

# BCCS GCSE Option Choices September 2023



Mr K Murphy, *Head of Year 9*

Mr P Mann, *Careers Lead*

Ms E Messinger, *Deputy Headteacher*

# BCCS Curriculum

We aim that the curriculum is

- Broad and balanced
- Powerful, inclusive and diverse
- Develops skills
- Preparation for future qualifications
- Motivating and appropriately challenging
- Promotes an enjoyment of learning
- Provides the tools for the whole person
- Allows students to feel success



# Core Curriculum

- Mathematics (1 GCSE)
- English Language and Literature (2 GCSEs)
- Science (2 or 3 GCSEs)

## *Non examined*

- *Religion, Ethics and Philosophy (REP)*
- *Physical Social and Health Education (PSHE)*
- *Physical Education (PE)*



# Science



GCSE Combined Science - 2 GCSEs

Separate Science GCSEs - 3 GCSEs (Biology, Chemistry, Physics)

**Both routes provide excellent preparation for studying Sciences at A-level and beyond.**

# Science



## GCSE Combined Science - 2 GCSEs

- AQA GCSE Combined Science Trilogy (which covers all three Sciences).
- 6 exams and 21 required practicals over the course.
- Graded on 1-1 to 9-9 scale.

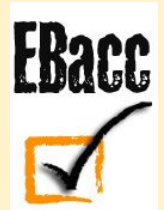
## Separate Science GCSEs - 3 GCSEs (Biology, Chemistry, Physics)

- 2 Exams per GCSE (6 total)
- 28 required practicals
- Each GCSE graded on 1 to 9 scale.

**Both routes provide excellent preparation for studying Sciences at A-level and beyond.**

# English Baccalaureate (EBacc)

- The EBacc is **not a qualification** in its own right – it's a **combination of GCSE subjects**, including a language, that offer an important range of knowledge and skills to young people.
- Recognises student achievement for students achieving GCSE passes (9-5) in:
  - English
  - Mathematics
  - Sciences (combined, separates, computer)
  - Language
  - Humanities



<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/english-baccalaureate-ebacc/english-baccalaureate-ebacc>

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/761031/DfE](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/761031/DfE)

# Which of the GCSE option subjects qualify towards the English Baccalaureate?

- English                      English Language & Literature
- Mathematics                Mathematics
- Science                      At least two Separate Sciences
- Humanities                 History OR  
Geography
- Languages                  French OR  
German



# Options

- Art & Design: Fine Art
- Art & Design: Graphics
- Art & Design: Textiles
- ASDAN (Certificate)  
Adventure Education
- Business Studies
- Citizenship Studies
- Computing
- Drama
- Art: Dimensional Design (DT)
- French
- Geography
- German
- History
- ICT Cambridge National in iMedia
- Music
- PE
- PE Cambridge National in Sports Science
- Religious Studies
- Support Numeracy / Literacy (not a stand alone GCSE)



# Options (with video links)

- Art & Design: Fine Art
- Art & Design: Graphics
- Art & Design: Textiles
- **ASDAN (Certificate)**
- **Adventure Education**
- Business Studies
- Citizenship Studies
- Computing
- Drama
- 3D Design (DT)
- French
- Geography
- German
- History
- ICT Cambridge National in iMedia
- Music
- PE
- PE Cambridge National in Sports Science
- Religious Studies
- **Support Maths /English (not a stand alone GCSE)**

A	B	C	D
Computer Science	German	German	French
French	History	Geography	Geography
Geography	Music	History	PE CambNat*
History	Religious Studies	PE GCSE	Art: Textiles
Music	Art: 3D Design	Religious Studies	Art: Graphics
Citizenship	Business Studies	Art: Fine Art	Citizenship
	Drama	Business Studies	ICT iMedia*
Literacy Support <i>as directed</i>	Numeracy Support <i>as directed</i>	Literacy Support <i>as directed</i>	Science as <i>directed</i>
ASDAN** <i>as directed</i>			

\*Cambridge Nationals

\*\*Certificate Level 1

# Choices

# 4

The form upon which you make your choices will be shared after 31st January.

