

# Year 9 Options 2021



Your Future Starts Here



**#itsyourchoice**

# Level 2 Courses

## GCSE and Technical Awards



- A new grading scale of 9 to 1, with 9 being the top grade.
- Technical Awards are graded Distinction, Merit and Pass.
- GCSE's are mostly exams, Technical Awards are always a mix of practical internal assessments and an exam.
- Courses are designed for two years of study – no longer modular.
- Exams only split into 'foundation tier' and 'higher tier' in Maths, Science and MFL.

# The Booklet



- Key information on the process
- Contains the key dates and guidance
- Key contacts
- Information about each course available

# Choosing options allows students to:



- Take courses that match their interests and strengths
- Take courses that will help them prepare for their next stage of learning/training and their chosen career
- Take new subjects
- Have some choice over how they will be assessed

# ENGLISH BACCALAUREATE (EBacc)



## What is it?

- A set of subjects that the government has prioritised
- English, Maths, Science, History and/or Geography and a Foreign Language (French or Spanish)
- **Why?**
  - Studying a language keeps cognitive development in a particular academic discipline and helps with learning in Maths and English.
  - Advantage for some universities
  - Career routes and opportunities

# The 'Core' Subjects



<b>Maths</b>	<b>1 GCSE</b>
<b>English</b>	<b>2 GCSEs</b>
<b>Science</b>	<b>2 or 3 GCSEs</b>
<b>Core PE</b>	<b>No qualification</b>
<b>PSHE</b>	<b>No qualification</b>
<b>Religion and Worldviews</b>	<b>No qualification</b>

**and Work related learning: Work Experience**

# GCSE Science



- Is now part of the option process
  - You have started the GCSE work already and will do either the Separate Science (3 GCSEs) or Trilogy Science (2 GCSEs)
  - As part of the Core Science you will complete the Trilogy.
  - If you wish to take separate sciences you need to choose Science as one of your options. This will mean you will be taught Biology, Chemistry and Physics separately and have the right amount of time for three GCSEs. You must have a real interest in Science.

*Do discuss with Mrs Inger or your Science teacher*



# Core PE Choices



- Sports Performance Academy
  - For students who want improve their performance in sport
- Sports leadership
  - For students who enjoy coaching and leading in sport
- Healthy Active Lifestyles
  - Suitable for those who enjoy fitness and an active lifestyle
- Lifelong Sport
  - Suitable for those who enjoy team and individual sports

*Read the booklet and talk to your PE teacher*



# OPTIONS



You then have four options from three option blocks. Or 3 options if you wish to take separate Sciences.

There are 23 subjects to choose from – there is something for everyone.

You need to look carefully at what you will study in each course and how you will be assessed in it. Picking the right assessment method will help you be successful.



OPTIONS (You can choose 4 options)			
	Block 1 (Choose one option)	Block 2 (Choose one option)	Block 3 (Choose two options)
<b>*EBACC</b>	History Geography French Spanish	French Spanish History Geography	**Science Animal Care Business <b>or</b> Business and Marketing Drama Computer Science Construction Product Design (Wood or Metal) Child Development and Care Health and Social Care Art and Design Photography Art Textiles Sports Science <b>or</b> Sports Studies Food and Nutrition Film Studies Philosophy and Ethics
		**Science Child Development and Care Health and Social Care Art and Design Photography Art Textiles Sports Science <b>or</b> Sports Studies Food and Nutrition Film Studies Philosophy and Ethics	Child Development and Care Health and Social Care Art and Design Photography Art Textiles Sports Science <b>or</b> Sports Studies Film Studies Food and Nutrition Music <b>or</b> BTEC Music Geography History French Spanish

\* If you choose a Humanities (Geography or History) **and** a Modern Foreign Language then you will have the combination of subjects for the English Baccalaureate (EBacc)

\*\* Select science as **one** of your options if you want to take the separate science GCSEs

**New courses last year:**  
 GCSE Ethics and Philosophy  
 Sports Science  
 BTEC Music  
 BTEC Animal Care  
**New courses this year:**  
 Film Studies (previously  
 Media Studies)

# What should students think about?

## Factors to consider



**Enjoyment:** What do you enjoy? Which subjects do you feel you can achieve well in?

**Content:** Will you be interested in and motivated by the subject knowledge and skills involved? Remember that this course will last for two years and you cannot change your options after September.

**Assessment:** How is the subject assessed? Does it suit your learning style and abilities?

**Progression:** Your choices now may affect your career aspirations and decisions in the future. Not taking some courses at this stage could make it difficult for you to choose other courses or routes later on.

# Choosing an Option



- Research all your options before making a decision
- Do not fall into the trap of thinking some subjects are only for boys and some only for girls – this is NOT true
- DO NOT EVER do a subject because your friends are!
- If you have a firm career idea, choose subjects you need to meet the entry requirements for future study
- If you do not have a firm career idea, choose subjects that will give you plenty of choice
- Make the most of your careers education lessons and ask for help if you need it
- You need good information, advice and guidance to help you choose well

# Year 9 Options: KEY DATES - The Process



**Jan:** Year 9 Options Tutor/PSHE Drop-in on Teams

Options booklets are being posted home and a video of subjects is available

**Weds 3rd Feb:** **Teams – An opportunity to ask questions, speak to subject staff.**

**Weds 23 Feb:** Deadline for Options forms to be handed in – Online form, paper copies will be made available.

**Mar – Apr:** Any concerns or issues with choices analysed  
Some students may attend further discussion meetings

**May/June** Letters confirming choices sent home

# What now?



- Watch the video of subjects
- Talk online to option subject teachers during the options evening online 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 4.30pm- 6.00pm.
- If unsure, please request an options meeting with me [dapenberthy@liskeard.cornwall.sch.uk](mailto:dapenberthy@liskeard.cornwall.sch.uk)
- Complete the online options form or paper copy and return by the 23<sup>rd</sup> February.

***Please get in touch if you are unsure or wish to discuss options further***