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# Choices Information Evening

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Mr Mills – Assistant Headteacher

# Progression Pathways

The Raising of the Participation Age (RPA, 2015) means that all young people are required to continue in education or training to 18 by law. This change does not necessarily mean staying in school. Young people will be able to choose:

- full-time education, such as in school or in college;
- work-based learning, such as an apprenticeship;
- part-time education or training, if employed.



**We need to ensure that we offer all our students the best chance of success by guiding them towards the right pathway that enables them to progress to post-16 and achieve success.**



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# Making the Right Choice

- Your children will have to remain in Education or training until they are 18.
- The Government believes that adults will be 22-23 years old before they embark upon a career.
- As adults your children will probably change career 2-3 times during their adult lives and have 10-14 jobs by the age of 38. They will work to the age of 70+ before retirement.



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We are currently  
preparing students  
**for jobs that  
don't yet exist...**



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using technologies  
**that haven't  
been invented...**

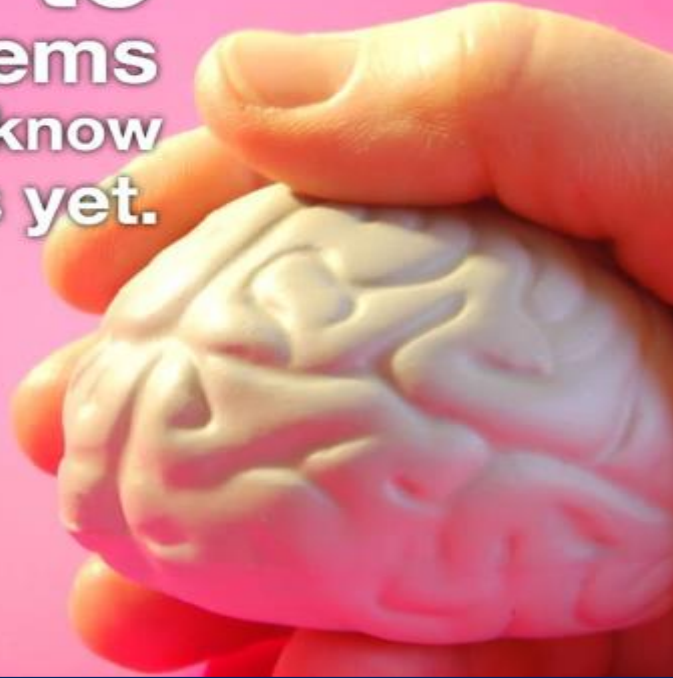


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**in order to  
solve problems  
we don't even know  
are problems yet.**



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# GCSE Courses...

- More rigorous - harder
- Bigger – more content
- Tiers only when necessary
- Linear with terminal exam
- Limited number of subjects with coursework



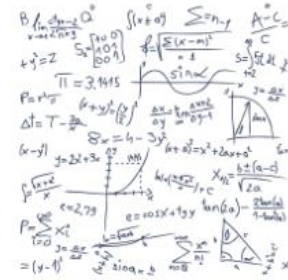
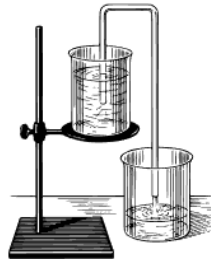
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# Key Stage 4 Curriculum

All students in Key Stage 4 will study the core (compulsory) subjects of **English Language, English Literature, Mathematics** and **Combined Science** (worth two GCSEs). They will also study core **(non-GCSE) PE**. Students will study elements of Religious Studies, personal, social and health education topics (PSHE) and develop study skills in a dedicated lesson once a week. This is in addition to form time and assemblies.



