

Year 9 GCSE Options 2024 Student and Parent Information





Guide to Qualifications: how do my GCSEs fit into the big picture?

Levels	Types of qualifications
Level 2	GCSEs (9-1), BTECs, Cambridge Nationals (all subjects at the same level)
Level 3	A Levels, Apprenticeships, BTECs, Extended Project
Level 4/5/6	Higher Education, Apprenticeships and Employment





What does my GCSE package look like?

All students at NSG benefit from a package of qualifications based around the English Baccalaureate requirements.

This structure ensures that students receive a well-rounded education that will prepare them for a range of future careers.







Two free-choice option subjects?

You will be asked to select your **preferences** for two free-choice option subjects and to pick two **reserve** subjects in case these are full.

Make sure that the four subjects you select are subjects you are happy to study in September.

Choose subjects...

- you want to study
- your teachers think you will do well in
- that may be useful to your future career
- you find interesting, succeed in and enjoy





Who should I talk to before I make the choice?

You should talk to:

- Your parents or carers
- Your form tutor
- Your subject teachers

for advice before you enter your preferences into the options system.

Make the best choices for you - don't just follow your friends.

What do you want to do?





Core Subjects (studied by all students)

GCSE:

- English Language & English Literature
- Maths
- Science (Combined or Triple your teacher will let you know which one you will take)

Other lessons:

PE & PSHE





Humanities and Languages

Humanities GCSE:

History or Geography (one <u>must</u> be selected); you can add the other as one of your preferences if desired.

Languages GCSE (French or Spanish):

You will continue the language you are studying in Year 9 to GCSE level.





Free Options

You will choose two option **preferences** and two reserve **preferences** from this list.

We will do our best to give you your preferences as far as we are able to.

If you wish to study DT or Art, you can only choose one of the two specialisms.

Some subjects, such as Health and Social Care and Ethics and Philosophy, are heavily oversubscribed every year.

Art - Fine Art (GCSE)

Computer Science (GCSE)

Creative iMedia ence (Cambridge Nationals Level 2 Certificate)

Dance (BTEC)

Design Technology (Paper and Board) (GCSE)

Design Technology (Textiles) (GCSE)

Art - Three Dimensional Design (GCSE)

Drama (GCSE)

Ethics & Philosophy (GCSE)

Film Studies (GCSE)

Food & Nutrition (GCSE)

Geography (GCSE)

Health and Social Care (Cambridge Nationals Level 2 Certificate)

History (GCSE)

Music (GCSE)

Sport (BTEC)





Home language GCSEs

Many other languages have GCSE qualifications.

If one of these is a language you can <u>already</u> read, write and speak fluently, then you can take the GCSE in addition to your other courses.

To take part in this, please see Mrs Alvarez.

Cantonese Arabic Bengali Dutch Gujarati Irish Hebrew German Italian Panjabi Japanese Mandarin Polish Portuguese Russian Turkish

Urdu





Submitting your options preferences

You will receive an email with your SIMS Options login details on Friday 1st March. You will need to follow the instructions to set your password, then use that password to login.

Between Friday 1st March and Sunday 31st March at midnight:

- You will submit your options preferences online as described above.
- Once selected, **your options preferences are final** please choose carefully.
- There is no priority given to those submitting sooner.
- Please make sure your choices are submitted by Sunday 31st March at midnight in order to share your preferences.



- Learn about the options process
- Understand the subjects you will need to choose between

Stage 1: Options Assembly - 18th January

Stage 2: Start thinking about your options

- Consider what you would like to study
- Conversation with your tutor about what's best for you
- Talk to subject teachers about the choices on offer
- Prepare to make your choices

Stage 3: Talk to your subject teachers

Stage 4: Complete your options online - 1st March to 31st March

- Login and submit your preferences online
- Find out what you have been given by the end of the year