



# YEAR 9 OPTIONS PROCESS





# LETTER



Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

Thank you for taking the time to read this booklet, to ask questions and support your child in making their options preferences. This process is about making choices for the right reasons and taking the opportunity to study and enjoy subjects in more depth. In effect, this is an important step in your child's school life, but one that will be made as smooth as possible.

## Partnership

It is important that these decisions are made by parents, carers, students and the school together. Please take time to find out what the courses entail as well as considering how your child has performed in different subjects.

## Preference

With such a comprehensive range of qualifications and subjects, it is important that all students make a list of 6 preferences. The school will then work with the students to try and offer the top 3 or 4 choices. However, as this is not always possible, it is vital that you know as much as you can about as many subjects as possible.

## Do's and Don'ts

It is important that the preferences are well thought out. Students must not choose subjects because of a particular teacher, or because their friends are choosing it. Groups, teachers and timetables can and will change! We believe in the importance of keeping as many options available to students when they leave here as possible, therefore will work with students to encourage a balanced set of subjects.

- We strongly recommend all students take History or Geography.
- We strongly recommend all students take French or German.
- We strongly recommend students take one other subject from another area – see options preference form.
- At the very least every student must take either French or German or Geography or History

## Challenge of Courses

All subjects have examination elements and there is an emphasis on high quality, written answers. Literacy and factual recall are required and will be further developed through Y10 and Y11.

## Subject Information and post 16 study.

The Year 10 Subjects Booklet will give a brief overview of the subjects we hope to offer. Please take time to read through and if, as a student, you want to know more, please speak to the teachers in school. Students are choosing their GCSE courses, not their entire career path, however we advise some consideration of post-16 courses and can provide support and more information as necessary. We have a strong set of values that underpin our work and we want the absolute best for our students. We know that successful outcomes can be one of the greatest springboards to a successful career and life. This is an exciting chance for students to develop a genuine love and passion for their subjects. It is also an excellent opportunity for the school to ensure that students are supported as early on as possible, to do well and succeed. We hope you enjoy the discussion and interest that this process will create.

Good luck and do well!

Yours faithfully,

Mr T Cubbon  
Deputy Headteacher



# KEY DATES



## Key dates for Year 9 options process 2022

During January and February 'Subject Looms' will be shared with students in form time and will be posted below on this webpage.

### Tuesday 1st March 2022

All information will be emailed to parents and will be available on the school website.

- The options letter (page 1) and options preference form (page 2)
- Spring Term Report – including assessment 2 LSA standards
- Y9 Options Process Loom – Mr Cubbon explains the options process
- Y9 Options Process Booklet – general information about the process and Y10/11
- Y10 Subject Booklet – Details for each subject to supplement the 'Subject Looms'

### Thursday 3rd March (3 – 6 pm)

Options support video appointments are available for any families.

These are optional and are designed for general discussion or questions which can not be answered by individual subject teachers.

If you have a pastoral related question, please book with Miss Hindle or Miss Nicholson.

For curriculum or subject related questions, please book with Mr Cubbon or Mr Howard.

### Thursday 10th March (3 – 7 pm)

A Video Subject Consultation Evening will take place.

Parents can book up to 8 appointments. Please note that we would expect this to be English, Maths, Science and 5 others.

If you need more information please contact Miss Hindle. Further options support appointments are also available as part of this event.

### Monday 14th March

Option forms can be returned to school from Friday 11th March, the day after the video consultation evening (please don't ask to return them before this date) or finally by the above date.

If you still need further general support with the options process please contact Miss Hindle at [options2022@lsahigh.org](mailto:options2022@lsahigh.org)

### Finally

Please don't worry if we haven't contacted you regarding your options until June when the timetable for September 2022 has been finalised and we can confirmed the options subjects. We will contact families directly if any first choices can not be provided.



## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

In Years 10 and 11, all students will study a compulsory core of subjects made up of:

- English Language
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- Science (Combined Science or Single Sciences)
- Core Physical Education (non examination)
- Religious Studies (non examination)
- Law, Politics and Society (non examination)
- PSHCE / LIFE (non examination). LIFE is covered during form time and special events.

## **SCIENCE**

Students taking Single Sciences study a further 3 subjects.

Students taking Combined Science study a further 4 subjects.

## **LAW, POLITICS AND SOCIETY (NON EXAMINATION)**

In Years 10 and 11 Pupils will study Law, Politics and Society for 1 lesson per fortnight. This is a non examination subject and covers the National Citizenship Curriculum for Key stage 4 students. Pupils will study a range of topics including: democracy, participation in electoral systems and the law works.

## **CORE PHYSICAL EDUCATION (NON EXAMINATION)**

You will be able to choose to take PE GCSE OR Sport Studies as one of your options. You can not study both these options. However, whether you choose either options course or not, you will still have one lesson of practical core Physical Education each week.

## **STRONG RECOMMENDATION**

We strongly recommend all students take History or Geography.

We strongly recommend all students take French or German.

We strongly recommend students take one other subject from another area – see options preference form.

## **OTHER GUIDANCE**

Every student must take either French or German or Geography or History.

Students can only study French if they studied French in Y9.

Students can only study German if they studied German in Y9.

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

It is extremely unlikely, but still possible, that the subjects offered may be subject to review should there be any changes in Examination Board specifications or LSA staffing. Parents, carers and students will be informed if any changes need to be made. Parents, carers and students should understand, that subjects chosen will be studied until the end of Year 11.

## **OPTIONS DEADLINE**

Please ensure fully completed Options Preference forms are handed in to your Form Tutor on either Friday 11th or Monday 14th March.

Please don't hand in options forms until after the video consultation evening on Thursday 10th March.



# ◀◀◀ MORE THAN GRADES ▶▶▶



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 of 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 and, in Form Time on a Friday, students will complete their logbooks.
2. 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. Pupils can take part in as many activities as they like; there are no limits. 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! They can bring in a photograph to glue into their logbook as evidence.
3. 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.
4. 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.)
5. 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 email [gillian.clegg@lythamhigh.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:gillian.clegg@lythamhigh.lancs.sch.uk)

# ◀◀◀ FUTURE CAREERS ▶▶▶

When choosing your options you should keep your choices broad and select courses that you will enjoy and do well in. After GCSEs you will then start to specialise more in terms of the A levels, T Levels, Btecs and other courses you may study. A broad range of GCSEs guarantees that no doors are closed to you in terms of future careers. Given that sound advice, you may find the following information about future career opportunities in Lancashire interesting.

## **What is LMI?**

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

## **What are the 7 Priority Sectors?**

The following 7 Priority Sectors have been identified as 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:

### **1. 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.

### **2. 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.

### **3. 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.

### **4. 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.

### **5. 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.

### **6. 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.

### **7. 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.



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For general enquiries regarding options, please contact:  
[options2022@lsahigh.org](mailto:options2022@lsahigh.org)