



The Key Stage 4 Curriculum 2020-2023

CHOOSING YOUR OPTIONS





Aims of the evening

- ✓ a chance for students and parents to become more informed about option subjects
- ✓ find out exactly what each course involves
- ✓ find out the opportunities each course could offer
- ✓ talk to teachers about the demands of the subjects



The Keys Stage 4 curriculum

You will follow a core curriculum of:

- ✓ English Language GCSE
- ✓ English Literature GCSE
- ✓ Mathematics GCSE
- ✓ Science GCSE (x2 or x3)
- ✓ Religious Studies GCSE
- ✓ General PE
- ✓ PSHCE and/or Feedback Improvement Time and/or Leadership

Every Child Every Lesson Every Day



English Baccalaureate Impact

“The EBacc is made up of the subjects which are considered essential to many degrees and open up lots of doors.

Research shows that a pupil’s socio-economic background impacts the subjects they choose at GCSE, and that this determines their opportunities beyond school.

A study by the UCL Institute of Education shows that studying subjects included in the EBacc provides students with greater opportunities in further education and increases the likelihood that a pupil will stay on in full-time education. Sutton Trust research reveals that studying the EBacc can help improve a young person’s performance in English and maths.

The government’s ambition is to see 75% of pupils studying the EBacc subject combination at GCSE by 2022, and 90% by 2025.”



English Baccalaureate (Ebacc)

The EBacc is made up of:

- ✓ English
- ✓ mathematics
- ✓ history or geography
- ✓ the sciences including computer science
- ✓ a modern foreign language



The option process

You will choose **four** full course GCSE/Level 2 courses from the following list:

GCSE Option
Art and Design GCSE
Business GCSE
Chinese GCSE
Computer Science GCSE
Level 2 Cambridge National Certificate in Creative iMedia (IT)
Design & Technology GCSE
Drama GCSE
Food Preparation and Nutrition GCSE
French GCSE
Further Maths Level 2 and Statistics GCSE
Geography GCSE
German GCSE
History GCSE
Media Studies GCSE
Music GCSE
Photography GCSE
Physical Education GCSE
Spanish GCSE

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How do I make my choice?

Do...

- ✓ talk things through with your parents, teachers, older siblings or friends
- ✓ some research – the ‘Choosing Your Options’ booklet will help
- ✓ consider that your choices may make a difference to which courses you can take in the future

Don't...

- × choose a course because your friend is
- × choose a course because you like your year 8 teacher
- × choose a course because you think it will be easy



Final remarks

- ✓ You must choose one, preferably two, EBacc subjects
- ✓ You are advised to choose a modern foreign language
- ✓ We try to provide students with all of their option choices and, unlike many schools, we offer a free choice to all
- ✓ The option blocks are built after you have made your choices rather than before
- ✓ However, staffing issues and class size constraints mean that students will need to select a reserve, full GCSE option. This could replace one of your other choices if their initial choice combination is not possible
- ✓ This reserve choice is to be included on the Options Preference Forms as a 5th choice



**OPTIONS PREFERENCE FORM
KEY STAGE 4 CURRICULUM CHOICES**

Name:

Tutor Group:

The national attainment measure, **Attainment 8**, will be relevant for you when you have completed your GCSEs.

To maximise your Attainment 8 score you **must** choose as one of your options at least one EBacc subject from the following list:

French, German, Spanish, Chinese, Geography, History or Computer Science.

You have four option choices. Please number them in order of preference. Please give a reserve choice and label it 5 or 'Reserve'.

GCSE Option	Order of Preference
Art and Design GCSE	
Business GCSE	
Chinese GCSE	
Computer Science GCSE	
Level 2 Cambridge National Certificate in Creative iMedia (IT)	
Design & Technology GCSE	
Drama GCSE	
Food Preparation and Nutrition GCSE	
French GCSE	
Further Maths Level 2 and Statistics GCSE	
Geography GCSE	
German GCSE	
History GCSE	
Media Studies GCSE	
Music GCSE	
Photography GCSE	
Physical Education GCSE	
Spanish GCSE	

Signature (student):.....

Date:

Signature (parent/carer):.....

Date:

Please return to your tutor by Friday 7th February 2020



What happens next?

Wednesday 8th January

Options Evening

Wednesday 5th February

Parents' Evening

Friday 7th February

Deadline for Preference Form

Monday 2nd March

Options discussions with a senior member of staff

End of the summer term

Subjects confirmed

The Piggott School/About Us/Curriculum/Year 8 options



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