

Fred Longworth High School

Y9 Options 2022

Mr P Davies

Headteacher



Options Booklet

FRED LONGWORTH
HIGH SCHOOL 

Subject Selections: 2022

A message from the Headteacher, Mr P. Davies:

Selecting subjects to study at Key Stage 4 is an exciting and nerve-racking process for students, and the guidance that we – their teachers and parents - give them is essential in helping them to make the right choices. Through the option process, we aim to provide you with all the information required in order to make informed choices. We must remember that the subjects chosen by the students will be studied for two years, so it is vitally important to take the time to get these choices right.

All students will study English Language, English Literature, Mathematics and Science. This is what we refer to as the core curriculum. As well as this, all students will participate in two hours of Physical Education each week, as well as a carefully balanced Personal, Social, and Health Education programme.

Students will then choose up to four additional option subjects. We believe it is important that students choose a balance of both academic (sometimes known as EBacc) subjects and creative subjects. This broad and balanced curriculum will, we believe, give them the best possible chance of success. Through the subject selection process, we will guide learners towards courses and combinations of courses in which they will thrive. We do this by placing each student in a Progression Route.

We look forward to working with you throughout this process.

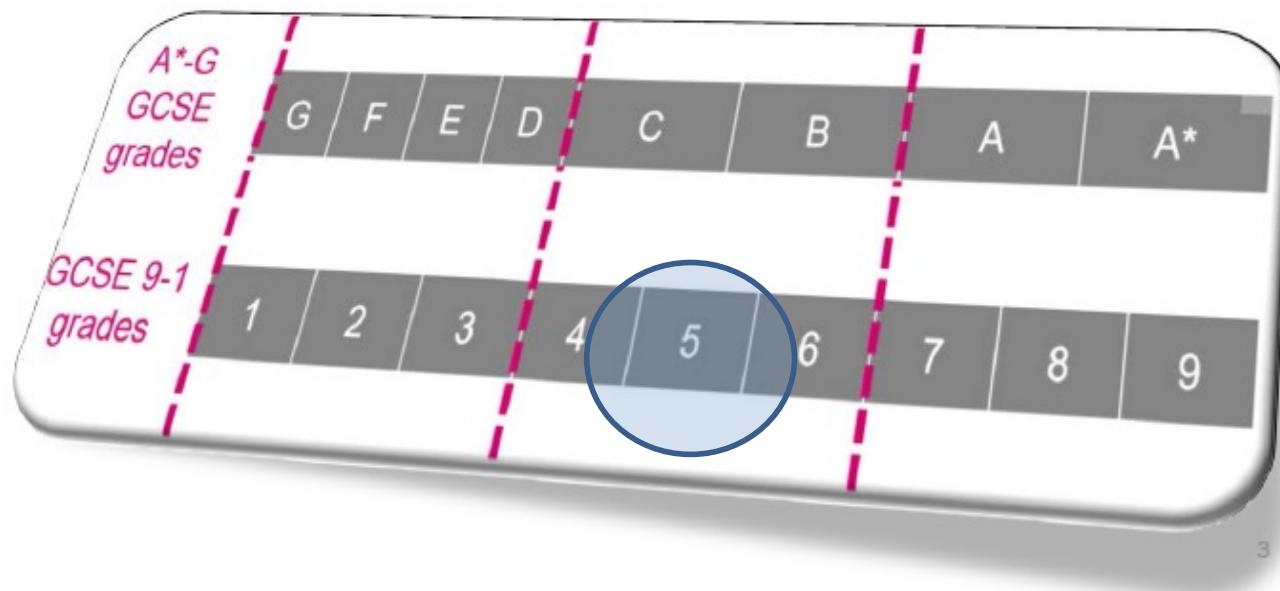
Belonging **E**ngaging **S**ucceeding **T**ogether

Raised Expectations

In 2016 the examination system was reformed:

- The new GCSEs are graded on a 1 to 9 scale. 9 being the highest grade.
- The new GCSES and reformed vocational courses are more challenging and there is increased content.
- Very few subjects have a coursework option. Most subjects are assessed exclusively on examinations taken at the end of Y11.
- A Levels and Further Education Courses have also increased in difficulty too.

Numerical grades



- Currently: Grade 4 is considered a '**standard**' pass.
- Grade 5 is considered a '**strong**' pass.
- Students who do not achieve grade 4 in English and Maths are currently required to retake these subjects post 16.

