## Year 8 Options Form (2025-2028)

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- Students must provide 4 first choices (ensure choices 2,3 & 4 are in priority order) and 3 reserve choices (again, in priority order). Reserve choices must be different from first choices.
- All students MUST study ONE of French, German, Spanish, History, Geography or Computer Science.
- All students considering A-levels post 16 are strongly encouraged to opt for EBacc subjects.

  These are: EITHER French, German OR Spanish PLUS EITHER History OR Geography.

  They must also indicate at the bottom of the form that they wish to opt for EBacc subjects. Please see overleaf for more details about EBacc.

1 <sup>st</sup> subject choice: (circle ONE)	French / German / Spanish / History / Geography / Computer Science
2 <sup>nd</sup> subject choice:	3 1 7,
(Free choice)	
3 <sup>rd</sup> subject choice:	
(Free choice)	
4 <sup>th</sup> subject choice:	
(Free choice)	
1 <sup>st</sup> reserve choice:	
(Free choice)	
2 <sup>nd</sup> reserve choice:	
(Free choice)	
3 <sup>rd</sup> reserve choice:	
(Free choice)	

EBacc subjects:
French
German
Spanish
History
Geography

Other subjects:
Art (not with Ceramics or Textiles)
Business Studies
Ceramics (not with Art or Textiles)
Computer Science (not with Creative iMedia)
Drama
Food & Nutrition
Health & Social Care
Creative iMedia (not with Computer Science)
Media Studies
Music (not with Music Technology)
Music Technology (not with Music)
PE
Dance
Design & Technology
Textiles (not with Art or Ceramics)
Travel & Tourism

I wish to do EBacc subjects		I have chosen at least ONE of Fr, De, Sp, Hi, Gg or Co*	
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\*If a student is not suited to doing one of these subjects, they should contact Mr Catt prior to handing the form in.

## **IMPORTANT:**

- All students study English (Language and Literature), Maths, Science, Personal Development and Games throughout Key Stage 4. All students study RS in Years 9 and 10 and will sit a full GCSE in RE/Philosophy & Ethics at the end of Year 10.
- Some students may be chosen to go to college in Years 10 and 11. They will drop two optional subjects for this. Students will receive more information about this in Year 9, but the subjects they drop will be determined by the timetable and their options.
- Some students who have received literacy or numeracy support in Key Stage 3 will have the opportunity to continue with this at Key Stage 4. They will take only 3 options. Mrs Reid will discuss this with these students and will inform parents.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

- How will I know whether my child can be successful on a particular course?

  Use the Tracking 2 report to help you decide this. If your child has a 'yellow' for progress in a subject, that would suggest that it is not a sensible choice.
- How can I use Key Stage 2 prior attainment (this can be found on Tracking Reports) to guide my option choices?

  At the end of Year 6, most students sat exams and were given a National Curriculum scaled score. Any student with a scaled score of greater than 90 must take one of French, German, Spanish, History, Geography or Computer Science. Students with a score lower than 90 may choose not to take one of these subjects and may have 4 free choices for their GCSE options.
- Why do I have to do one of French, German, Spanish, History, Geography or Computer Science?

  The Government has stated that all students must have a broad and balanced curriculum until the end of Key Stage 4, and they include all of these subjects in their expectations. We do not expect students to do all of these subjects, but they must do one of them.
- What's the English Baccalaureate and do I have to do it?

  The English Baccalaureate is not a qualification itself, but a set of GCSEs recommended by the Department for Education for the purposes of keeping young people's options open for further study and future careers. It is optional and students do not receive a certificate that they have completed it.
- Why can't I do Art AND Ceramics or Textiles?
   These three subjects are the same GCSE. Colleges and employers will only count one of them. If you really think you would like to do this, please speak to Mr Catt.
- Why can't I do Music AND Music Technology? For the same reasons as Art, Ceramics and Textiles.
- How does my child decide how many coursework subjects to take? We recommend only 2 coursework subjects due to the workload. See Mr Catt for further guidance.

## **CHECKLIST FOR STUDENTS:**

I have given my 4 subjects in priority order	
• I have chosen at least one of French, German, Spanish, History, Geography or	
Computer Science	
I have given 3 reserve subjects in priority order	
I have indicated whether I want to do EBacc subjects	
I have signed the form	
My parent/guardian has signed the form	
My form tutor has signed the form	