

Options 2024-26

This year the Options form is filled in online via an email link that students will be sent week commencing **4th March 2024**. We would encourage students to discuss the options that they are making with parents/carers at home and teachers at school too.

This online link is open for them until the **deadline of 22nd March**.

We also encourage them to select reserves – stating them in order of preference. We use reserve choices very rarely but occasionally have to in the event that a course hasn't sufficient applicants to run or a clash in timetabling makes a choice impossible. When this happens it will always be discussed with the student in person and parents will be informed.

The final choices for each student will be sent out in a letter to parents by Easter for return with your signature to confirm your consent.

The EBACC (English Baccalaureate)

The Department for Education recommends certain core subjects to help young people keep their options open. If students take a full complement of these subjects, they will be said to have achieved the English Baccalaureate.

To achieve the EBACC requires students to gain a qualification in:

- English language and literature
- Mathematics
- the sciences (either combined or triple award and/or computer science)
- geography or history
- a language

More information on this can be found on the DfE website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/english-baccalaureate-ebacc/english-baccalaureate-ebacc>

Although we don't make Languages compulsory at KS4 at Kesgrave High School, they do form a part of the EBACC qualification and Universities and employers often look favourably on applications from students who have a language qualification.

All students will study a Compulsory Curriculum of:

English Language and English Literature GCSE

Maths GCSE

Science GCSE: there are two routes; either Combined Science or Triple Science (Science teachers will advise which route you would be most suited for)

Core PE

PSHE

Students will then need to choose four subjects:

Core Curriculum Choice

One choice from the following list:

Computer Science
French
Geography
German
History
Spanish

OPEN BLOCK **Three choices** from the following list: (GCSE unless otherwise specified)

Art and Design	History
Business Studies	IT BTEC
Child Development BTEC	Life Skills (by invitation only)
Computer Science	Statistics & Further Maths
Dance	Media Studies
Design & Technology	Music BTEC
Drama	Music
Economics	PE
Engineering Technical Award	Performing Arts Technical Award
Film Studies	Photography
Food and Nutrition	Psychology
French	Religious Studies
Geography	Sociology
German	Spanish
Graphics	Sport BTEC
Health & Social Care BTEC	Textiles

We encourage students to maintain a broad and balanced curriculum; keeping a range of subjects and hence leaving routes to a range of future pathways.

We do not allow students to choose the following combinations together because they are the same/very similar qualifications.

- PE GCSE with Sport BTEC
- Music GCSE with Music BTEC
- Art, Textiles and Graphics (these are different routes through the same qualification so it can only be selected once)
- Photography is a very similar course to Art and Graphics
- Drama/Performing Arts Technical Award