



# Welcome to the Key Stage 4 Options Evening

While you are waiting please plan which four subject presentations you will attend later this evening.

It is better to prioritise the subjects you're not sure about rather than the ones you definitely want to do.

A list of the presentations and their location can be found in the programme.



Hardenhuish School  
A High Performing Academy

# Key Stage 4 Options Evening

A presentation about the curriculum being  
offered to Year 10 pupils from September 2024



## The importance of Key Stage 4 options

Making the right choice may affect a pupil's:

- Qualifications
- Grades
- Enjoyment of Years 10-11
- Progression after Year 11 and in their future career





## Timeline of the Options Process

- Assembly 1: curriculum pathways – 8 January
- Pathways letter and Options booklet sent home – 9 January
- Y9 Pupil & Parent Consultation Evening - 11 January
- **KS4 Options Evening (in school) – 18 January**
- Link to online options form sent home – 19 January
- **Deadline for completing options forms – 1 February**
- Follow up advice and guidance interviews for some pupils - **Term 4**
- 2023-24 Y10 pupil timetable published - **Term 6**





## The core curriculum

Subject	English	Maths	Science	PE	PSHCE
Periods a week	4	4	6	2	2
Qualifications	2 GCSEs	2 GCSE	2/3 GCSEs	Not accredited	Not accredited

- All pupils will follow the core curriculum until the end of Y11.
- Core curriculum alone leads to up to 7 GCSEs.





## Science

- Pupils are placed on the science course which will give them the best chance of success.
- More information about the recommended pathway is sent home by letter in Term 6.

**Triple  
Science**



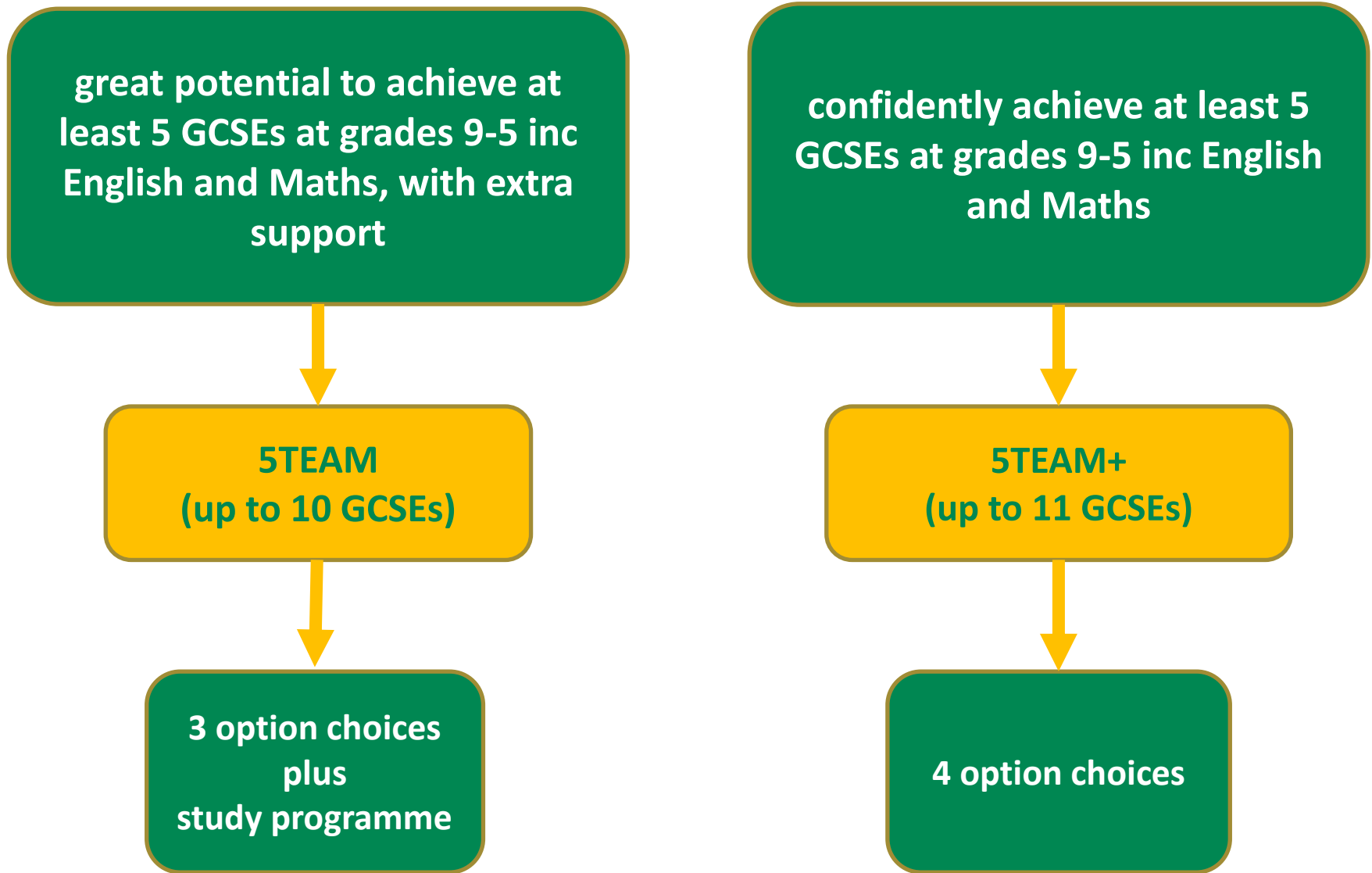
**3 separate GCSEs in  
Biology, Chemistry and Physics**