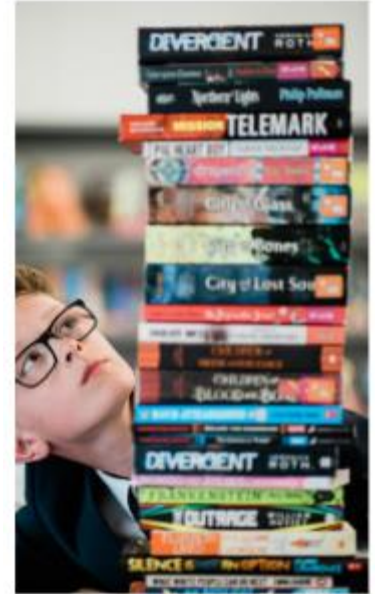
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# English Baccalaureate (EBacc)

The English Baccalaureate (EBacc) is not a qualification, but a selection of subjects designed to keep students' options open for further study and future careers. Choosing the EBacc at GCSE gives students access to a full range of employment options when they leave secondary school and provides the broad knowledge that employers are looking for.



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# English Baccalaureate (EBacc)

To achieve the English Baccalaureate, students must study:

- GCSE English Language and Literature
- GCSE Mathematics
- GCSE Science (Double award or Triple Science)
- GCSE Computer Science
- GCSE History or Geography
- A GCSE in a Modern Foreign Language



# English Baccalaureate (EBacc)

The EBacc is made up of the subjects which are considered essential to many degrees so students who are considering further study should take this into account when making their option choices.

Whilst it is not compulsory, it is worth bearing in mind that The EBacc subjects are also the A level subjects that, traditionally, are most valued by the top universities.

All students have the option of achieving an EBacc, however, we do not insist on students doing the full suite of EBacc subjects.



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# Y9 Options – Future Planning..!

## Academic destinations after GCSEs....

For students aiming to study A-Levels at college/sixth form, most providers expect a range of GCSE subjects at grades 5-9 – including Grade 5 or higher in English Language and Mathematics, with Grade 6 or higher needed for some specific subjects.

Due to the high exam content in A-Levels, we find local providers do have a preference for academic GCSE subjects – we do therefore recommend students considering A-Levels to only take 1 x vocational (GCSE equivalent) option. *(This would typically give students 7 GCSEs and 1 Vocational GCSE equivalent in their profile for college admissions)*

For competitive university courses or careers, such as Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science, Law etc, we would **recommend** students consider the “E-Bacc” pathway – whilst this is not essential, these option subjects (Humanities/Languages) in addition to core subjects (English, Maths, Science) will provide the academic skills that students will need for further and higher education courses and are always highly valued by universities and employers.



# Key Stage 4 Curriculum

Students will be asked to choose three subjects from within two option blocks.

**CORE Subjects:**

English Literature

English Language

Mathematics

Combined Science

+

Block A (Select 1)

+

Block B (Select 2)

We hope that the balanced choices made, reflect students' personal strengths, interests and future career plans.



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## Block A (Select 1)

Triple Science
Geography
History
Spanish
Computer Science
French

## Block B (Select 2)

Business Enterprise	Graphic Design
Classical Civilisation	Health and Social Care
Computer Science	History
Construction	Hospitality and Catering
Creative iMedia	Music Practice
Dance GCSE	GCSE PE
Dance – Performing Arts	Photography
Design & Technology	GCSE RE
Drama	Spanish GCSE
Fine Art	Sports Studies
French GCSE	Textiles
Geography	Triple Science

# Subject Choices



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# Reserve Choice

In the event that a selected course cannot run, students will be required to identify a GCSE subject they would like to study as a reserve.

This must be chosen from Block B on the options form.



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# Key Stage 4 Curriculum

- You may **only pick one** subject from Fine Art, Textiles or Graphic Design.
- You may **only pick one** subject from Design & Technology and Construction.
- You may **only pick one** subject from Spanish and French.
- If you are choosing Dance, you can **only pick one** Dance option.
- If you are choosing a sport subject, you must **pick either** GCSE PE or Sport Studies.

Option choices do not depend on setting/ prior attainment. All students have the same option choices.



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# Important Information

- We cannot guarantee at this stage that all the courses included in the booklet will be offered in September 2025. If there is very low demand for a particular subject it may not be possible to run the course.
- Students will be informed about their final options in the summer term.
- Acceptance on the Triple Science and Computer Science courses is based on aptitude and attitude in what are very demanding qualifications.



