

Welcome

Year 9 Options 2026

If you have any specific questions, please wait until the end. I will tell you how to raise individual concerns.

Nine qualifications studied across the two year KS4

- Five core subjects
- Choice of four more

Booklet with lots of information

- Emailed to you on Monday
- Available on the JCA website, under *curriculum*
- Students have a hardcopy each
- In newsletter on Monday

What does a KS4 timetable look like?

Core subjects:

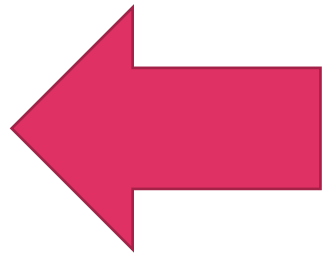
- ✓ **English language**
- ✓ **English literature**
- ✓ **Maths**
- ✓ **Combined science**
- ✓ **Core PE & PSHE**

Spanish

History

Geography

Computer science



Students have to choose one of these subjects.

We recommend that those choosing an academic route to university consider choosing Spanish and at least one other EBACC subject.

The rest of your choices...

GCSE

Art

Business

Photography

Drama

Music

Religion & philosophy

Triple science

Statistics

Btec

Health and Social Care

Sports Science

Level 1/2 Vocational Award

Hospitality and Catering

OCR National

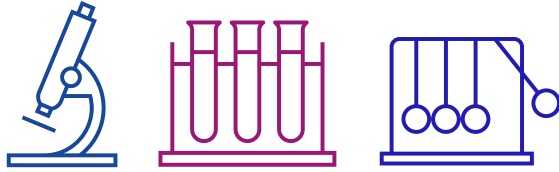
Business, enterprise and marketing

WHY BLOCKS? WHICH SUBJECT WHERE?

A	B	C	D
Computer Science	Business	Health and Social Care	Business
Geography	History	Statistics	Sports Science
History	Photography	Geography	Art & Design
History	Religion and Philosophy	Triple Science	Computer Science
Spanish H	Triple Science	Photography	Statistics
Spanish F	Drama	Sports Science	Hospitality and Catering
			Music

TRIPLE SCIENCE OPTION

- Combined: you study all three sciences, but get two GCSEs
- Triple: you get three GCSEs instead of two, one for each science
- More time for science each week



COMBINED SCIENCE

English AG4 Mr S Graydon	1	Religion and Philosophy TF3 Miss E Liebert	1	Business studies AF11 Mrs J Allen	1	Computer Science AF11 Mr G Foster	1	Vocational Sport DC1 Mr D Allsop	1
English AG4 Mr S Graydon	2	Religion and Philosophy TF3 Miss E Liebert	2	Vocational Sport DC1 Mr D Allsop	2	Computer Science AF11 Mr G Foster	2	Vocational Sport DC1 Mr D Allsop	2
Business studies AF11 Mrs J Allen	3	Science		Science		Maths TF5 Mr C Proffitt	3	Science	
Business studies AF11 Mrs J Allen	4	English AG4 Mr S Graydon	4	Maths TF5 Mr C Proffitt	4	Science		Maths TF5 Mr C Proffitt	4
Maths TF5 Mr C Proffitt	5	Science		English AG4 Mr S Graydon	5	PE ASTL Mr D Allsop	5	Science	
Computer Science AF11 Mr G Foster	6	Maths TF5 Mr C Proffitt	6	Religion and Philosophy TF3 Miss E Liebert	6	PE ASTL Mr D Allsop	6	English AG2 Ms S Maud	6

