



Achieving excellence through Curriculum and Culture



Year 9 Options
Thursday 18 January 2024

Options





Keep an open mind

Curriculum pathway



Plymstock School

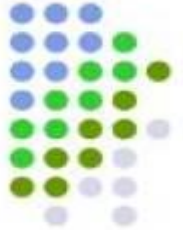
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WESTCOUNTRY
SCHOOLS TRUST

Key Stages

- Foundation Stage 3 – 5
- Key Stage 1 5 – 7
- Key Stage 2 7 – 11
- Key Stage 3 11 – 14
- Key Stage 4 14 - 16
- GCSE Year 11 age 15/16
- A Level Year 13 age 17/18



KS4 Outcomes



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SCHOOLS TRUST

New 9-1 grades	Old lettered grades
9	A*
8	
7	
6	A
5	
4	
3	B
2	
1	
U	C
	D
	E
	F
	G
	U

Options Process



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Last week – Year 9 assembly and Options booklets issues via tutors

15-19 January – Tutor time sessions that explore the subjects we offer in Years 10 and 11

18 January – Options Information Evening

1 February – Year 9 Parents' Evening

7 February – Deadline for Year 9 Options forms

21- 29 February – Student interviews with senior leaders to support final decisions



Subject options

Step 1 – **Core Subjects**: Maths, English and Science

Step 2 – Choose Combined Science or separate Sciences

Step 3 – Choose Geography or History or both

Step 4 – Choose whether you want to study a language

Step 5 – Choose your option subjects

Step 6 – **Choose 2 reserve subjects – use R in the options form**

All students also have **EP, Personal Development and Core PE** lessons in Years 10 and 11 but these are not examined.

Subject options



Some subjects are **GCSE** qualifications and others are vocational qualifications. These are equally regarded to GCSEs and are equivalent in value. **Vocational** qualifications have larger 'non-examined assessment' and lesser final examination weighting.

- Health & Social Care
- Hospitality & Catering
- Travel and Tourism
- Design Technology

Very high levels of **attendance** are advisable to take these subjects as Non Examined Assessed work will be completed throughout the year

Common Advice



- Music highly recommends that students to have studied a musical instrument before opting for this course
- PE highly recommends that students are engaged in at least one sport outside of school and students will be assessed in two other sports in this course
- Hospitality and Catering requires students to take part in practical cooking assessments
- Please sign your child's options form to show your support of their options

What is the EBacc?

English Baccalaureate



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The EBacc is a set of subjects at GCSE that keeps young people's options open for further study and future careers.

The EBacc is:

- English Language and Literature
- Maths
- the Sciences
- Geography or History
- a Language

The Department for Education

At Plymstock School, we encourage the EBacc but we are also committed to supporting students to study the subjects they are passionate about.

Option subjects

Art, craft and design

Business studies

Computer science

Design Technology

Drama

Film Studies

French

German

Geography

Health and Social care

History

Hospitality and Catering

Music

Photography

PE

Religious Studies

Separate Science

Travel and Tourism



Option blocks

Subjects are grouped together in 'blocks'

Block A – Geog or History

Block B – Language of option

Block C – Free option

Block D – Free option



You must pick **one** subject from each block



Whilst we do everything we Can you give you your first choice options you need to also **select 2 reserve options**, just in case we can't make all the lessons and classes fit into the school timetable



How to choose?



Do

- Choose subjects **you enjoy**
- Choose subjects **you are good at**
- Choose subjects that are **linked to any career ambition and aspirations**
- Choose subjects that give you a **broad and balanced** set of qualifications
- **Read the subject information booklet**
- Ask your teachers questions

Don't

- Choose a subject **because your friend does it**
- Choose a subject **because of the teacher**
- Choose a subject **because you think it will be easier**



21- 29 February – Student interviews with senior leaders to support final decisions

Teachers from the senior team will meet with all year 9 students to discuss their Option choices and offer support where needed

We want the right students on the right courses

Once their Options have been confirmed in the summer term.
We do not want students moving courses once they start in September

Now is the time to explore and be sure of the choices by asking plenty of questions

Year 10 and 11



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Once students return in Year 10, they start their GCSEs

They will study these courses for 2 years and then have exams in the summer term of Year 11

They will become Year 10 students in 22 school weeks, so please use this time to ensure that they start with purpose and confidence.

No question is too small

Be Kind

Work Hard

Aim High

Completing the Form

Option A



Option A	
Humanity	
	Geography (GCSE)
✓	History (GCSE)



Please chose a Humanity subject.

Completing the Form

Option B



Option B	
MFL or Option	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	French (GCSE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	German (GCSE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Art, Craft & Design (GCSE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Computer Science (GCSE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Design & Technology (GCSE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Drama (GCSE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Health & Social Care (Technical Award)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hospitality & Catering (Technical Award)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Travel & Tourism (Technical Award)

If you chose a Language, tick the appropriate subject box - a reserve will not be needed in this column.



Completing the Form

Option B

Option B	
MFL or Option	
<input type="checkbox"/>	French (GCSE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	German (GCSE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Art, Craft & Design (GCSE)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Computer Science (GCSE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Design & Technology (GCSE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Drama (GCSE)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Health & Social Care (Technical Award)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hospitality & Catering (Technical Award)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Travel & Tourism (Technical Award)

If you chose a subject from the shaded section, tick your 1st choice and a reserve.

Mix and Match!

Option B	
MFL or Option	
R	French (GCSE)
	German (GCSE)
	Art, Craft & Design (GCSE)
✓	Computer Science (GCSE)
	Design & Technology (GCSE)
	Drama (GCSE)
	Health & Social Care (Technical Award)
	Hospitality & Catering (Technical Award)
	Travel & Tourism (Technical Award)

Completing the Form

Free Choice Option C & D

For Options C & D please make your free choices. In both boxes place a tick next to your 1st choice subject and place an R against your reserve subject

Option C	
Free Choice	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Art, Craft & Design (GCSE)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Business Studies (GCSE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Computer Science (GCSE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Design & Technology (GCSE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Film Studies (GCSE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Health & Social Care (Technical Award)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Photography (GCSE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Physical Education (GCSE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Science: Three Separate Sciences –this will be the 3rd GCSE in Science
<input type="checkbox"/>	Second Humanity: History or Geography (GCSE)

Option D	
Free Choice	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Art, Craft & Design (GCSE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Business Studies (GCSE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Computer Science (GCSE)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Design & Technology (GCSE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Drama (GCSE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	French (GCSE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	German (GCSE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Music (GCSE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Photography (GCSE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Physical Education (GCSE)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Religious Studies (GCSE)



Our staff are on hand to answer any questions this evening

Thank you for coming this evening and your continued support