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Consilium  
Academies

# Key Dates

- **27th February: Year 9 Parents' Evening 15:30-18:00.** This will be face to face, more information will be circulated in the coming weeks.
- **20th – 31<sup>st</sup> January: Year 9 Choices assemblies.** Please ensure your child is in full attendance all week.
- **6th and 7th February: Student Leadership Team to visit forms.** The current Year 11 students will present to year 9 form groups about their option choices, the importance of choosing wisely and how to fill out the options form.
- **4th November – 14th February: Year 9 Choices Interviews.**
- **7th March: Deadline for the Year 9 Choices form.** Parents should oversee the completion of this form to ensure they are aware of their child's choices.



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Assembly day/date	Theme
Mon 20th Jan	<b>Introduction to Options</b> SFA to talk about careers.
Tues 21st Jan	<b>Humanities</b> Geography History RE
Wed 22nd Jan	<b>Expressive Arts</b> Drama Music Practice Fine Art Textiles Photography



Assembly day/date	Theme
Thurs 23rd Jan	<b>MFL, Classics and Triple Science</b> Spanish French Triple Science Classics
Fri 24th Jan	<b>PE</b> GCSE PE Sports Studies GCSE Dance Dance Performing Arts



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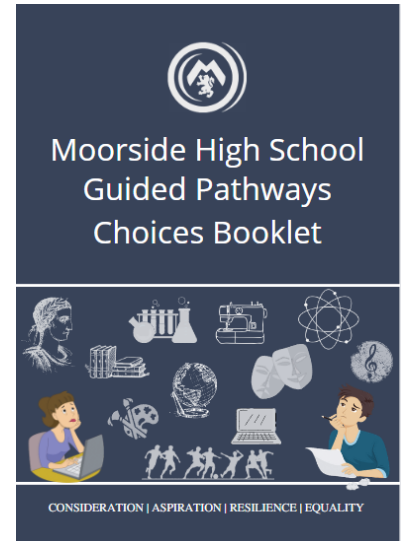
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Assembly day/date	Theme
Tues 28 <sup>th</sup> Jan	<b>Computing and Business</b> Computer Science Enterprise Creative I Media
Fri 31st Jan	<b>Technology</b> Construction Design Tech Hospitality and Catering Graphic Design Health and Social



# Next Steps

- Read the Choices booklet with your child.
- Encourage your child to talk to their subject teachers, Form Tutor, HOY and Careers Advisor
- Encourage your child to think about their next steps on their journey, be that college, apprenticeship or employment and consider entry requirements



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The coming weeks are a very important part of the journey of our year 9 pupils. It is an exciting time but can also be daunting too. It is important to make sure you take advantage of all the opportunities to collect information and ask questions.

<b>C</b> onsideration	Considerate about ourselves, others, and our community.
<b>A</b> spiration	Aspire to be the very best in all that we do.
<b>R</b> esilience	Work hard and never give up. Seek help and help others.
<b>E</b> quality	Value diversity and tackle discrimination.



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# Key Contacts

- Mr Halsall (Head of Year 9)
- Mr Gibbins (Transition co-ordinator)
- Mr Farmer (Careers Advisor)

More information can be found on our school website.

Questions or queries can be made via our school email address:

[mhsinfo@consilium-at.com](mailto:mhsinfo@consilium-at.com)



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The Choices process has been designed to maximise choices without restricting potential subject clashes into separate option blocks. Once all the options choice forms are collated on the **7<sup>th</sup> of March**, the curriculum team will work over the following months to ensure wherever possible you will be able to follow your first or second choices. Option subject choices will be confirmed in the summer term.

Thank you for your continued support.



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Our *Core Purpose* is to ensure every student leaves us ready for their next successful chapter, with students attending university or starting a fulfilling career.

***We enrich lives and inspire ambitions to ensure students thrive in the world around us.***



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**C**onsideration

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Thank you for your continued support.  
Have a safe journey home.