Vocational Qualifications

As well as reformed GCSEs, we also offer a number of vocational qualifications:

- RSL Music Performance Course
- BTEC Performing Arts courses (Dance and Drama)
- OCR Sports Studies
- Eduqas Construction
- Eduqas Hospitality and Catering
- OCR Media
- Eduqas Technical Award in ICT

9 outcomes

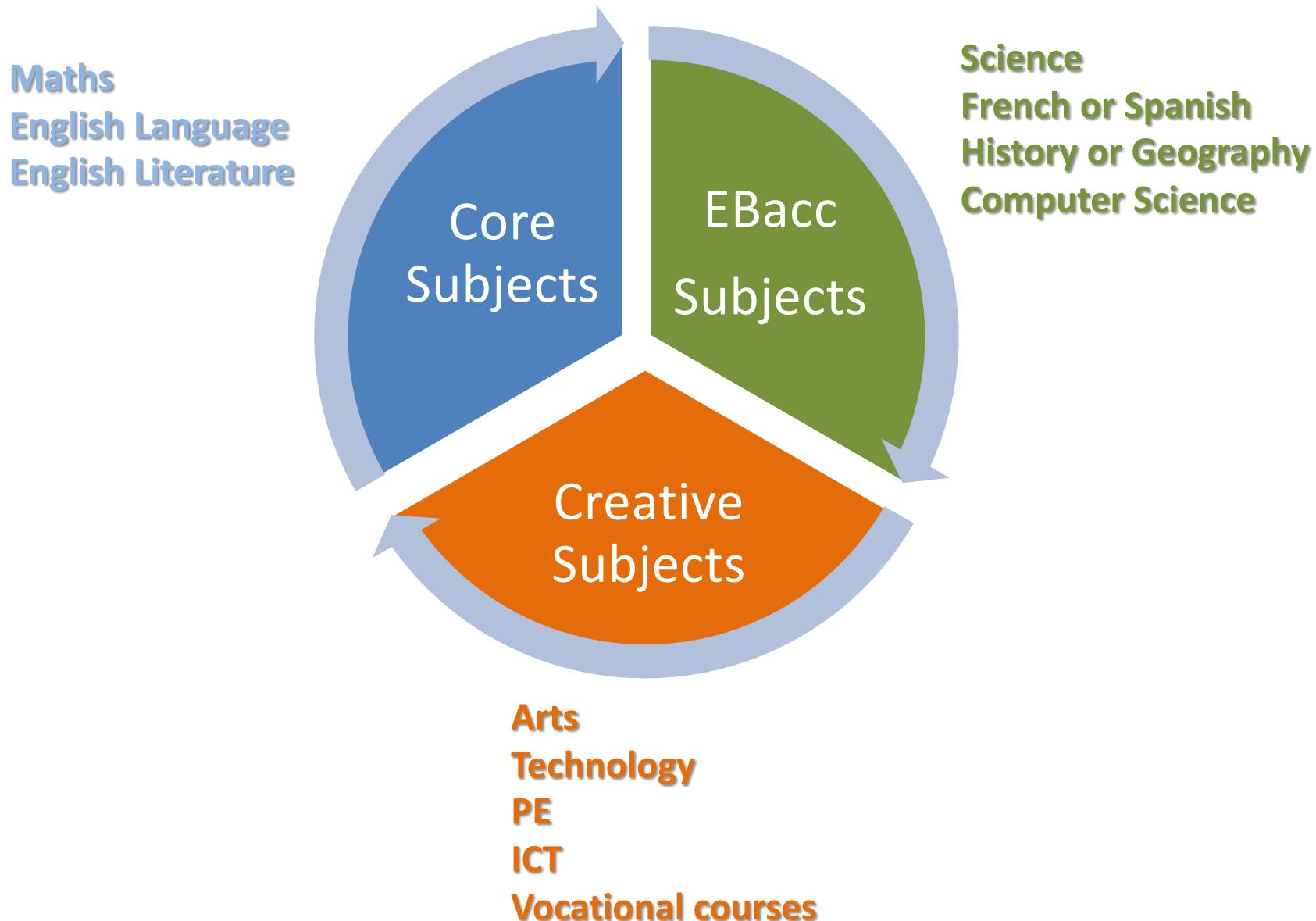
All students study:

- Maths
- English Language
- English Literature
- Double Science Award, this is worth 2 GCSE grades (but some students will choose to study 3 separate sciences)

Students have 4 option choices. Progression routes will determine choices within each option

- Option 1
- Option 2
- Option 3
- Option 4

Aim for a broad and balanced curriculum



Thriving Sectors



The Greater Manchester Priority Sectors are

Advanced Manufacturing
Construction Civil Engineering
Logistics
Financial and Professional
Hospitality & Tourism
Digital and Creative
Health and Social Care
Retail
Transport and HS2
Education

70-80% of young people will remain in the area in which they went to school.

