

Options 2023



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Where to start?



The first of many decisions you have to make about your future.

Even though it might seem a long way off ... it is important to start thinking about your future. Ask yourself:

What career aspirations do you have?

Which of the options courses are suited to you?

Will your choices 'keep your options open'? You might change your mind about what you want to do when you leave school, or, you might not even know what you want to do yet!



What you study in KS4 (Y10 & Y11)

Compulsory subjects

Examined subjects

Non-Examined subjects

English Language GCSE
English Literature GCSE
Maths GCSE
Science GCSE (x2)

} 5

RE
PE
PSHE

Options subjects

Option 1
Option 2
Option 3

} 3

8 qualifications

Making your choices:

Wide range of subjects on offer:

Separate Science
Spanish
Geography
History
Computer Science

**English Baccalaureate
subjects**

We MUST choose one of these

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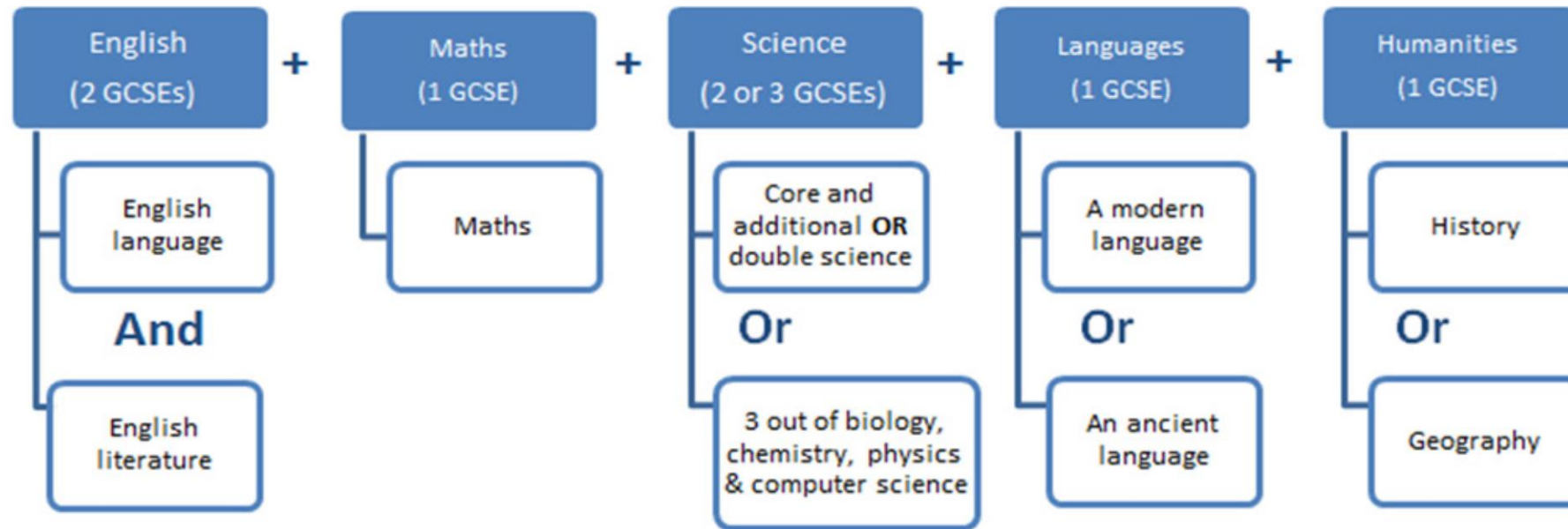
Art, Craft and Design
Business/Enterprise
Child Development
Design & Technology
Dance
Drama
Food Preparation and Nutrition
Music
PE/Sports
Religious Studies

**Plus, two other
subjects of your choice**



What is the English Baccalaureate (Ebacc)?

The English Baccalaureate or EBacc, is made up of the following subjects:



Why study the EBacc?

By studying the subjects that make up the EBacc, you are studying a broad range of rigorous subjects:

- English
- Maths
- Science
- Languages
- Humanities

The advantage of studying this broad curriculum is that it keeps your options open for further study and for future careers.



Why study the EBacc?

Universities report that the Ebacc suite of subjects are essential to many degrees.

Employers recognise the challenge of studying the EBacc subjects. These are rigorous and challenging qualifications and employers say this can 'open up a lot of doors'.

