

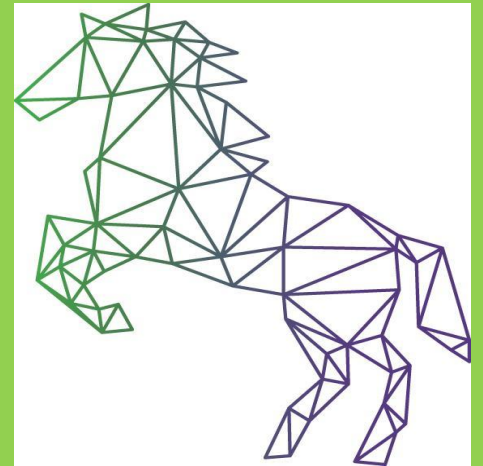
# Welcome to our Year 9 into 10 Options Evening

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024

6.00-7.30pm

Mrs Comiskey (Deputy Headteacher)

Mrs Wright (Assistant Headteacher)



# Why are option choices so important?

Progression to sixth form/ university/ college or an apprenticeship relies on:-

Grade 5 in English

Grade 5 in Maths

A high average  
progress score across  
all of your subjects

In order to support our students with their next steps, we follow the Ebacc at Horsforth School In Years 10 and 11

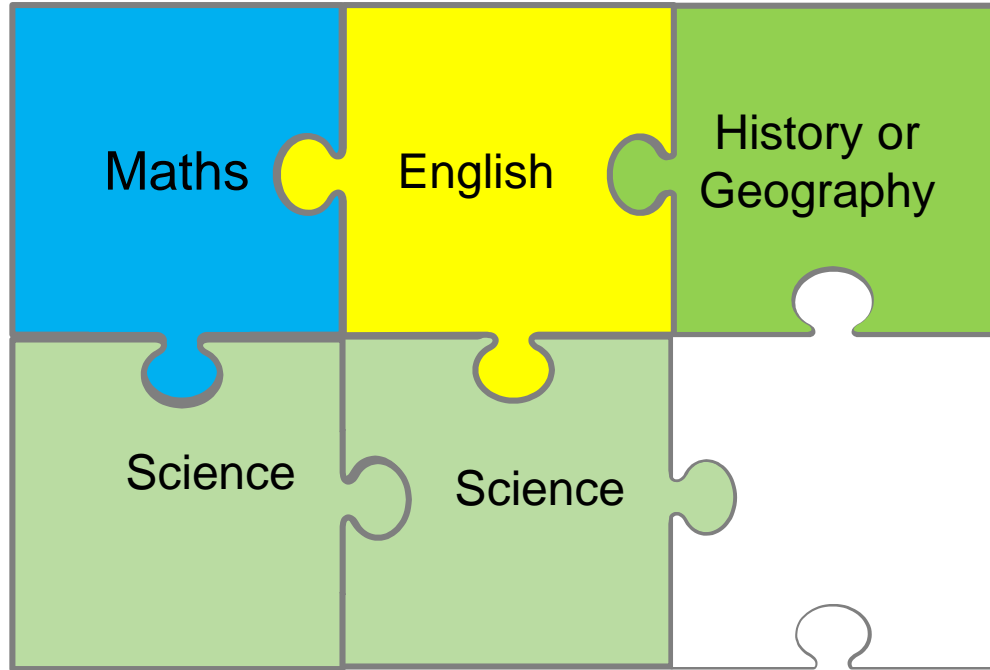


# What is the English Baccalaureate (EBacc)?

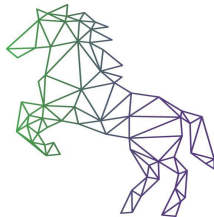
- Research shows that a pupil's socio-economic background impacts the subjects they choose at GCSE, and that this determines their opportunities beyond school.
- The EBacc is a set of subjects which are considered essential in keeping young people's options open for further study and future careers.
- 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 90% of pupils studying the EBacc subject combination at GCSE by 2025.



