

Fred Longworth High School Y9 Options 2023

Mr P Davies
Headteacher



Options Booklet and Information



Subject Selections: 2023

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. 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, which also includes careers education.

Students will then choose up to four additional option subjects. We believe it is important that students choose a balance of both academic and creative subjects. This broad and balanced curriculum will, we believe, gives 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 carefully considered Progression Route. To further assist, parents and students are also invited to attend a one-to one options meeting with a member of our senior team; it is imperative to attend this meeting with your child.

We look forward to working with you throughout this process, the full details of which can be found in the booklet.

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

Please look out for the Information letter and Option Booklet. This will be sent out to you asap.

There is also information on the school website.

<https://flhs.org.uk/ks4-options/>

KS4 Options

Home > KS4 Options

KS4 Options Steps



Read Options booklet

We have produced an 'Options booklet', which you need to read prior to making your choices. Read and discuss this with your parents/carers.



Check your Messages

Watch for email messages over the next fortnight to students and parents giving more information about how to book your meeting through SchoolCloud.



Attend your Options Interview

Online SchoolCloud meeting with a member of SLT 15th February, or in person meeting Thursday 16th February regarding your options.



Complete Form

You will soon be able to make your choices by completing online forms (Last date to complete forms: Friday, 3 March 2023)

KS4 Subjects Information

These faculties provide KS4 options for students. Click on a faculty to learn more about the subjects they offer.



Arts

Art, Dance, Drama, Music, Performing Arts & Photography



Design & Technology

Catering, Construction, Product Design, Systems Control & Textiles



Humanities

Geography, Health & Social Care, History, Religious Studies & Sociology



ICT

Computing, Business Studies & iMedia



Languages

French & Spanish



Physical Education



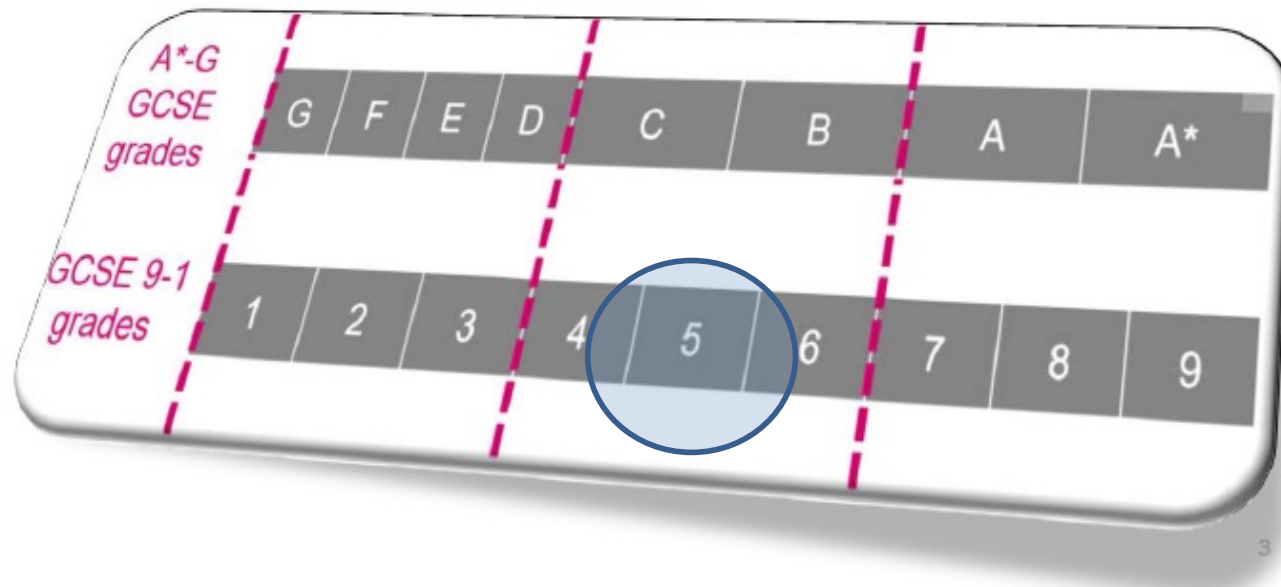
Science

Raised Expectations

In 2016 the examination system was reformed:

- The new GCSEs and reformed vocational courses are more challenging and there is increased content.
- The new GCSEs are graded on a 1 to 9 scale. 9 being the highest grade.
- 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 required to retake these subjects post 16.

Most students will achieve 9 outcomes

- **Maths**
- **English Language**
- **English Literature**
- **Science (worth 2 GCSE grades)**

Students have 4 option choices.

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

The English Baccalaureate (EBACC)

The Department for Education has an expectation that 75% of students in England are taught the **English Baccalaureate**.

1. **English Language**
2. **English Literature**
3. **Maths**
4. **Science**
5. History or Geography
6. A Modern Foreign Language

This combination of subjects is considered the academic gold standard and is intended to give students 'currency' to help them in later life.

Facilitating subjects from the EBACC

Increasingly important:

- History or Geography
- French (or Spanish if taken in Year 9)

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

Separate Sciences

All students automatically study the Double Award-Trilogy Science Course which is worth two GCSEs.

