



THINKING ABOUT

YOUR FUTURE?

It may only seem a short time ago you were considering which high school to attend and already you're making decisions that will set you off on the right career path once you leave.

To help you make those important choices, we have put together a short guide which we hope you'll find useful.

CHOOSING YOUR OPTIONS

When choosing your options in Year 8/9 the best advice that we can give is the same as we give to Year 11 students, choosing their A-levels - **pick subjects you enjoy!**

SOME
QUESTIONS
TO ASK
MAY BE:

DO I ENJOY PRACTICAL,
HANDS ON LEARNING OR
MORE TRADITIONAL
CLASSROOM-BASED LEARNING?

NVQs and Vocational Awards allow you to take part in work experience and develop skills needed for working life. They are largely coursework-based and usually involve working on a practical project.

GCSEs cover traditional curriculum subjects and mostly combine coursework with exams, though some will be exam only.

BTECs/OCR Nationals tend to combine traditional study with hands-on learning.

You will probably have the option of taking a mixture of academic and vocational courses i.e. a GCSE with a Vocational Award.

WHAT ARE MY
LONG-TERM GOALS?

You may not know yet what you want to study after leaving school or what you want to work as in the future. That is perfectly normal and you have plenty of time to consider this over the coming years.

However, if you do have a career or university course in mind it can be useful to work backwards. Look at what qualifications you will need in the future and ensure you are not limiting yourself now.

At this stage, it is unlikely that what you choose will impact significantly as 'essential' subjects such as English, Maths and Science are compulsory at GCSE.

For entry to Winstanley College the only 'optional' subjects you have to take at GCSE in order to study at A-level are Spanish and French.

WHO CAN GIVE
ME SOME MORE
ADVICE?

Your teachers at school will be able to give you information about what specific subjects involve and the school's Careers Adviser will help you with looking ahead to your long-term goals.

As a future Winstanley student you are also very welcome to ask us any questions that you may have about Advanced Level study. Our School Liaison Team visit local schools regularly, so please look out for them.

Alternatively you can contact the Admissions Team, email admissions@winstanley.ac.uk or call 01695 628610

Remember that your parents, friends and family know you the best and can also offer support and guidance when making important decisions.

COLLEGE LIFE

Doing your very best in Years 10 and 11 will give you the most options for study or employment after school. If A-levels are your chosen route, we hope you'll consider joining us at Winstanley College

Art and Design Music Performance **Politics** **Ancient History**
Physical Education Economics Health Studies **Theatre Studies**
Law Psychology **BIOLOGY** **FRENCH**
History English Combined Chemistry Photography **Dance** **Physics**
 Spanish CRIMINOLOGY **Applied Science** Business **IT**
 Textiles GEOLOGY SOCIOLOGY GEOGRAPHY **Engineering**
 Mathematics **FILM STUDIES** Computer Science **Philosophy**
Music **Media Studies** **GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION**
 Philosophy and Religion English Language **MUSIC TECHNOLOGY**

Students usually choose 3 subjects which they study over their 2 years at college

STUDENTS COME TO WINSTANLEY TO LEARN AND ACHIEVE BUT THERE'S MORE TO LIFE AND LEARNING THAN JUST EXAMS

FROM SPORTS AND PERFORMING ARTS ACTIVITIES TO BEEKEEPING, THERE'S SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE HERE AT WINSTANLEY COLLEGE. HERE ARE JUST A FEW OF THE FANTASTIC ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES CURRENTLY ENJOYED BY OUR STUDENTS.

- Debating Society • Young Enterprise • The Student Investor Challenge • Amnesty International • Student Union (Children in Need, charities, Clothes Show Live) • College Magazine • Departmental Magazines • Maths Challenge • Environment Group • Healthy College Group • Reading group • Theatre visits • Creative writing groups • Historical re-enactments • Mentoring • Duke of Edinburgh Award • Equality and Diversity Group – LGBT group • Science Conference • Young Chemistry Analyst Competition • STEM • Outside speakers for all subjects • Higher Education Convention • Mind Body and Soul Week • Pride Week • Work Placements (vital for many careers) • Volunteering • BAME Society

An example of a Winstanley student's timetable

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
9.05 TO 10.05	Study	Geography	Geography	Computer Science	Study
10.05 TO 11.05	Guidance	Study		Maths	Geography
11.05 TO 11.20	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK
11.20 TO 12.20	Geography	Computer Science	Guidance	Study	Study
12.20 TO 1.20	Maths	Study	Maths	Guidance	Computer Science
1.20 TO 2.20	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
2.20 TO 3.45	Computer Science	Guidance	Football Match	Study	Maths

Sports fixtures most often take place on Wednesday afternoons and it is usually possible to make sure students do not have a subject lesson in that slot.