

Moving from Year 9 into Key Stage 4... Options



Information for students, regarding making choices for study in Key Stage 4.



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Moving from Year 9 into Key Stage 4...



At Ridgewood, we believe that...

- Students should have as much choice as possible, when it comes to making their choices.
- Students should receive quality support and guidance to help them make choices that will ensure they can maximise their potential.
- Students should dream big, aim high, and aspire to leave Ridgewood ready for the next stage in their educational journey. Options is a route to this success.

What will the curriculum look like in KS4?



English Literature and English Language (8)	Mathematics (7)	Science (8)
Option 1 (6)		
Option 2 (6)		
Option 3 (6)		
Option 4 (6)		
PSHCE (Staggered at various points)	Core PE (3)	

(Numbers in brackets denote the number of lessons per fortnight).

Option Blocks...



A	B	C	D
History	History	History	Geography
Food	Dance	Computer Science	Creative iMedia
Art	Media Studies	PE	Media Studies
DT	Music	French	French
PE	Triple Science	Drama	Religious Studies

+ two reserve subjects from any block...



Option Blocks...

Would this choice combination be allowed?

A	B	C	D
History ✓	History	History	Geography
Food	Dance	Computer Science	Creative iMedia ✓
Art RES	Media Studies ✓	PE ✓	Media Studies
DT RES	Music	French	French
PE	Triple Science	Drama	Religious Studies

+ two reserve subjects from any block...



Option Blocks...

Would this choice combination be allowed?

A	B	C	D
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Food ✓	Dance RES	Computer Science	Creative iMedia
Art	Media Studies	PE	Media Studies
DT	Music	French ✓	French
PE	Triple Science ✓	Drama RES	Religious Studies

+ two reserve subjects from any block...

Option Blocks...



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A	B	C	D
History RES	History ✓	History	Geography
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DT ✓	Music	French	French RES
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+ two reserve subjects from any block...

What is the English Baccalaureate (Ebacc)?



The English Baccalaureate is a suite of qualifications that includes...

- English, Maths, Science
- A foreign language (French)
- History or Geography

At Ridgewood, we recognise that this group of qualifications is not suitable for everyone. However, if your ability suggests so, staff will advise you to take these qualifications. This is because they are recognised by top colleges, universities, and employers, and having the Ebacc will place students in an advantageous position.



Next steps for Year 9 students...

- Ask lots of questions of your teachers – this is really important.
- Read your Options Booklet carefully. You had these on Monday.
- Attend Options Evening on Thursday 8th February from 6pm.
- Make sure you have Parents Evening appointments booked (Thursday 22 February). This is chance to talk to teachers about whether their subject might be a good choice.
- Speak with your teachers; they know students well and will offer thoughtful advice about the next steps.
- Speak to Miss Broadhead and Mr Cannon who can also offer help and advice.
- **Selection goes live on Friday 23 February 2024...**

The classic “Do’s and Do Not’s” of Options...



- Do not pick a subject because you like the teacher. We have lots of teachers who teach similar subjects so there is no guarantee you will get a particular teacher.
- Do not pick a subject because your friends are. We run lots of classes in the same subject so it is likely you would end up in a different group.
- Do not pick Music, Dance and/or Drama if you do not like performing in front of others.
- Do pick one of History, Geography, French, Computer Science, Triple Science... **the blue subjects!**



Important Dates for your diary

- **Thursday 8th February 2024** – Year 9 Options Evening
- **12th – 16th February 2024** - HALF TERM
- **Thursday 22nd February 2024** – Year 9 Parents Evening
- **Friday 23rd February 2024** – Subject selection opens for students
- **Friday 8th March 2024** – Deadline for subject choice submission