



Welcome Year 9

Key Stage 4 2025-2027



The Key Stage 4 Curriculum

- Subject Grading – GCSE and Vocational
- Ebacc Curriculum
- Core Curriculum
- How to make your choices
- Key Dates



Previous GCSE Grades	Current GCSE Grades		Approximate equivalent vocational grade
A*	9		Level 2 Distinction*
	8		
	7		Level 2 Distinction
A	6		Level 2 Merit
B	5		Level 2 Pass
C	4	<p>Grade 4 and above = C and above.</p> <p>A student who achieves lower than a grade 4 in English or Maths must retake these exams.</p>	
D	3		Level 1 Distinction
E	2		Level 1 Merit
F			Level 1 Pass
G	1		

New Subject Grading

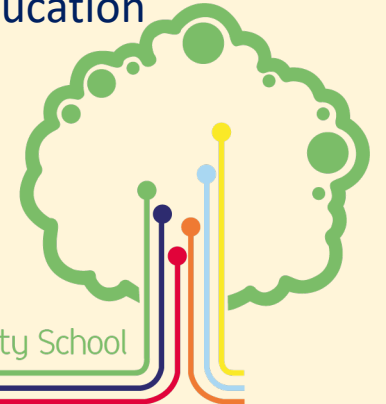


English Baccalaureate (EBacc)

- **EBacc impact:**
- The EBacc is made up of the subjects which are considered essential to many degrees and open up many doors and opportunities.
- **The EBacc is:**
 - English language and literature
 - Maths
 - Sciences
 - Geography or History
 - Language - Spanish / French

“The EBacc is a set of subjects at GCSE that keeps young people’s options open for further study and future careers.”

Department for Education



Melksham Oak Community School

Research before you choose

- **Thinking Ahead - Research tells us that:**
- Most people will change jobs several times during their working lives;
- Employers will need more people with qualifications at Level 3 (A-level, Level 3 vocational qualifications) or above;
- Studying the EBacc pathway enhances a student's chance of progressing on to succeed in further education;
- People with higher level qualifications will earn more and have better employment prospects than those with lower level qualifications or no qualifications at all;
- Employers want people with good employability skills. For instance, employers know that studying a language develops invaluable and transferable skills including communication, confidence and other interpersonal skills.



How to make your choices?

- Do your research before you decide
 - Course information booklet
 - Careers information – Unifrog, Careers Pilot
 - Careers Lead – Ms Tranter
 - Specialist staff – subject leaders
 - Tutor
- The full information booklet is on our website under Curriculum / Key Stage 4 Courses

The logo for Unifrog, featuring the word "unifrog" in a lowercase, rounded, teal-colored font.

Melksham Oak Community School

The Key Stage 4 Curriculum



Examined Core Courses:

English – Language and Literature	GCSE
Mathematics	GCSE
Combined Science	GCSE

Non-examined Core Course:

Physical Education	
Physical, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE)	



The Key Stage 4 Curriculum

- Core curriculum – Maths, English, Combined Sciences
- Humanity – Geography or History
- Language – French or Spanish (Majority of students)
- 2 or 3 further free choices – this can include the 2nd humanity or language

- Separate sciences – please discuss the course with your science teacher



Next Steps...

- Discuss your preferred subjects with family / teachers / tutor
- Do the research on any preferred career path
- Subject Choices form online – released Friday 14th March
- Subject Choices submission deadline – Friday 21st March

- Ask for help if you need it!

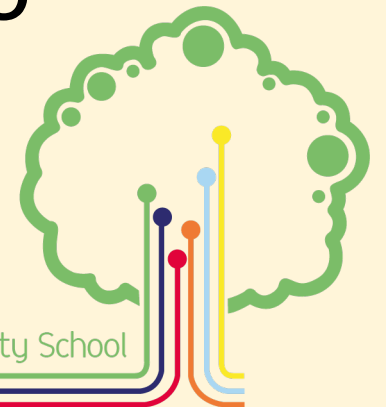


Vision – we will:

Provide a **world class learning experience** for all our students.

Raise aspirations and support students to achieve their full potential.

Develop global citizens who are ready to overcome the challenges of tomorrow.



Values

