



Year 10 Options 2024

Making the right choices

Session aims

By the end, you should understand:

St George's **GCSE Curriculum** structure.

The **option choices** available.

How to apply and what will happen next.

The **support** that can be accessed.

Your guide to the options process

This has been sent via email and is available on the school website

IMPORTANT AMENDMENT

The booklet emailed incorrectly stated that spanish is taught as a fast-track GCSE. This is not the case, all language GCSEs are taught as a continuation of the Y9 curriculum.



St. George's School

Year 10 GCSE
Options Booklet

Jan 2024



GCSE Curriculum

Subjects fall into two categories

Core Subjects
Compulsory for all
students

Option Subject
Students choose 4

Most students will complete 10 GCSEs...
6 Core and 4 Options...



GCSE Curriculum

Core Subjects

English

- Usually 2 GCSEs, Language & Literature

Maths

- Tiered entry (higher or foundation)

Non-examined Subjects

Core PE & PSHE

Science

- Double science (2 GCSE), tiered
- Students can opt for separate sciences

RE

- Full course GCSE started in Y9

GCSE Curriculum

Options - Student choose 4 subjects

- Art and Design
- Business Studies
- Drama
- Economics
- Geography
- History (iGCSE)
- Computing
- Music

- Physical Education
- Separate Sciences
- Spanish
- French
- German
- Food Preparation & Nutrition
- Design & Technology

A Typical Timetable

At St. George's, we have 24 lessons (+ Friday 5) per week.

Year 10 and 11 run on a two week timetable (48 lessons).

English	Maths	Re	PSHE	PE	Science Double	Opt A	Opt B	Opt C	Opt D
8	6	2	1	2	Science Triple	5	5	5	5



You need to consider..

1. Greater choice brings a greater responsibility to create your own **BALANCED** curriculum.
2. Begin to think about your future.
3. Different subjects offer... different skills... different activities... different learning styles.



Things you SHOULD do...

Try to achieve **breadth and balance** by choosing a range of subjects.

Think about the demands of the course e.g. NEA (non-examined assessment vs exams).

What will your timetable look like?
Will you have a creative outlet?

Think about which subjects you enjoy!

...and subjects you are good at!

Read the booklet carefully... make sure you know what you may be studying.

Consider if meeting the EBacc criteria is right for you. (this would mean choosing a language and either History or Geography).

Things you SHOULD do...

Ask for information and advice...

From subject staff

From your tutor

From older students

Look back at your Year 9 Progress review on Edulink.

Think about life after Y11... will you need specific subjects?

Consider where you are starting from - this is especially relevant with languages!

Things you SHOULD NOT do...

Choose subjects just because of your friends...

Or because of your favourite teacher.

Or because of your parents.

Think that you are deciding your whole future over the next few weeks.

Discuss options on social media.

Choose Business AND Economics within your 4.

Get fooled into thinking there are 'easy options'.

Advice for Parents

- Use the parents evening wisely
(Booking opens 8pm tomorrow)
- Guide, listen and ask questions
- Give freedom to choose
- Get advice
(from Teacher, Tutor, House team)



Advice for Parents

- It is perfectly normal to know exactly what they want to study
- It is perfectly normal to know some of what they want to study
- It is perfectly normal to have no idea what they want to study in the future so find this very difficult



The Options Form



St George's School
Sun Lane
Harpenden
Hertfordshire
AL5 4TD

Section 1 of 2

St George's School GCSE Options 2024

Form description

PLEASE SUBMIT THIS FORM BY 12 NOON ON FRIDAY 16th FEBRUARY
2024



The Options Form

House *

Name...
House...
Tutor Group...

Tutor *

Parent/Guardian Email Address *

Your answer

Please use a parental
email address that we
have on file



The Options Form

PLEASE LIST YOUR OPTIONS IN ORDER OF PRIORITY I.E. LIST THE ONE YOU MOST WANT TO DO FIRST

Subject Choice 1 *

Choose

Subject Choice 2 *

Choose

Subject Choice 3 *

Choose

Subject Choice 4 *

Choose

Options should be selected in order of preference!

Option order and reserves often need to be taken into consideration!

Reserve Subject Choice 1 *

Choose

Reserve Subject Choice 2 *

Choose

Back

Submit

Please understand that you are asked to provide reserve choices for a reason!



Deadline?

Friday 16th
February 2024
at 12 noon



Timeline

11th January

GCSE Options Information Evening for parents, 7pm Chapel.

12th January

Friday 5 talk for pupils: Options launch.

19th January

Friday 5 talk for pupils: PE, Languages, Technology, Business and Economics.

25th January

1. Year 9 Parents' Evening, 5.30-8.30pm ONLINE.
2. Online Options form goes 'live'.

30th January

GCSE Subject Fair for pupils, 1:30-2pm.

16th February

DEADLINE FOR RETURNING THE ONLINE FORM.

Support?

Personal Adviser – Nicky Honeywell

Available in school each Friday.

Use of 'Uni Frog' careers advice last term.

Based in the Youth Connexions room in the careers library.

Please email

ahartley@stgeorges.herts.sch.uk

to organise an appointment.



Support?

- Speak directly to teachers and tutors if the issue is subject related...
- If you are concerned or unclear over the process... you can contact the school:
LeadershipAdmin@stgeorges.herts.sch.uk
- Heads of House may wish to discuss options for some individual students.



Be Encouraged...

- ★ We make students continue a broad core of subjects and experiences.
- ★ Most students will be spoiled for choice of things they like and are good at.
- ★ It is very hard to make a choice which will return to haunt you.



Questions?

