

# Year 9 GCSE Options 2023 Student and Parent Information 2023



#### **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 must be selected)

#### 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, you can only choose <u>one</u> of the three specialisms.

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

Art (GCSE)

Computer Science (GCSE)

Creative iMedia (Cambridge Nationals Level 2 Certificate)

Dance (BTEC)

Design Technology (Paper and Board) (GCSE)

Design Technology (Textiles) (GCSE)

Design Technology (Timbers) (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 **already** 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 German Chinese Greek Gujarati Hebrew Italian Mandarin Panjabi Japanese Latin Chinese Persian Polish Portuguese Russian Turkish Urdu



#### Submitting your options preferences

You will receive an email with your SIMS Options login details on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March. You will need to go to <u>www.sims-options.co.uk</u> and login with these details.

#### Between Friday 10th March and Friday 31st March at 3.30pm:

- 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 Friday 31st March at 3.30pm in order to share your preferences.



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

Stage 1: Options Assembly - 26th 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

 Look at information on KS4 Choices website

> Stage 3: Look at KS4 Choices on website

Stage 4: Complete your options online - 10th March to 31st March

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