



YR 9 OPTIONS INFORMATION

Wednesday

12th December 2018

Purpose of this Evening



To provide you with further information on how best to help your child express **their** preferred subject selection for Years 10 and 11.

To outline our understanding of the current Government's position on education.

To understand the process required to accurately express your preferred subject selection at KS4.

Aim – To support your child in making an informed subject preference for KS4



Before - discussed your child's areas of interest and possible vocations. Students should have completed some research prior to attending this evening. Looking at different jobs and the qualifications required to follow this career path.

Tonight - visit identified subject stalls and discuss the demands of the subject with staff and student representatives.

Attend a presentation to support you in guiding your child to make an appropriate selection of subjects.

After — discuss the evening, read through the booklet again, complete the form and submit it in on time.

Process so far



All students have attended an assembly regarding the options process and the booklet has been published on the website.

All students have had Lifeskills sessions focusing on this topic.

All parents and students should have received a tracker last week, which will have informed you of the current level progress for your son/daughter.



Examination reform – All GCSE and A Level courses have been rewritten with new schemes of assessment.

The new GCSE specification are much more demanding and the content for all the GCSEs has increased significantly.

National Update - Changes to GCSE Grading



The grading system for GCSE has changed across all subjects. The A* - G grading system has been replaced with Grades 1-9.

NEW GCSE GRADING STRUCTURE		CURRENT GCSE GRADING STRUCTURE
9		A*
8		A
7		A
6	GOOD PASS (DfE)	B
5	5 and above = top of C and above	
4	AWARDING	C
4	4 and above = bottom of C and above	
3		D
2		E
1		F
		G

National Update – School Measures



All students will be required to take the following subjects:

- English Language
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- Science (double or triple)
- PRS
- PE – not examinable

1 subject from: Geography, History, French, German, Spanish or Computer Science in option **Block A**.

3 other subjects from option **Blocks B,C,D**.

National Update – School Measures



- The two main ways in which schools will be measured with regards examination success are called Progress 8 and Attainment 8. In each of these cases, this is a school measurement only – these are not qualifications but a set of criteria that will be used to measure how schools perform across a selected core group of subjects that all students in England are expected to study.
- **Progress 8** aims to capture the progress a student makes from the end of primary school to the end of secondary school.
- **Attainment 8** is a measure of a student's average grade across a set suite of eight subjects.
- These measures could potentially restrict our students to having just two free subject choices. However, with some careful curriculum planning we have been able to maintain three free subject choices and one restricted subject choice for all students.

Our Approach



We aim to provide as flexible curriculum as possible, which provides different opportunities for our students;

“To help all of our learners to meet the challenges of life in our fast-changing world.”

Working in collaboration with school staff and parents, our students will be guided towards a combination of subjects which best suits their individual needs and interests.

Possible Final Qualifications



English	Maths	Science	PRS	Options	Total GCSE equivalents
2 GCSEs Language and Literature	1 GCSE	2 GCSE for all 3 GCSE for the most academically able	1 GCSE	4 GCSEs or BTECs 3 for triple scientists	10 GCSEs

The Next Chapter of Your Child's Education



Raising the Participation Age

The Government has raised the age to which all young people in England must continue in **education or training**, requiring them to continue until their 18th birthday.

Full Time Education at Tring School

Minimum 8 "4/5" Grades at GCSE and meet the entry criteria to stay on at Tring School for your chosen subjects

Full Time Education at College

Level 1 course (1 - 2 grades)

Level 2 = GCSE (4/5)
4 GCSE Grade "3"

Level 3 = A Level
5 GCSE "4/5" Grades including English and Maths

Apprenticeship

5 GCSE "4/5" Grades including English and Maths

The Option Blocks



Block A	Block B	Block C	Block D
Computer Science	Business Studies	Art	Art
French	Computer Science	Drama	Construction
Geography	French	Food Preparation & Nutrition	Drama
German	Geography	Graphic Products	Geography
History	German	History	Hair & Beauty
Spanish	Health & Social Care BTEC	Physical Education	Media Studies
	History	Resistant Materials	Physical Education
	Media Studies	Textile Technology	(Separate) Science
	Music	Travel & Tourism	Sociology
	Sociology		Spanish

Things to Consider



You will be making some subject selections for next year and they should

...

1. Select subjects that you already enjoy.
2. Allow you to achieve the most that you are capable of.
3. Be able to be continued onto higher courses in the partnership or at college.
4. Allow you to enter the career of your choice.

You will be making some subject selections for next year and they must not be selected ...

1. Because your friends are selecting it.
2. Because you like your teacher this year.
3. Because you think it will be easy.

Please be aware that:

- Russell Group Universities have advised that studying a modern foreign language qualifications are valued by admissions tutors across the Russell Group but not essential.

An Important Time...



We want you to make the right choices:

Please use this evening to follow up the discussions you have had so far with your parents & Lifeskills teachers.

Ask the subject teachers about the courses you are interested in, discuss the topics covered, the methods of assessment and your suitability for the course.

Students will also have a 1:1 meeting with their HoH after Xmas, to talk through their initial thoughts on the process so far.

▪

Your Option Form



	A	B	C	D
1 st Preference	Geography	Business	PE	Art
Rank 1 – 4 (1=most favoured 4=least favoured)	2	3	1	4
2 nd Preference (one from each block)	French	Media	Art	Sociology

Due to popular course preference the subject allocation may be as follows

Option A	Option B	Option C	Option D
Geography	Business	PE	Sociology

Key Dates



Submit your option choices via the electronic system – **25 January 2019**

Year 9 Exams Week starts **29 January 2019**

Final options confirmed by **22 April 2019**

ALL COURSES BEGIN **3 June 2019**

Final readjustments to courses **24 June 2018**

Make the Right Choices for You!



GCSE Options at Tring School 2018-20