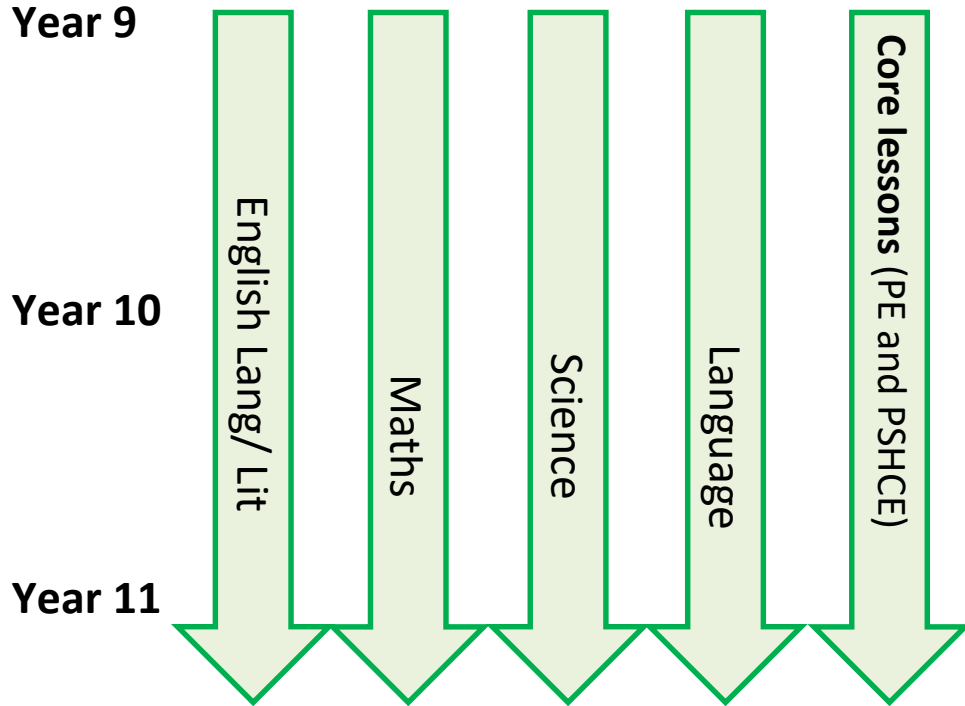
# What is the English Baccalaureate (EBacc)?



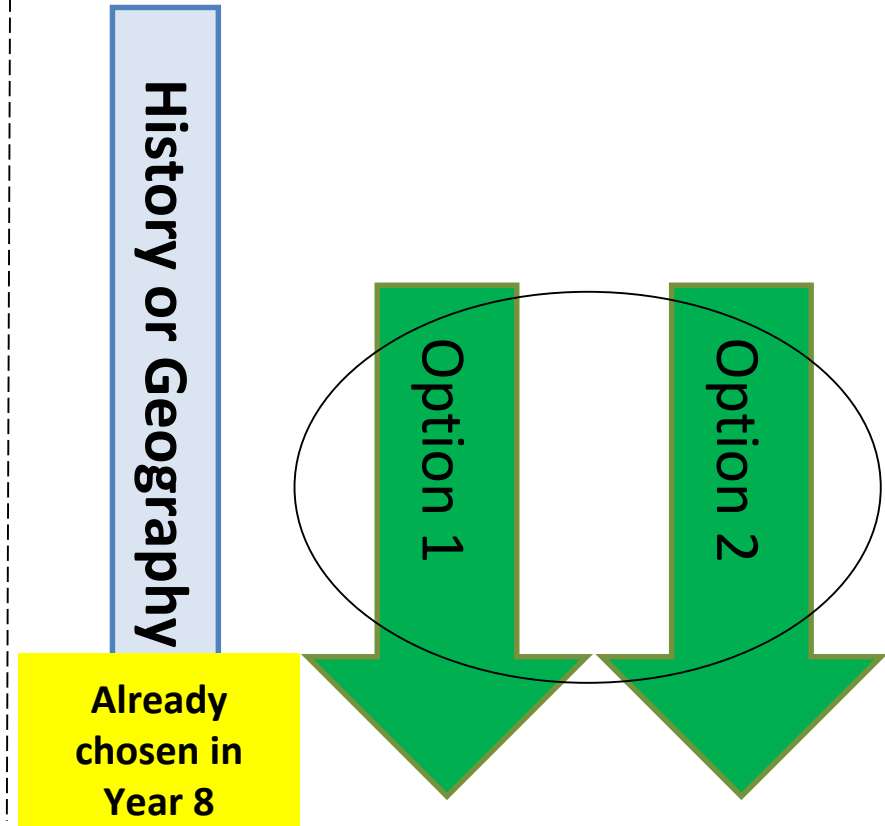
A missing piece of the jigsaw will reduce your eBacc score.



