being exported all over the world. There are lots of exciting career opportunities in the sector due to the ageing population and growing demand for products that are made in the UK. This is creating a high demand for young people with Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths qualifications.

#### Construction.

Lancashire is home to a thriving construction sector driven by major planned and ongoing commercial and residential developments including Preston and South Ribble City Deal and the Enterprise Zone sites. The sector is one of the most diverse in terms of careers offered, regardless of age or experience – with more than one hundred job roles across the construction industry.

#### Creative and Digital sector.

The creative and digital sector in Lancashire accounts for 6% of the workforce and has a growing demand for educated, skilled and artistic young people. Due to the ever-changing world of technology, demand for digital skills remains extremely high and the county's colleges and universities are helping to address this skills gap.

#### Energy and Environmental Technologies.

The Energy and Environmental Technologies sector includes roles in gas, electricity, renewables, nuclear, water, waste management and environmental technologies – as well as the supply chains for these industries. Lancashire has well established facilities and supply chains in nuclear, waste recovery and offshore wind, oil and gas, as well as growing capabilities and new developments in onshore gas and green energy production and storage.

#### Financial and Professional Services.

Lancashire has a thriving financial and professional services sector, supporting businesses across the county and beyond. From accountants and law firms, financial advisors and insurance brokers, specialist property related consultancies and recruitment agencies through large business process outsourcing organisations. Many of the jobs in the sector are based in the county's major urban centres of Preston, Blackpool, Burnley and Blackburn.

#### Health and Social Care.

Like the rest of the UK, Lancashire has an ageing population (with the number of people over 65 set to rise by 23% in a decade) and more people with complex care needs living longer. Also, Lancashire's residents are generally less healthy than the national average. This means that demand for health and care services is set to continue rising – creating a range of employment opportunities for young people.

#### Visitor Economy.

In Lancashire the visitor economy (tourism) contributes £3.7bn per year to the county's economy, and Lancashire has a vision to be 'one of the top 5 English counties for a short break or family holiday'. The continued growth of the sector is creating opportunities for young people within the sector – with jobs throughout the county in locations such as Lancaster, Ribble Valley and the Forest of Bowland but particularly in Blackpool, Lancashire's number one visitor destination.



# KEY DATES



## GCSE Preferences Process 2024 – 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 8th January students (in form time) and parents and carers (by email) will receive an **introductory letter, timeline and two-part 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 25th January.

On **Thursday 18th January 2024 (approximately)** the **Assessment 2** spring term full report will be emailed to parents and carers and distributed to students on paper.

On **Thursday 25th January 2024** 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 different times and move through two 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 1st February 2024** 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 5th and Tuesday 6th February** you can book into a **general advice appointment** through the usual school cloud system. This is only if you need additional support.

By **Wednesday 7th 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 11 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 2024 is completed.

# ADVICE FOR PARENTS WHO CANNOT ATTEND

Advice for parents and carers who are unable to attend Preferences evening on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2024

It is recommended that the parent and student sit together and work through the resources from the website in the order suggested below.

<https://www.lythamhigh.lancs.sch.uk/students/year-9-preferences>

For support with any stage of the process please email [GCSEpreferences2024@lsahigh.org](mailto:GCSEpreferences2024@lsahigh.org)

1: Start by watching the **subject looms** which explain the each subject one by one.

Try to watch as many as possible.

Try not to rule out any subjects at this stage!

All the looms can be found at the bottom of the webpage following the link above.

2: Cross reference the subject information using the **Y10 subject information booklet**.

3: **Watch the** introductory **loom from** Mr Cubbon from January – it is in 2 parts – links are on from the website.

4: **Analyse the progress and attitude** shown on the **assessment 2 report** as usual, but also with a view to your preferences and with whom to book at the video consultation.

5: Book in to see subject teacher related to preference on **Y9 Subject Video Consultation Evening on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February**. As usual all parents receive an email invite to book their appointments. In addition to the subject teacher appointment, there are further 'preferences support appointments' available with Mr Howard.

6: If you need more **individual advice**, then make an **online appointment** on either Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February 4 – 6pm with Mr Cubbon or Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February 4 – 6pm with Mr Howard. These are booked through the usual school cloud consultation system.

7: Make sure you meet the deadline to complete the online preferences form no later than **Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2024**. The link to the form will be found on the website link as above.




## NOTES


## NOTES


# LSA Y9 GCSE preferences flow chart and curriculum map 2024


## Y10 and Y11 Curriculum 50 hours per fortnight


- ✓ Maths **8 hours**
- ✓ English Lit. & Lang. **8 hours**
- ✓ PD & Core PE **4 hours**
- ✓ \*Science minimum **10 hours**


 Geography  
**5 hours**

 History  
**5 hours**

 French  
**5 hours**

 German  
**5 hours**

 Combined  
Science  
**Core 10 hours**

 Single  
Sciences  
**Core 10 hours  
plus  
5 extra hours  
(as subject3)  
= 15 science hours**

Subject3 open choice 5hrs

Subject4 open choice 5hrs

Subject4 open choice 5hrs

Subject5 Reserve (5 hrs)

Subject5 - Reserve (5hrs)

Subject6 - Reserve (5 hrs)

Subject6 - Reserve (5hrs)

Subject7 - Reserve (5 hrs)

Subject7 - Reserve (5 hrs)

### Open choice subjects

Art and Design – GCSE
Business – GCSE
Computer Science – GCSE
Creative Media Production – BTEC Level 1 / Level 2 Technical Award
Drama – GCSE
Engineering Manufacture – OCR Cambridge National Level 1 / Level 2
Food, Preparation and Nutrition – GCSE
French – GCSE
Geography – GCSE
German – GCSE
History – GCSE
Music – GCSE
Physical Education – GCSE
Religious Studies – GCSE
Sport Studies – OCR Cambridge National Level 1 / Level 2

### Core subjects - 30 hours – for information only

All students take GCSEs in: Mathematics, English Literature, English Language and \*Science.

Personal Development covers elements of Religious Studies, PSHCE and citizenship and is not examined.

All students study non-examined core PE even if they also study PE GCSE or Sports Studies.

### Core subjects – 10 hours – with a preference

**Subject1** - Tick either History OR Geography.

**Subject2** - Tick either French OR German.

### \* Tick either Combined Science or Single Sciences

**Combined Science** uses 10 core hours to study modules of biology, chemistry and physics leading to '2 GCSEs'.

**Single Sciences** – study the same modules as combined science plus additional modules of biology, chemistry and physics. 10 core hours (same as combined science) plus 5 additional hours (instead of open choice subject3) leading to 3 separate GCSEs in 15 hours.

**Open choice subjects** These subjects are space limited so order your preferences carefully.

Single sciences reduce open choice from 2 to 1 subject.

**Single Sciences** students will study French or German, Geography or History and **one open choice** subject.

**Combined Science** students study French or German, Geography or History and **two open choice** subjects.

It might be possible to study both French and German. Select a second language in your open choice subjects.

Similarly, you can choose Geography and History.

Select the other subject in your open choice subjects.

You can only select **either** GCSE PE or Sports Studies.

**Students/Parents/Carers** - use this box to add further information regarding your preferences.