Progression Routes

Students are divided into two Progression Routes:

- Progression Route Q
- Progression Route U

Students in both Progression Routes will study English, Maths and Science

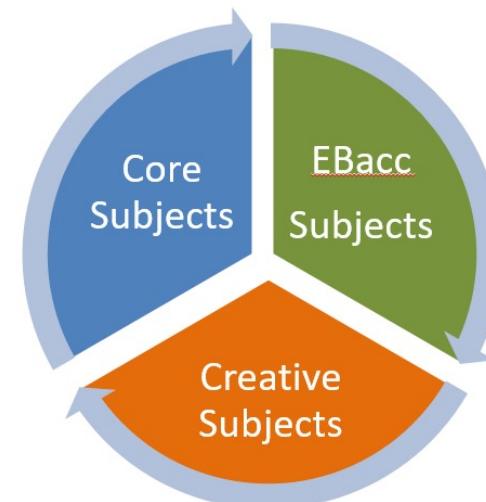
Facilitating subjects from the Academic Curriculum

Increasingly important:

- A Modern Foreign Language (French or Spanish)
- Humanities (History or Geography)

Top employability skills as identified by the OECD.

- Team working
- Self-management
- Problem solving
- Communication - application of literacy
- Languages
- Business and customer awareness
- Application of numeracy
- Application of ICT



The English Baccalaureate

The government has an expectation that 75% of students in England are taught the **English Baccalaureate** or **Ebacc**. This is not a target but an aspiration. This combination of subjects is considered the academic gold standard and is intended to give students ‘currency’ to help them in later life.

To qualify for the Ebacc students need to study:

1. **English Language**
2. **English Literature**
3. **Maths**
4. **Science**
5. History or Geography
6. French or Spanish. *Spanish is only offered to students who chose to specialise in the language in Year 9. If Spanish was chosen in Year 9, students are expected to continue with it as an option at GCSE.*

Students in Progression Route Q are expected to study the Ebacc.

Students in Progression Route U can study the Ebacc if they wish to do so.

Progression Route	The EBacc		Open Choice	
	Humanities	Modern Foreign Languages	Subject 3	Subject 4
Q	GCSE Geography Or GCSE History	GCSE French or GCSE Spanish** ** only if selected as your child's preferred language in Year 9	GCSE Separate Sciences (Q only) GCSE Computer Science GCSE Art GCSE Graphic Communication GCSE Photography GCSE Dance GCSE Drama BTEC Dance GCSE Drama BTEC Drama GCSE Music GCSE Design & Technology	GCSE Computer Science GCSE Art GCSE Graphic Communication BTEC Dance GCSE Drama BTEC Drama GCSE Music GCSE Design & Technology
U	GCSE Geography Or GCSE History	To qualify for the EBacc select a language. GCSE French or GCSE Spanish** ** only if selected as your child's preferred language in Year 9 For students in the U Progression Route not wishing to follow the EBacc, please choose a third Open Choice subject instead of a language	RSL Music Performance GCSE Design & Technology GCSE Religious Studies WJEC Construction OCR Creative I Media GCSE PE OCR Sports Studies	WJEC Hospitality & Catering WJEC Construction GCSE Religious Studies GCSE Sociology OCR Creative I Media GCSE PE OCR Sports Studies

Triple Science

Most students will study the Double Award Science which is equivalent to two GCSEs; however, some students may choose to specialise in the three single sciences and obtain three separate qualifications:

- GCSE Biology**
- GCSE Physics**
- GCSE Chemistry**

The Triple Science option is offered to students in Progression Route Q only. It is recommended for students considering a science based career route such as a doctor or vet.

We strongly advise students who study Triple Science to also study the Ebacc (French or Spanish; History or Geography.)

Prince's Trust Programme

A small group of students in progression Route U have been recommended for the Prince's Trust Programme.

This is a successful and well established pathway suitable for a small number of students. Students do not have to follow this programme if they do not wish to do so. It is a discussion with parents. If students do choose to study this, it becomes one of their option subjects.

Students recommended for this programme will still study English Language, English Literature, Maths and Double Award Science.

They will still have to choose three other subjects, and at least one of these must be an Ebacc subject.

Reserve Subject

- We do our very best to accommodate our students' first choices but we cannot always guarantee this.

**You must carefully choose a
reserve subject.**



Support Meetings

Year 9 Parents' Evening Thursday 3rd February. Book in appointments with your child's teachers using School Cloud.

Year 9 Options' Interviews will take place during the evenings of 16th and 17th February. Parents and guardians are invited to meet with a member of the Senior Team to discuss their child's options choices. Details about how to book an appointment will be sent out in due course.

If your child is still unsure about their option choices, parents will be able to contact the school's careers adviser, Mrs Russell and arrange an appointment to speak with her. Only do this after the Options' Meeting.

**Please engage with us. These decisions
are important.**

Deadlines

- Option choices and the options forms must be completed and returned to school by Friday 4th March.