**Double  
Science**



**2 GCSEs in  
combined science**

# Curriculum Pathways



Pupils on both pathways also need to select a reserve choice





## The Optional Curriculum





## The range of option courses

- Art
- Business Studies
- Computing
- Dance
- Drama
- DT with a specialism in
  - Resistant Materials
  - Systems and Control
  - Textiles
- Food Preparation & Nutrition
- French
- Geography
- Health & Social Care
- History
- Hospitality & Catering
- Information Technology
- Music
- Physical Education (GCSE)
- Religious Studies
- Spanish
- Sport Studies
- Art Textiles



## The Optional Curriculum

- Strongly recommend a **balanced curriculum**.
- All pupils must study **at least one subject from:**  
**French, Spanish, geography, history and computing**
- The only other restrictions are that pupils may choose:
  - Only one DT/food course, including catering
  - Only one Art/Textile Design course
  - Only one Computing/ICT course
  - Only one PE/Sport Science course
  - Up to two expressive arts courses.



## Key things to think about

- What am I good at?
- What am I interested in and enjoy?
- How do I best demonstrate my learning?
- What qualifications do I need for my next step after Year 11 and beyond?





## The Participation Age

- Pupils have to stay in education until the end of the school year that they have their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday through one of these routes:
  - full time education in a sixth form or at college
  - work-based learning such as an apprenticeship
  - part-time education or training for at least 20 hours a week if they have a job.
- Pupils not achieving a grade 4 in English and maths in Year 11 continue to study these subjects at college.

# What do I want to do after Year 11?

**Sixth Form and then  
university, employment  
and/or training**

**Level 3 college courses,  
advanced apprenticeships,  
employment with training**

**See Mrs Brenton**

**Level 2 college courses,  
inter apprenticeships,  
employment with training**

**See Mrs Brenton**

**Currently need at least  
grade 4 in English & maths  
plus three other GCSEs  
at grade 5+**

**Currently need at least  
five GCSEs at grade 9-4,  
including English & maths**

**Currently need at least  
four GCSEs at grade 3+**

**recommended but not  
compulsory to choose  
both a MFL and a  
humanity at GCSE as these  
will strengthen your  
university application**

**recommended to choose a  
broad range of subjects,  
which may include a  
relevant vocational course**

**recommended to choose  
vocational subjects and  
GCSEs that pupils enjoy  
and are interested in**





## Some advice from our Year 10 pupils

- Orla House
- Antonio-Andrei Dobre





## The English Baccalaureate

- Not an award nor is it certificated.
- Measure in school performance tables showing % of pupils achieving a GCSE grade A\*-C (9-5) in:
  - English
  - Maths
  - Two Sciences (including Computing)
  - A Modern Foreign Language
  - A Humanity (RE and Business Studies not included)
- Not compulsory but could be considered for pupils aspiring to go to University as it demonstrates a broad, academic curriculum.





## Cautionary Words

- Not all pupils get their choice, please give a reserve.
- Not all courses are guaranteed to run.
- Late changes are possible but not desirable.
- Most common problem is pupils choosing with friends!





## Programme for the Evening

6:00-6:20 pm – presentation by Mr Woollin

### **Subject Presentations**

6:30-6:40 pm – first session

6:45-6:55 pm – second session

7:00-7:10 pm – third session

7:15-7:25 pm – fourth session

From 6:45 pm – opportunity to ask questions here in the hall



## Staff available in the Hall, include:

- Mrs Percy, Mr Woollin, Mrs Glossop
- Ms Humphries, Mrs Hammerton
- Mrs Brenton, Careers and Transition Manager
- Mrs Bennett, SENCO