However, Students can choose instead to specialise in the three Separate Sciences to obtain three separate qualifications:

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

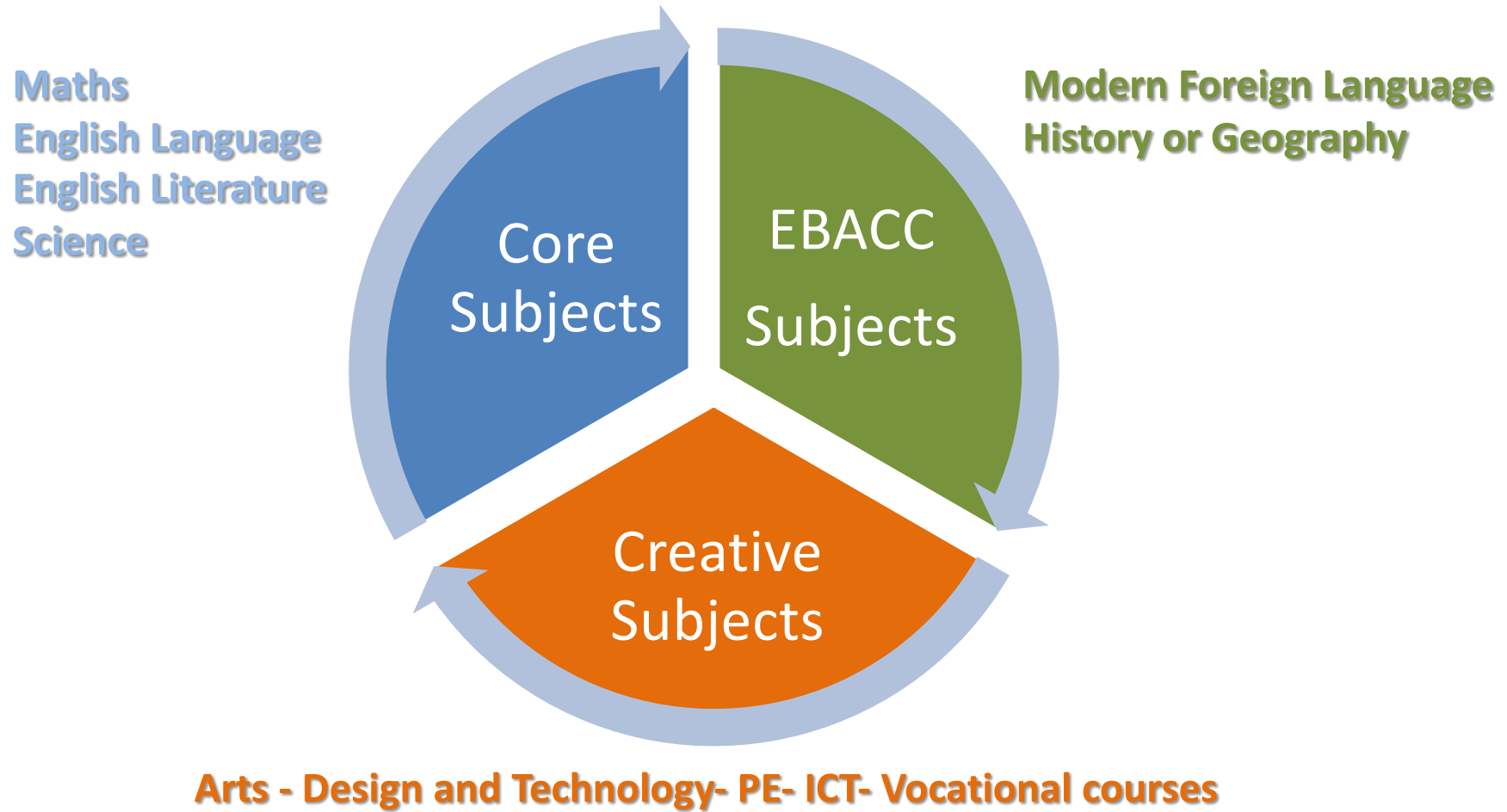
We strongly advise students who choose to study the Separate Sciences also study a language so that they qualify for the EBACC.

Vocational Qualifications

As well as GCSEs, we also offer the following vocational qualifications:

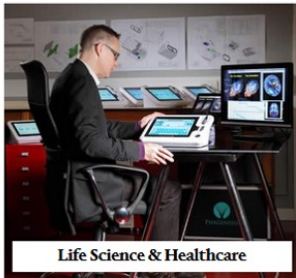
- BTEC Music Performance
- BTEC Performing Arts courses for both Dance and Drama
- OCR Sports Studies
- Eduqas Hospitality and Catering
- OCR Media

Aim for a broad and balanced curriculum



General Certificate in Secondary Education (GCSE)

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 Q and U:

1. Progression Route Q (Full EBACC strongly recommended/Separate Sciences available in Q)

2. Progression Route U

Q Progression Route

- **Maths**
- **English Language**
- **English Literature**
- **Science**

Students have 4 option choices.

- Option 1 (History or Geography)
- Option 2 (Language Strongly Recommended)
- Option 3
- Option 4

Q Progression Route

- **Maths**
- **English Language**
- **English Literature**
- **Science**

Students have 4 option choices.

- Option 1 (History or Geography)
- Option 2 (Language Strongly Recommended)
- Option 3 (Separate Sciences)
- Option 4

U Progression Route

- **Maths**
- **English Language**
- **English Literature**
- **Science**

Students have 4 option choices.

- Option 1 (History or Geography)
- Option 2
- Option 3
- Option 4

Students in U can still opt to take a language

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 Options' Interviews will take place during the evenings of **15th and 16th February**.

Details about how to book an appointment will be sent out with the Options Booklet.

If your child is still unsure about their option choices, parents will be able to contact the school's careers adviser, Mrs Cross 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 3rd March.