## All students study:-

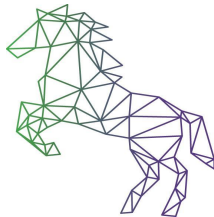


## Students choose to study:-



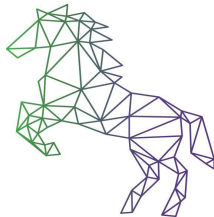
# Language options

- All students study either; French, Spanish or Chinese from Year 7 onwards
- These were allocated in Year 6 – as part of the transition programme
- These cannot be changed at this stage
- All students take a GCSE in their designated language as part of the Ebacc qualification (there are very few exceptions to this)
- No student can take more than 1 language at GCSE
- **There is no option choice to be made for languages in Year 9**



# Humanities (History / Geography) Options

- Most students are currently studying one major humanities subject (3 hours) and 1 minor humanities subject (1 hour) – chosen in Year 8
- They must continue with their major subject (now 5 hours) in Years 10 and 11 and will drop the minor subject completely.
- They do not need to complete an options process to do this.
  
- A few students however chose to continue with both humanities subjects this year, with History as a ‘Depth option’.
- If this is the case, they will need to complete an extra options choice, saying which one they would like to continue with.
- If they want to continue with both, they must pick Geography as their humanities option and History as one of their other 2 option choices.



# GCSE Science Options

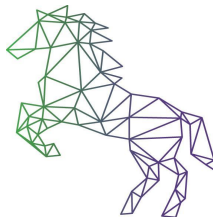
- All Year 10 and 11 students will study for a Combined Science Award and will gain 2 GCSE Science grades.

## **Unless:**

- They select Triple Science (3 GCSEs in; Biology, Chemistry and Physics) as 1 of their 2 option choices

## **Please note:**

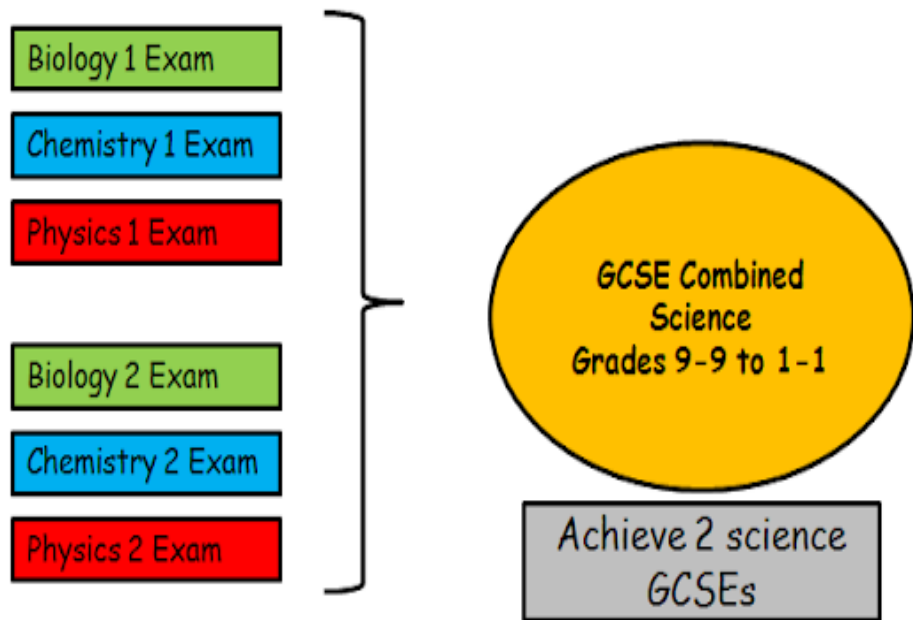
- Students choosing this option will have to study for a GCSE in Statistics in Year 10 and then use the additional time in Year 11 to complete their Triple Science qualification
- Acceptance onto this option course will be determined by prior attainment in Science.
- **This is a guided option choice.**



