

## Year 9 GCSE Options form (2021-2023)

Whilst normally you would have had the chance to speak to individual teachers at our usual parents' evening, during this difficult time please use the fliers attached to help inform your decision. Please do discuss these choices with your child's form tutor or call/email me if you have any queries.

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### **Core curriculum**

Subject	Qualifications and/or content
English	Entry Level / Functional skills Level 1/2 / GCSE English Language (AQA)
Maths	Entry Level / Functional skills Level 1/2 / GCSE English Language (Edexcel)
Food Studies	Btec Award in Home Cooking Skills Level 2 (Pearson) / Food Hygiene and safety
Computing	ITQ A vocational qualification in IT user skills Level 1/2 (OCR)
Personal Development Opportunities	Prince's Trust Award and/or Certificate (GCSE equivalent) / SMSC (Spiritual, moral, social and cultural education) / Enrichment activities / Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme / Sports Leader's Award / Team building opportunities / 'Wellbeing' activities

***N.B. Some timetables may be personalised to meet individual needs through the 2 year courses.***

***Free choice for two further qualifications chosen from the four subjects listed below.***

***Please write 1-4 in the boxes 1 = first choice, through to 4 = last choice.***

Subject	Qualifications or content	1-4
Art and Design	GCSE Fine Art (AQA) / Entry Level (OCR)	
Physical Education	Btec First Award in Sport (Pearson)	
Science	Btec / GCSE (Edexcel)	
Music	Btec First Music (Pearson) / Entry Level (WJEC)	

**Please return this form to Mrs Atkins at school on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2021.**

Make sure the numbers 1-4 are listed clearly and that the form is signed below by both pupils and parents.

Pupil Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Tutor group: \_\_\_\_\_

Pupil signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Carer name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Carer signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*(Please see overleaf for further information about the school curriculum)*

Key skills we strive to develop are: 'resilience', 'communication' and 'self-management'.

## Year 10

In Year 10 pupils start on their final part of their educational journey. Pupils usually remain in mixed ability classes and work is differentiated in order to match individual needs and abilities. Ongoing literacy and numeracy assessments maintain the level of support that each pupil requires and forms their 'normal way of working' which in turn informs the level of support a pupil is allocated when completing national examinations. English and Maths are taught in stages in order to allow pupils to undertake both Functional skill exams as well as GCSEs to best suit individual pupil needs.

In order to support the anxieties around completing examinations staff take the time to practise using past papers and hold 'Mock exams' to give pupils the confidence, skills and knowledge in order to succeed. Interwoven within the academic qualifications required by the government we mix in an enrichment programme designed to build up key interests, vocational skills and positive challenges. These can include bike maintenance, photography, cake decorating and film making as well as sporting opportunities such as Judo, boxing and canoeing.

### The aim of the Year 10 Curriculum is for pupils to:

- build up a portfolio of accreditations within English and Maths (including early entry)
- begin to take responsibility and ownership of their education
- lay the learning foundations for the range of examination subjects studied.

## Year 11

By the time out pupils reach Year 11 some of them may well have been with us for a significant amount of time. A key area within the Year 11 curriculum is ensuring that all pupils have guidance around transition and their destinations beyond Wandle Valley. Careers Education supports this through arranging visits to local employers and training providers, hosting a 'Careers Week' culminating in 'Careers Open Morning'. This is usually attended by 30+ local employers/training providers, offering informal interviews and further information. Also pupils have the chance to participate in mock interviews with external professionals, engage with one to one support at initial college visits (as appropriate) and Learning Support interviews at prospective colleges.

Mock exams are carried out to simulate the scenario pupils face in the summer of Year 11 and to familiarise themselves with the rules and regulations around national examinations. Revision of skills, knowledge and the application of relevant exam technique forms the core of the year 11 academic curriculum.

### The aim of the Year 11 Curriculum is for pupils to:

- gain support and guidance for their post 16 placements
- develop 'exam technique' and revision skills to access national accreditations
- build up their 'capital currency' to enable aspirational choices and opportunities post 16.

Key skills we strive to develop are: 'resilience', 'communication' and 'self-management'.