

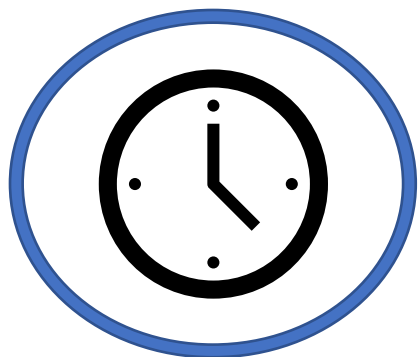


Options Evening

Year 9

2025

Please confirm
your attendance
using the link
above



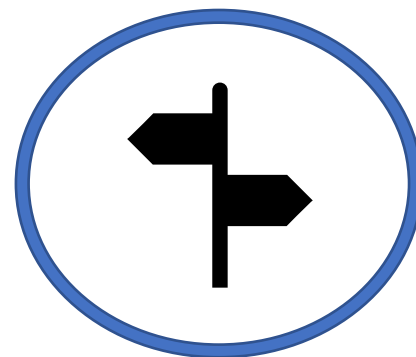
INFORMED CHOICES

Having experienced your foundation subjects you will now decide upon your GCSE curriculum



EMBEDDED KNOWLEDGE

Personalise your curriculum with the subjects you want, and are ready to take further



FUTURE READY

Demonstrate what you know and can do to ensure you are ready for the wider world

USH

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Options Evening Year 9

The aims of the evening are to:

- Find out about the Year 10/11 curriculum
- Find out what is involved in studying particular subjects in Years 10/11
- Be aware of the advice and guidance available from the school and other sources
- Be aware of the timescales for making choices about Key Stage 4 study.

Towards an outstanding curriculum

USH is a happy place where all are challenged to achieve; where we are distinguished as leaders of learning and the passion of our people transforms futures.



...learning without limits

Towards an outstanding curriculum

In Year 9, our vision is to empower students with independence, respect, and a drive for academic excellence. We are committed to providing a supportive environment where students build confidence, resilience, and a love for learning. By encouraging empathy and collaboration, we prepare our students to make informed and thoughtful decisions about their future.

The KS4 Curriculum – Options

Core Subjects

- English Language
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- Science

Compulsory Non-Core Subjects

- PSHE
- PE

Four choices (plus two reserves)

Art	Business Studies	Citizenship	Drama	Film Studies
Food and Nutrition	Geography	Btec Health and Social Care	Graphic Communication	History
Creative iMedia	Design and Technology	MFL – French	MFL – Spanish	Music Performance
Music Technology	Btec in Sport	GCSE Physical Education	Photography	Religious Studies
Textiles	Btec Construction			

Btec

- BTEC subjects are a suite of **vocational** qualifications which help students acquire knowledge, skills and understanding through practical, **work-related** activities in a real-life context so they can **apply** what they have learnt (**applied** learning). BTECs are level 2 academic qualifications.
- They have the same value as GCSE equivalent courses.
- **Assessment** varies between courses, please make sure you ask the staff this evening about how their course is assessed.

Music Technology	Creative iMedia	Sport
Construction	Health & Social Care	

EBacc

The EBacc is not a qualification in its own right – it's a combination of GCSE subjects, **including a language**, that offer an important range of knowledge and skills to young people.

- English Language and English Literature (Compulsory)
- Maths (Compulsory)
- Science (Trilogy or Separate) (Compulsory)
- A Modern Foreign Language (Optional)
- History or Geography (Optional)

We encourage students to take the EBacc route as it shows flexibility in your academic learning skills.

If you do not wish to do a Language or Humanity, please select 'other' and state the subject you would like instead from the list of subjects in the Options Booklet.

Reserves

We will build a timetable to provide for as many first choices as possible. However, we cannot **guarantee** that all four choices will be met.

In some cases, there might not be enough students selecting a particular course, which will mean that it won't be able to run, or the timetable means that your first choices cannot fit together.

It is important that you are happy to study the reserve subject and that you are not just putting it on the form to fill a space.

Making informed decisions

- What do you enjoy?
 - What are your strengths?
 - What are the career implications?
 - Has a good balance of subjects been maintained?
 - Consider your preferred learning style?
-
- **Don't** be persuaded by your friends
 - **Don't** think about what staff took you this year
 - **Don't** pick a subject because it sounds different
 - **Don't** rush your choices

Support during the Options Process

- This evening, you will be able to discuss with our Subject Leads the format of year 10/11 in the option subjects offered.
- The following information will be available on the school website: options booklet, options form, useful links to careers websites and this presentation.
- From next week, students will have the chance to have 'taster' lessons in their normal lessons. This is being organised by the Subject Lead of each department.
- Your child will have the opportunity to discuss their preferences with their tutor, who will sign off the Options Form.
- Students who need guidance will have the opportunity to meet with our Careers Co-Ordinator who can help students make informed decisions.
- Your child's Head of Year / Assistant Head of Year will be available to talk through any questions.
- Targeted students will have the opportunity to meet with a senior member of staff to discuss their options choices and ensure they select ones that best suit them.

Timeline

16th January – Year 9 Parents' Evening

6th February – Options Evening

Throughout February and March – Taster lessons, Careers Co-Ordinator/Head of Year/SLT interviews

21st March – Deadline for submission of Options Form

<https://forms.gle/sxr8QjbVUJsi5GLA6>

Form open from 24th February

Dr1

Drama
Mrs Lambert

DT1

Graphics, Design & Technology
& Construction
Mrs Weston
Mr Van Schalkwyk

Back Playground

ART2

Photography
Mrs Cadle

ART1

Art & Textiles
Mrs DeRuiter Hough

Ground Floor

Ma7

PE & Btec Sport
Mr Janata

Eng6

Business, RS &
Health & Social care
Ms Hartshorn
Miss Baillie
Mr Pitcher

Eng5

Citizenship, MFL
& Geography
Ms Dibden
Mrs Samborski
Mrs Hyslop

FS1

History &
Film
Mr Farley
Mrs O'Halloran

ICT 1

Creative iMedia
Mr Park

Front Playground

Mus1

Music Performance
Music Technology
Mr Smith

FD2

Food
Mr Davies

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Any Questions

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