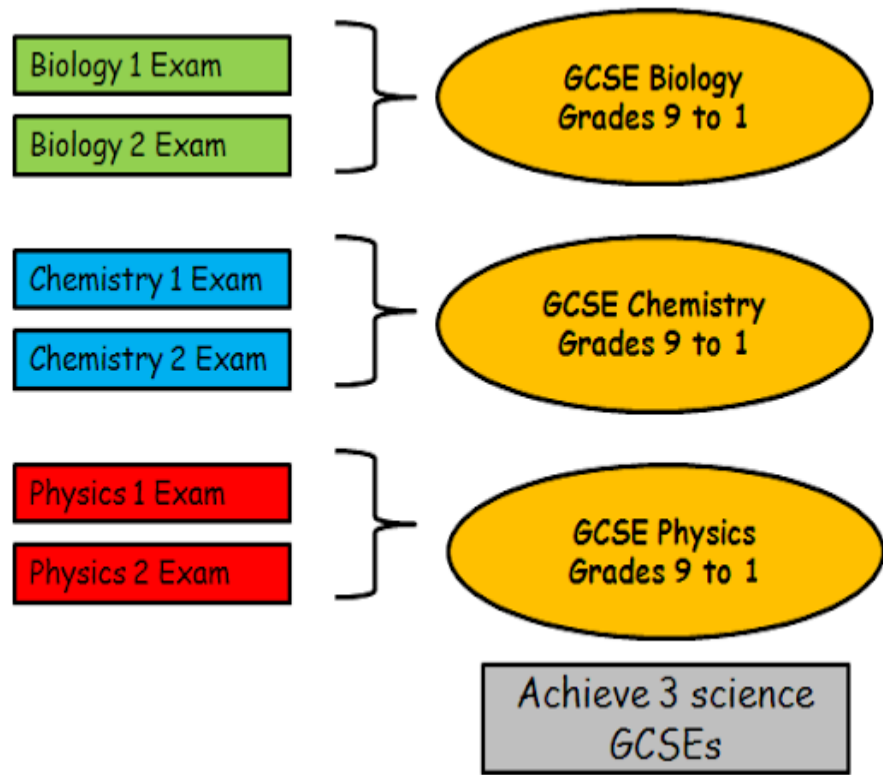


# Combined OR Triple Science?

## Combined Science



## Triple Science



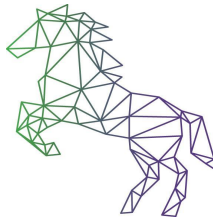
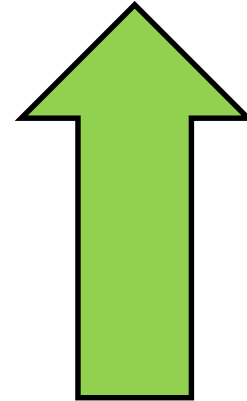
# What do students study in Year 10?

## CORE

- English (10 hours per fortnight)
- Mathematics (8)
- Science (9)
- PE and PSHCE (3)
- History or Geography (5)
- Language (5)

## OPTIONS

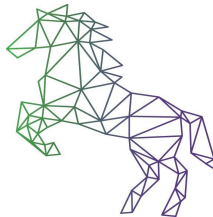
- Option 1 (5)
- Option 2 (5)



# Option subjects (Choose 2 + 1 reserve)

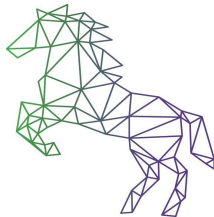
- Art (GCSE)
- Business Studies (GCSE or BTEC)
- Computer studies (GCSE)
- Drama (GCSE)
- Engineering (BTEC)
- Food Tech (GCSE)
- Health and Social Care (BTEC)
- IT (BTEC)
- Media (GCSE)
- Music (GCSE)
- PE (GCSE or BTEC)
- Photography (GCSE)
- Religious studies (GCSE)
- Technology (GCSE)
- Triple Science (plus Statistics) (GCSE)

This options process is only about students choosing 2 subjects (plus 1 reserve) from this list to study in Years 10 and 11



# PE and Business option choices

- This year students will be able to choose between 2 different qualifications in both Business and PE.
- Both of these subjects will be offering students a choice between **either** a GCSE or a Level 2 BTEC qualification studied during Year 10 and 11.
- Students should discuss which pathway would best suit their learning and assessment styles and their future aspirations with the PE and Business Studies staff.
- Both GCSE and BTEC courses allow progression into our Sixth Form to study these subjects at Level 3 / A level.