Research shows that students who study the Ebacc:

- Are more likely to stay on in full time education
- Make more progress in their English and maths GCSEs as a result



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Making your 3 option choices:

For the majority of pupils:

English Baccalaureate

Option 1: Languages

Option 2: Humanities

Option 3: Free choice

Option 1: An EBacc subject

Option 2: Free choice

Option 2: Free choice

E.g. Spanish

E.g. Business

E.g. PE/Sports

How do you decide which subjects are right for you?

Use the time between now and the options deadline of 16th February to find out more about each subject you are interested in.

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How we will support you to make your choices:

- Subjects will be talking to you in lessons about what it is like to study their subject in KS4
- Next week, there will be subject 'option videos' shown in form time
- Options evening on Thursday 19th January (5-7pm)
- If you have a question about the options process, or about one of the subjects, let someone know and we will get an answer for you.

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How do you know which options are right for you?

- If you choose to study the subjects that make up the EBacc, you are studying a broad range of rigorous subjects that keeps your options open for further study/future careers. This is the right choice for the majority of our students.
- Some students know what they want to do for a career and choose subjects that support this e.g. Personal Fitness Trainer – might opt for Food and PE and choose another subject that you enjoy e.g. History.
- Some students may not know what they want to do beyond Year 11 and choose 3 subjects that they enjoy.
- Post-16 provision tends to ask for “a number of GCSEs at certain grades” rather than specifying which subjects, but if you know you want to go on and do History A Level, for example, it makes sense to opt for it now!

Beyond Year 11:

- Some of you will already know what you want to do beyond school. You may even know what you want to do for a career.
- Most of us will not have a clue what we want to do when we leave school – this is not unusual.
- **“85% of jobs that will exist in 2030 haven’t been invented yet”**
- What we do know is all students must do one of the following until they are 18:
 - Stay in full time education e.g. at a college
 - Start an apprenticeship or traineeship
 - Work or volunteer (for 20 hours or more a week) while in part time education or training.

Beyond Year 11: Why stay on in full time education?

Annual population survey (2018) showed that those people holding at least an undergraduate degree earned almost **130%** more than people with no qualifications. People with:

- no qualifications earned on average **£304** per week
- GCSEs at A*C or equivalent earned on average **£381** per week
- A Levels or equivalent earned on average **£435** per week
- Degree or equivalent earned on average **£694** per week



How we support you beyond Year 11:

- Support through our PSHE Curriculum
- 1:1 Careers guidance
- Careers fairs
- Mock Interview sessions
- Career insight days
- Work experience
- Assemblies from Post 16 providers
- College Days

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Summary of key dates:

- Options launch 11th January
- Options subject videos w/c 16th January
- Options Evening Thursday 19th January (5-7pm)
- Option Choices form issued Friday 20th January
- Parents and Carers' evening Tuesday 7th February (4.30 – 7pm)
- Options deadline Thursday 16th February

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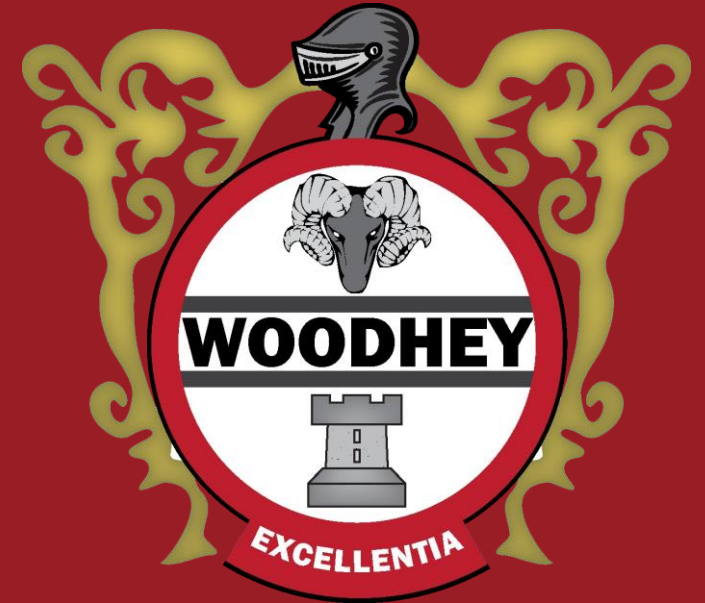
Any questions?

Please speak to *Miss Dobson*
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