



January 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

At the end of this academic year, your child will reach the end of Key Stage 3. In September 2026, she/he will begin the final phase of compulsory schooling (Key Stage 4) which will lead to examinations at GCSE level, vocational qualifications and/or entry to our Sixth Form, Further Education Colleges or Apprenticeships. This is a very important time for you and your child and we would like to invite you to our Key Stage 4 Options Evening to be held on:

Thursday 12th March 2026

5:30 pm – 7.00 pm

Theatre/Heart/Conservatory

This evening is about giving you as parents and carers an understanding of the arrangements for school at Key Stage 4. There will be a presentation on how the options process works which you can attend either at either 6:00pm or at 6:30pm in the Theatre. To provide subject specific information, subject leaders and teachers from all of the option courses will be present in the Heart and Conservatory. You will be able to visit as many subject areas as you wish to speak with staff and students. They will be able to give you detailed information about the subjects. You and your child are invited to join us at any point during the evening between 5:30pm and 7:00pm, at a time which is most convenient for you.

Throughout half term 3 and 4 this year, students will receive information and guidance in their personal development sessions in morning meetings. Individual discussions between students and staff will also occur throughout this process. The timetable of events leading up to your child making their option choices is:

09/01/26	Y9 report
19/01/26	Options process letter home
21/01/26	Options process assembly
30/01/26	KS4 options booklet available online
25/02/26	Taster Day 1 (9AB)
04/03/26	Taster Day 2 (9CD)
12/03/26	Option evening
13/03/26	Options selections form opens in Student Portal & MCAS app
20/03/26	Deadline for options form to be completed through Student Portal & MCAS app
15/05/26	Final offer

In Years 10 and 11, all students will continue to study a broad range of subjects. In addition to English, Maths, Science, Beliefs and Values and core PE, your son/daughter will have to choose one subject from the “EBacc courses” and three from the “additional courses”. The lists of these courses can be found at the end of this letter..

To support decision making, the Key Stage 4 options booklet will be available on our website from January 30th. This provides further information on the shape of the curriculum at Key Stage 4. It also gives detailed information about subjects which must be studied by all students as well as details about those subjects where students have a choice.



We will make every attempt to ensure that the options process runs as smoothly as possible and we will endeavour to have every child on a course that is appropriate to them. Please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Gadsby, Miss Collins, Miss Wilde, Dr Coimbra, Ms Geary or Mrs Jesson at any time if you would like further advice.

Yours sincerely

Mrs C Jesson

Deputy Headteacher

EBacc Courses (students select one)

French
Geography
History

Additional Courses (students select three)

Art - Art & Design or Textiles
Business
Computer Science
Design Technology
French
Geography
Health & Social Care
History
Hospitality & Catering
ICT or iMedia
Music
Performing Arts - Acting
Performing Arts - Dance
Psychology
Religious Studies
Separate Sciences*
Sociology
Sport

* All students will study science. If a student selects "Separate Science" as an option course they will study 3 sciences (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) and gain 3 GCSEs. If a student does not select "Separate Sciences" as an option course they will still study 3 sciences (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) but will study fewer modules and gain 2 GCSEs.