

Highfields School

be the best you can

Year 9 Options

for September 2021

Name:

Form:



Year 9 Option Choices

This is an exciting point in your time at Highfields School. You now have the opportunity to make choices about the subjects you will study in years 10 and 11. In addition to a core of compulsory courses that everybody studies you are fortunate to have four further choices. Our advice is that you should select a broad range of courses from the long and varied list of subjects on offer. Choosing courses that interest you and which cover different areas of learning will give you a great basis for further work and study after year 11.

The importance of an informed choice

In considering your options, you should ask yourself four important questions:

1. Which courses will I enjoy?
2. Which combination will provide me with a broad range of experiences, for example covering humanities, languages, creative, technological or physical courses?
3. Which courses might I achieve the highest grades in?
4. Which courses will help to move me in the direction I want to go in?

What now? You should ...

1. Read the course information on the courses we offer in year 10.
2. Consider your talents and aspirations and discuss them with your parents/carers, tutors and teachers.
3. Scrutinise your year 9 assessment profile, paying careful attention to teacher comments to identify which subjects you are performing well in.
4. Gather as much information as possible in order to make an informed choice.

The process

The options process is designed to guide you towards making confident and informed subject choices.

7 December 2020	Year 9 assembly options launch – options booklet given to you to discuss with your parents / carers
15 December 2020	Year 9 online assembly on courses 'new' to you in year 10 2021 (engineering, film studies, BTEC sport, travel & tourism)
12 January 2021	Year 9 consultation evening Y9 Options presentation for parents available online.
By 24 January 2021	You will submit your initial options choices* through tutors
25 February to Easter	Your options interview will take place with a member of the senior leadership team

**Your initial options choices will include two 'reserve' options, in the event that the options you have chosen are not available due to low numbers or clashes within the timetable.*

It is our intention to write to you and your parents/carers to confirm options choices as early as possible in the summer term.

NB: Option subjects are correct as at time of print and are subject to change

This is a good school. Ofsted, May 2017

A good school with an outstanding Sixth Form. Ofsted, October 2012



Year 9 Option Choices

Compulsory for all students:

English Literature

Maths

English Language

Science

Core PE

Religious Studies

Science option:

All students will study science. You will follow Combined Science (two GCSE grades) unless you choose Triple Science (three GCSE grades) as one of your options.

Other options:

Our advice is that you should select a broad range of courses that interest you and cover different areas of learning. The English Baccalaureate (EBacc) is a combination of subjects comprised of English language, English literature, maths, two sciences, a humanities subject (history or geography) and a modern foreign language. This provides the basis of a broad, balanced programme of learning which will provide you with the knowledge and skills to understand the world around you and ensure all future opportunities are open.

We expect all students with 'advanced' subject benchmarks to take the EBacc and advise all other students to give it their serious consideration. In addition to the EBacc course you have two further options, meaning a very wide range of programmes can be created, matching your interests and strengths.

Please choose one EBacc option, **in red**, to start with and then five further guided options – listing them in order of preference 1 to 5 – you will be allocated three from this list.

To take the EBacc you need to choose a language along with history or geography.

You can take as many **red** subjects as you want.

Subjects that are similar appear in **orange** boxes together.

You can pick **ONE** subject from within each of the **orange** boxes.

Art & Design: Fine Art

Art & Design: Photography

Art & design: Textiles

Business

Computer Science

Dance

Design & Technology

Fine Art
Art Textiles

Drama

Engineering

Film Studies

Food Preparation & Nutrition

French

Geography

German

PE (GCSE)
Sport (BTEC)

History

iMedia (Cambridge Award)

Music

PE (GCSE)

Spanish

Sport (BTEC)

Travel & Tourism (BTEC)

Triple Science

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Year 9 Option Choices

My preferred choices:

At this stage your choices are **ONLY** provisional. Your choices will be discussed with you at your individual options interview.

- **Compulsory subjects:** All students will take these subjects

English Literature

Maths

Core PE

Religious Studies

English Language

Science

- **Option Preference:**

Please choose one EBacc option to start with and then five further guided options – listing them in order of preference 1 to 5 – you will be allocated three from this list. You can choose as many **red** subjects as you would like.

EBacc first choice option

French / Geography / German / History / Spanish

1.

Further options

Can include any other options including French / geography / German / history / Spanish.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

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