

Choosing GCSE Options

In Year 8 and 9 you will be able to select some of the subjects that you would like to go on and study in Years 9, 10 and 11. At this stage some students have no idea of what they would like to do for a future career, don't panic, you are not alone, many students will be in exactly the same position as you.

The key is to find out as much information as you can about any new courses you are considering, email or speak to the teacher. Below we have set out some useful tips, guides and links to website to help you make your decisions.

Things to consider to help you make your decision:

- Which subjects are you good at?
- Which subjects do you enjoy?
- What assessment methods suit you? Most GCSEs are assessed by exams, however practical work forms an important part of certain GCSEs and BTECs.
- If you have a particular career in mind, have you investigated which subjects are required?
- If you are unsure about which career you may want to follow, are you choosing a broad enough range of subjects to keep as many options open as possible?
- Which subjects do you think you may wish to study after your GCSEs?
- What wider interests do you have? Certain subjects, such as art and design, music and PE, can be taken at school or continued as hobbies.
- If you have already decided on some subjects, what are you basing your decisions on? Are you choosing a subject for the right reasons and not because you like the teacher, think it will be an easy option or because your friends are taking it!

Some Helpful Resources

- [Your Options Your Choice](#) Flyer
- [Y8/9 Transitions – CareerPilot](#) resources and videos
- [What's the Point](#) – videos on why to choose each subject
- [Advice on Choosing Your Key Stage 4 Options](#) 4 minute video
- [Where could your favourite subject take you? - BBC Bitesize](#)

Careers Advice

Students in Year 8 and above, are entitled to qualified careers support, particularly around times of making key decisions, such as choosing options. If you feel this would be useful, contact your school careers adviser, their details will be on the school careers website. You can also contact a National Careers Service careers adviser, on 0800 100 900 8am to 8pm weekdays or 10am to 5pm Saturdays or [use webchat](#) to talk online.

Y10+ Vocational Education

- [Somerset Studio School](#) - Writhlington school for 14-19 year olds, specialising in Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, Education & Childcare, Digital Information Technology, Enterprise and Creative Media.