# Which qualification?

## GCSE

- 9-1 replaces A\*-G
- More challenging content, taken from the old A-Level courses
- Less or no coursework/controlled assessment
- More exams, mostly at the end of

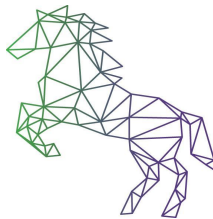
## Level 2 qualifications / BTECs

- Equivalent to a GCSE but graded Pass / Merit / Distinction
- Recognised by employers
- More coursework and internal exams

<b>GCSE Grade</b>	1 (G)	2 (F)	3 (E)	4 (D)	5 (C)	6 (B)	7 (A)	8 (A*)	9 (^10%) )
<b>BTEC Grade</b>	Level 1 Pass	Level 1 Merit	Level 1 Distinction	Level 2 Pass (4 - 5.5)		Level 2 Merit (5.5 - 7)		Level 2 Distinction (7 - 8.5)	Level 2 D* (8.5)

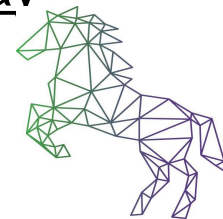
# Advice for choosing options

- Consider something that your child is currently studying as a 3 hour subject depth option and has enjoyed.
- Consider something that we are offering that is a new subject for them (eg Health and Social Care).
- Choose subjects that are enjoyable and interesting, NOT ones which other students are selecting or because they like a particular teacher. We have multiple groups in some subjects so there is no guarantee of who is in which class.
- Consider their favoured learning and assessment styles when selecting either BTEC or GCSE courses.



# Making Option Choices - Options online

- All students who picked options online whilst in Year 8, should be able to access the options online system already at <https://www.sims-options.co.uk> (and enter via the Google icon on the system home page)
- If they didn't, they will receive an e-mail next week through their school account with a link to the Options Online system. THEY will then need to follow the registration guide attached to the e-mail.
- All students then need to make **2 option choices and 1 reserve.**
- Students can edit option choices online until the deadline of **Friday 23 February (This Friday).** Tutor time support will be given on Friday
- Parents can view the options choices via the Sims Parent App but cannot make changes – the student must do this themselves.



# Making Option Choices - Options online

**Option Choice**

You have chosen  courses and  reserves from this list

<b>Art</b> GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	<input type="button" value="Reserve"/>	<b>Business Studies</b> BTEC Tech Award Level 1/2	<input type="button" value="Reserve"/>
<b>Business Studies</b> GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	<input type="button" value="Reserve"/>	<b>Comp.St.</b> GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	<input type="button" value="Reserve"/>
<b>Drama</b> GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	<input type="button" value="Reserve"/>	<b>Engineering</b> BTEC Tech Award Level 1/2	<input type="button" value="Reserve"/>
<b>Food Tech.</b> GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	<input type="button" value="Reserve"/>	<b>H &amp; S</b> BTEC Tech Award Level 1/2	<input type="button" value="Reserve"/>
<b>Info. Tech</b> BTEC Tech Award Level 1/2	<input type="button" value="Reserve"/>	<b>Media</b> GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	<input type="button" value="Reserve"/>
<b>Maths Stats</b> GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	<input type="button" value="Reserve"/>	<b>Music</b> GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	<input type="button" value="Reserve"/>
<b>P.E.</b> BTEC Award Level 2	<input type="button" value="Reserve"/>	<b>P.E.</b> GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	<input type="button" value="Reserve"/>
<b>Photograph</b> GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	<input type="button" value="Reserve"/>	<b>Religious Studies</b> GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	<input type="button" value="Reserve"/>
<b>Technology</b> GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	<input type="button" value="Reserve"/>		



# Making Option Choices - Options online

## History or Geography

You are currently studying both History and Geography for 3 hours per fortnight. Please indicate below which one you would like to continue with in Years 10 and 11 to GCSE. (If you would like to continue both, select Geography here and History as an option choice below)

