

**HEBBURN**  
Comprehensive School



WORK HARD | BE KIND | ASPIRE

Year 9 options  
evening

Tuesday 4th March  
2025

# Core subjects

- English language
- English literature
- Maths
- Statistics
- Science
- Core RE (non examined)
- Core PE (non examined)
- PSHE (non examined)



# Options subjects

## GCSEs

- Academic qualifications

## Vocational qualifications

- Mix of practical and theoretical work
- Directly related to a specific area of employment
- BTEC, NCFE, VTCT



# Three pathways

- EBacc
- Traditional
- Vocational

Recommended based on internal and external assessments.



# EBacc

- English Baccalaureate
- English, Maths, Science, History/Geography, French/Spanish

We recommend our higher attaining pupils follow the EBacc pathway, however it is available to all of our pupils.

	Core Subjects	Option 1	Option 2	Options 3
<b>EBACC *</b> Strongly recommended for pupils in academic sets 1 – 2.	English Language English Literature Maths Statistics Science PSHE Core RE Core PE	History Geography	French/Spanish **	Options Choice
<b>Traditional *</b> Recommended for pupils in academic sets 3 – 5.		History Geography French Spanish	History/Geography French/Spanish (strongly advised) ** Or Options Choice	
<b>Vocational *</b> Strongly recommended for pupils in academic sets 6 – 8.		History Geography	Engineering Hairdressing Health & Social Care Physical Education	

- A senior member of staff will meet with your child to discuss which pathway is most appropriate for them, using internal and external data.



	Core Subjects	Option 1	Option 2	Options 3
<b>EBACC *</b> Strongly recommended for pupils in academic sets 1 – 2.	English Language English Literature Maths Statistics Science PSHE Core RE Core PE	History Geography	French/Spanish **	Options Choice
<b>Traditional *</b> Recommended for pupils in academic sets 3 – 5.		History Geography French Spanish	History/Geography French/Spanish (strongly advised) ** Or Options Choice	
<b>Vocational *</b> Strongly recommended for pupils in academic sets 6 – 8.		History Geography	Engineering Hairdressing Health & Social Care Physical Education	

- Spanish GCSE is only recommended for students who have studied it in Year 9.
- If a student wants to study Spanish who has not previously studied it, this will be considered on an individual basis.
- Students who studied Spanish in Year 9 can still choose French GCSE.

# Aspire

- A very small number of students on the vocational pathway will take Aspire in option 1 (rather than History or Geography).
- If we think this is suitable for your child a member of staff will be in touch to discuss this with you.
- It is a bespoke course which includes Functional English and The Princes Trust Personal Development and Employability Award.





# Options choices

Art and Design

Business Studies

Digital Information Technology

Drama

Engineering

French

Geography

Hairdressing

Health and Social Care

History

Hospitality and Catering

Media Studies

Music

Photography

PE

Religious Education

Spanish

Textile Design

Three-Dimensional Design



# Options subjects

GCSEs and the vocational awards prepare students for different paths taken post-16.

- Sixth Form
- College
- Apprenticeship
- Employment
- University

They are a stepping stone to the next step of life. Taking a range of subjects is a sensible decision.

# Where to find information

- Subject leads are here to speak to you tonight
- Options booklet
- School website (curriculum – options)
- Class teachers, Head of Department
- Head of Learning, Form Tutor
- Assemblies wb 10th March
- Individual meeting with senior member of staff



# How to make decisions

## DO

- Find out about new subjects
- Talk to staff in school
- Talk to your parents/carers
- Choose subjects you are interested in
- Choose subjects you are good at

## DON'T

- Chose subjects because you like/don't like a teacher
- Choose subjects because your friends are
- Make decisions without talking to parents/carers first

# Timeline

- Wb 10th March – options assemblies
- Wb 7th April – student meeting with a senior member of staff to discuss options and make initial decisions (these will be shared with parents/carers)
- 2nd May – deadline to make any changes
- Wb 19th May – final choices communicated to students and parents/carers



# Contact

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