

Year 9 Choices 2021

Key Stage 4 curriculum

- Common curriculum for all students
- Choice within subjects areas
- Courses to extend students academically
- Vocational courses for students who work best practically
- Opportunities to combine practical and academic studies

Guide to Qualifications

Levels	Standard route	Other Qualifications	Apprenticeship route
Level 1	Foundation learning - offered to students with specific learning needs in consultation with parents		
Level 2	GCSE (9-4)	BTEC Cambridge Nationals	
Level 3	A Levels	BTEC Extended Project Core Maths	Apprenticeships
Level 4/5/6	Higher Education, Training and Employment		

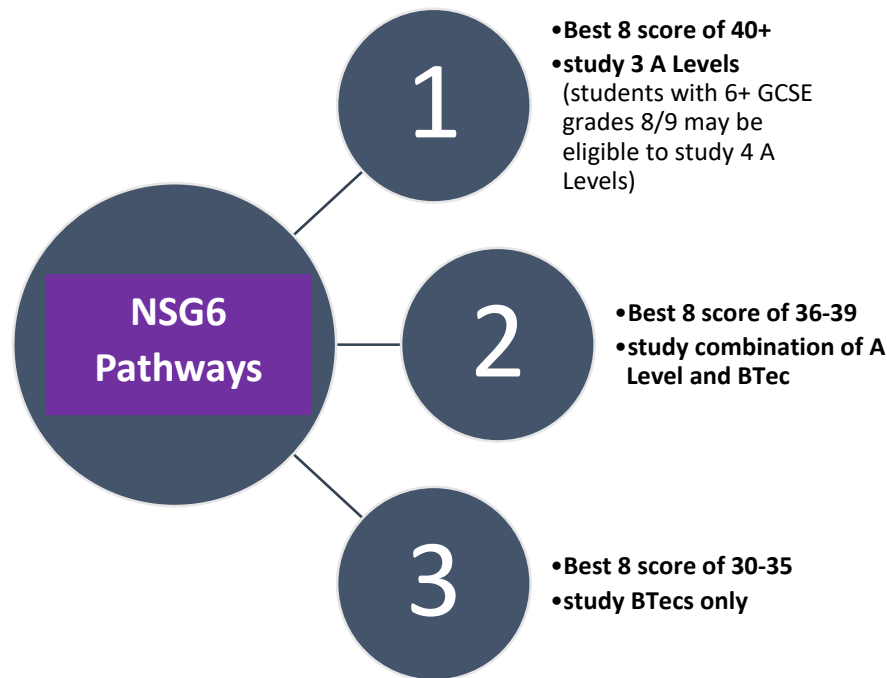
Are my post-16 choices affected by my GCSE choices?

NOT MASSIVELY

- Some A Level and BTEC options do not require you to have studied them at GCSE first – for example, psychology, business or politics
- For other subjects your child will most likely need the GCSE or a related subject, e.g. maths, English, sciences, art, languages
- All of our students take double or triple award sciences (physics, chemistry and biology) at GCSE which means science-related post-16 options are open to them
- Most post-16 providers will have subject-specific criteria for the courses they offer

What are the entry requirements for The Sixth Form at NSG?

Grade 4 in GCSE English AND Grade 4 in GCSE Maths*



Example B:

Best 8 score = 37 (inc. English and Maths)

This student would therefore be eligible for Pathway 2: a combination of BTEC and A Level courses

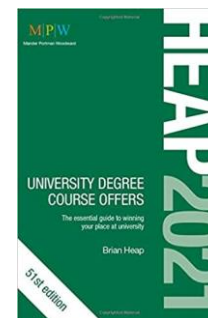
Level	Board	Code	Title	Status	Result
GCSE/...	AQA	8464F	Combined Sci: Trilogy Tier F	Cert	55
GCSE/...	AQA	8202	Art & Design (Fine Art)	Cert	5
GCSE/...	AQA	8300F	Mathematics Tier F	Cert	4
GCSE/...	AQA	8700	English Language	Cert	4
GCSE/...	OCR	J276	Computer Science	Cert	3
GCSE/...	OCR	J352	English Literature	Cert	4
GCSE/...	WJEC	C670QS	Film Studies	Cert	5
GCSE/...	EDEXL	1H10HM	History Option HM	Cert	5

+ Subject Specific Criteria (see our website for full details:
<https://www.nsg.northants.sch.uk/sixth-form/nsg6admissions>)

*Students without grade 4 in English/Maths may be admitted onto Pathway 3 only, subject to them retaking GCSE English and/or Maths in Year 12.

Are my post-18 choices affected by my GCSE choices?

- Most universities require English and maths GCSEs at grade 4. For some courses, they will expect a grade 5 so it is worth checking if your child already has an idea about what they want to do post-18
- For some degrees, or careers, their requirements for GCSE, BTEC and A Level subjects aren't too limiting. Law degrees, for example do not usually stipulate which subjects you should have studied at post-16
- In some cases, your child may need specific A Levels or BTECs (and therefore the GCSEs they need to do these) to enrol on certain university courses (e.g. the sciences, medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine, history or foreign languages)
- Useful guides to consult: HEAP or <https://www.informedchoices.ac.uk/>



Core Subjects

GCSE's:

English Language & English Literature

Maths

Science (Combined *or* Triple)

Other lessons:

PE & PSHE

Other Subjects

Geography
History
French
Spanish

Art
Computer Science
Creative iMedia
Dance BTEC
Drama
Ethics & Philosophy
Film
Food & Nutrition
Health & Social Care
Music
Sport BTEC

Design & Technology

- Papers & Boards
- Textiles, or
- Timbers

Other Subjects

Geography
History
French
Spanish

At least one choice from these subjects -

it will be the first choice on your form

Enrichment opportunities - languages

Many other languages have GCSE qualifications.

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

We are unable to teach the content but will provide your exam entry (**see Mrs Mayes**)

Arabic
Bengali
Chinese (spoken Mandarin/Cantonese)
German
Greek
Gujarati
Hebrew
Italian
Japanese
Latin
Panjabi
Persian
Polish
Portuguese
Russian
Turkish
Urdu

Enrichment opportunities



Duke of Edinburgh Award:
Challenges & stretches beyond the classroom.

Going beyond mathematics GCSE- Further Maths:

- Extends and broadens mathematics learning.
- Involves *independent* study with support from the maths team.

Other

- There are a range of possibilities for students to widen their curriculum.
- These are in addition to the subjects taken so require extra commitment.

Optional Subjects (balanced blocks)

Humanities

Geography
History
EP

Languages

French
Spanish

Technology

Computer Science
Creative iMedia
Food
Design Technology
•Papers & board
•Textiles
•Timbers

Sport, Performing & Expressive Arts

Art
Dance BTEC
Drama
Music
Sport BTEC

Other:

Film
Health & Social Care

Submitting your Choices

Students choose **six** subjects - in order of preference.

You will be given **four** subjects to study from September.

Submitting your Choices

Between **Wednesday 3rd March** and **Friday 19th March**:

Students will submit their choices online.

Details will be shared in an email, with a Google Form to be completed from their school account.

Deadline 4pm on Friday 19th March

Advice from other students:

“Do what you find fun and enjoyable”

“It’s not the end of the world if you don’t get all your subjects”

“Don’t stress - don’t overthink it”



“Don’t pick subjects because your friends do”

“Do homework the night you get it”

“Choose subjects **you** enjoy”

“Try hard, once you get the chance”

Further information

School website:

[KS4 Choices Information](#)

Choices queries:

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Sixth form queries:

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