You have chosen   courses from this list

**Geography** GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

**History** GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

**i** This course is also available in Options H

**Business** BTEC Tech Award Level 1/2

Reserve

**Computer Science**  
GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

Reserve

**Drama** GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

Reserve

**Engineering**  
BTEC Tech Award Level 1/2

Reserve

**French** GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

Reserve

**Food Prep and Nutrition**  
GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

Reserve

**History** GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

Reserve

**Health and Social Care**  
BTEC Tech Award Level 1/2

Reserve

**i** This course is also available in History or Geography

Students will only be able to see this section of the on-line form if they opted for both History AND Geography when choosing humanities options in Year 9

# Please note...

**It is important that all parents/carers and students are aware of the following points:**

- *Courses will only run if there is sufficient student demand and the course is economically viable*
- *The number of classes and class sizes may have to be limited for practical reasons meaning that some courses may have limited places*
- *Unfortunately we cannot guarantee students will be allocated all of their choices*
- *All final decisions must, of course, rest with the school*
- *Opting for a course does not necessarily guarantee entry for a particular examination at the end of that course – entries will depend upon student progress over two years*

# Year 9 into 10 Options Process - Next steps

- Read the subject options booklet carefully (All students have receive a paper version and parents/carers have been emailed a copy)
- Use your child's latest Progress Review Reports and feedback from the recent Year 9 Parents' evening for guidance.
- If you have a question regarding option choices, please e-mail **[info@horsforthschool.org](mailto:info@horsforthschool.org)** marked **FAO Mrs Wright**

Please ensure that your son/daughter logs on to their school email account tomorrow to open the important 'Options email' that has been sent to them. This email includes; a link to the Options on-line system and guidance on completion of the form. A log-in and activation guide will also be sent to any students who have not logged onto the system before.

# Key Dates and Deadlines

Date	Event
<b>Monday – Thursday – This week</b> <b>Friday – Option booklets: form time</b>	Year 9-10 options assemblies for students
<b>Thursday 8 February</b>	Year 9 parents' evening
<b>Monday 19 February</b>	Year 9-10 Options' Support evening
<b>Friday 23 February</b>	Option choices deadline

- Options can be edited until the deadline of **Friday 23 February**. Just go online and change them!
- It's NOT first come, first served. We don't look at what students have chosen until **AFTER the deadline.** If at that stage a subject will not run we will contact you.

# Support this evening

- **Mrs Comiskey and Mrs Wright** will be available in the hall all evening to answer general questions
- **Subject leaders** will be at their Subject Stalls in the rooms listed on the hand out to answer questions and give advice and general course information (Please note that they are not available to give individual student progress feedback tonight – this should be done at the upcoming parents evening)
- **Mrs O'Donnell** (Careers adviser) is available in the library to give careers and options advice
- **Mrs Warne** (SEND/CO) is available in the library for specific options support for any SEND students
- **Mr Maxwell / Mrs Marsh** are available in the library also for any additional support and questions

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Course</b>	<b>Curriculum Leader</b>	<b>Room</b>
<b>Art</b>	GCSE	Mr Questa	Paint
<b>Business</b>	GCSE	Mr Green	Business Hub
	BTEC		
<b>Computer Studies</b>	GCSE	Mr Hood	ELC
<b>Drama</b>	GCSE	Mrs Kendal	Drama Studio 1
<b>Engineering</b>	BTEC	Mr Dillon	Engineering
<b>Food &amp; Nutrition</b>	GCSE	Mrs Mayo	FT1
<b>Health &amp; Social Care</b>	BTEC	Ms Broughton	FT2
<b>Information Technology</b>	BTEC	Mr Emmet	ELC
<b>Media</b>	GCSE	Mr Lee	JB4
<b>Music</b>	GCSE	Ms Cairns	Mu1
<b>PE</b>	GCSE	Mr Grannon	RE1
	BTEC		
<b>Photography</b>	GCSE	Mr Questa	Paint
<b>Religious Studies</b>	GCSE	Mrs Gledhill	RE2
<b>Technology</b>	GCSE	Mrs Mayo	DT1
<b>Triple Science / Statistics</b>	GCSE	Mr Weedy Mr Johnson	Sc7