TRIPLE SCIENCE

English AG4 Mr S Graydon	1	History AF5 Mr T Woodward	1	Business studies AF11 Mrs J Allen	1	Physics		Computer Science AF11 Mr G Foster	1
English AG4 Mr S Graydon	2	History AF5 Mr T Woodward	2	Computer Science BF7 Mr G Foster	2	Chemistry		Computer Science AF11 Mr G Foster	2
Business studies AF11 Mrs J Allen	3	Physics		Biology		Maths TF6 Mr C Hamer	3	Chemistry	
Business studies AF11 Mrs J Allen	4	English AG4 Mr S Graydon	4	Maths TF6 Mr C Hamer	4	Biology		Maths TF6 Ms S Haskins	4
Maths TF6 Ms S Haskins	5	Biology		English AG4 Mr S Graydon	5	PE I4 Mr T Sillitoe	5	Chemistry	
Physics		Maths TF6 Mr C Hamer	6	History AF5 Mr T Woodward	6	PE I4 Mr T Sillitoe	6	English AG2 Ms S Maud	6

MUSIC OPTION

- You need to play a musical instrument (or sing) to be able to complete the course
 - There's a lot of information in the booklet about the course content
 - You need to play a musical instrument (or sing) to be able to complete the course!
-



LANGUAGES

- We only teach Spanish (no French or German)
 - If students can speak and write another language, we may be able to enter them for the GCSE (exam only)
-

Languages where there's a GCSE:

- French
- German
- Spanish
- Italian
- Polish
- Bengali
- Persian
- Turkish
- Panjabi
- Russian
- Arabic
- Greek
- Japanese
- Urdu
- Portuguese
- Gujurati
- Biblical Hebrew
- Modern Hebrew
- Chinese (Cantonese/Mandarin)

- We ask students at the start of year 10, and give them practice papers to try. We usually enter about 8 students per year for a community language GCSE
- Universities like students to have a language, but it's not a pre-requisite for most courses

BUSINESS

- Why are there two business options? Which one is which?

- We aren't sure yet which will be the vocational course and which will be the GCSE.
- This is due to staffing and timetabling complications!
- Rather than offer something and have to change it later, we're leaving both (blocks B and D) open, we'll see which students choose business in which block, and let you know soon which class will be which course.

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Spanish F	Drama	Sports Science	Hospitality and Catering
			Music

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Consider how courses are assessed...

GCSEs are assessed at the end of the two years.
The only exceptions to this rule are:

Art and Photography – Coursework 60% and
timed practical assessment 40%

Drama – Coursework 60% and exam 40%

Music – Coursework 60% and exam 40%

Coursework is completed across the two years

Assessment - Vocational Awards

Vocational Award in
Hospitality and
Catering

60% controlled
assessment

40% exam

BTEC Health & Social
Care and
Sports Science

60% controlled
assessment

40% exam

Controlled assessments are completed in Year 10
and Year 11

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DEADLINES AND DATES

- Link sent to parents and carers week beginning 23rd February
- Options choices completed by 5th March via the online form
- School shares options with students and parents/carers – May/June 2026

SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE

- Year 9 Parent and Carer Evening – now!
- Taster sessions in tutor time for one subject not taught at KS3 (business), most information shared through lessons (eg statistics: info comes through maths lessons)
- Assemblies and tutor support
- **Ms Searle available year 9 lunchtime Monday-Thursday every week**
- JCA website

What to consider and what not to consider when choosing

Don't:

- Choose a subject because your friend is choosing it
- Choose a subject because you like the teacher
- Choose a subject because you think it will be good for your career choice but you don't enjoy it

Do:

- ✓ Choose subjects you enjoy
- ✓ Choose subjects you have an aptitude for
- ✓ Choose subjects which you enjoy and are good at and/or will be useful for future college and career choices

What to consider and what not to consider when choosing

Don't:

- Think you'll be able to swap later. This is only available in exceptional circumstances
- Listen to rumours. Ask us!
- Choose the same subject more than once

Do:

- ✓ Put second choices you're happy with too. They're very important!

What next?

- ✓ Talk to your child and listen to their views
- ✓ Talk to teachers and older students/family members
- ✓ Go to taster sessions and read the booklet
- ✓ Research online:

<https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/parent-zone> - for parents and carers

<https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/> - for students

<https://www.findyourfuture.org.uk/choices-at-14>



Any questions?