- ❑ We cannot make guarantees at the early stages
- ❑ Some subjects can't be chosen together:
  - ❑ E.g. PE Cambridge National and GCSE PE or Art & Design courses
- ❑ You should consider selecting History OR Geography and German OR French
- ❑ If choosing Art & Design please state your preferred Art & Design option(s)

<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>
Computer Science	German	German	French
French	History	Geography	Geography
Geography	Music	History	PE CambNat*
History	Religious Studies	PE GCSE	Art: Textiles
Music	Art: 3D Design	Religious Studies	Art: Graphics
Citizenship	Business Studies	Art: Fine Art	Citizenship
	Drama	Business Studies	ICT iMedia
Literacy Support <i>as directed</i>	Numeracy Support <i>as directed</i>	Literacy Support <i>as directed</i>	Science as <i>directed</i>
ASDAN** <i>as directed</i>			

\*Cambridge Nationals

\*\*Certificate Level 1

# How not to choose!

- Because I like the teacher
- Because my friends say they are doing it
- Without having an open mind
- Without reading the booklet/watching the video/discussing with teachers

# How are Cambridge Nationals different to GCSE?

- Level 2 qualification, parity to GCSE
- Different assessment method
  - 75% portfolio work, assessment is during the course
  - 25% external assessment, can be taken in Yr 1 or Yr 2
- Continual feedback
- 25% external assessment can be re-sat (best mark counts)



# Options - BCCS Support

1. Yr 9 Assembly - Options process explained
2. Tutor sessions
3. Career Pilot Session (set on 'KS3 Futures' Google classroom)
4. Subject Recordings - available now on Google Classrooms
5. Options Booklet - available now on Google Classrooms
6. Targeted one to one meetings - HOY/Tutor/LSA
7. Options Evening (18th Jan')
8. Yr 9 Parents Evening (26th Jan')
9. Drop down day (31st Jan')
10. Additional Information Sources - see next slide

# Additional Information Sources

It is strongly recommended students, with support of parents/carers, complete research - use directed websites (especially CareerPilot), speak to other students in Yr 10/11, speak to parents/family members etc - the following resources may be helpful in your research:

- Video clips - [choosing GCSE options x 3/getting ready for a future career](#)
- CareerPilot - [choosing your GCSEs, choice at 14 for parents, choice at 14 students](#)
- [BBC Bitesize Careers](#)
- [LMI for South West/Careerometer](#)
- [Career Choices](#)
- [Pathways at Post 16 video](#)
- [Parents guide to careers](#)
- [Post 16 Directory 2023](#)
- [BCCS Futures Website](#)



# Contacts & Dates Ahead

## **Thursday 26th January 2023 Year 9 Subject Parents Evening (virtual)**

There will be the opportunity to discuss progress and choices.

## **Monday 22nd February 2023 - Choices Deadline**

Choose your options by completing the online Google Form at the end of the Options booklet or on our main website. The form will be live after 31st January drop down day.

**Head of Year** Mr Murphy [kmurphy@bristolcathedral.org.uk](mailto:kmurphy@bristolcathedral.org.uk)

**Pastoral Lead** Mr Lawrence [tlawrence@bristolcathedral.org.uk](mailto:tlawrence@bristolcathedral.org.uk)

**Careers & Employability Lead** Mr Mann [pmann@bristolcathedral.org.uk](mailto:pmann@bristolcathedral.org.uk)

**Physical Education** Mr Welch [ewelch@bristolcathedral.org.uk](mailto:ewelch@bristolcathedral.org.uk)

**Computing ICT** Mr Ladbury [jladbury@bristolcathedral.org.uk](mailto:jladbury@bristolcathedral.org.uk)

### **Tutors:**

**Abbots** Mr Sandhu [isandhu@bristolcathedral.org.uk](mailto:isandhu@bristolcathedral.org.uk)

**Bishops** Mrs Nevins [snevins@bristolcathedral.org.uk](mailto:snevins@bristolcathedral.org.uk)

**Canons** Miss Price [sprice@bristolcathedral.org.uk](mailto:sprice@bristolcathedral.org.uk)

**Deans** Mrs Roberts [kroberts@bristolcathedral.org.uk](mailto:kroberts@bristolcathedral.org.uk) / Miss Drewett [@idrewett@bristolcathedral.org.uk](mailto:idrewett@bristolcathedral.org.uk)

**Priors** Ms Youngs [eyoungs@bristolcathedral.org.uk](mailto:eyoungs@bristolcathedral.org.uk)

## **Timetable for choosing:**

As well as the outline information in this booklet, there will be ample opportunity for students to learn more about the details of the subjects on offer from their teachers before the deadline for deciding.

### ***Year 9 Assessment***

January 2023

Pupils are being assessed so that their next report can indicate progress and projected GCSE grades.

### ***Year 9 Assemblies***

January/February 2023

There will be a series of workshops for students on Post 16 Education, Higher Education and Employability, further details in presentation. Students will also be given guidance on choosing their GCSE options.

### ***Year 9 Information Evening***

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2023

There will be a presentation to explain the process of choosing Year 10 options and a subject fair where teachers can provide more information about their subjects, this is for parents and students to attend.

### ***Year 9 Subject Parents Evening***

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2023

There will be the opportunity to discuss progress and choices.

### ***Year 9 Drop Down Day***

Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023

Students will have the opportunity to find out more about the new subjects being offered at GCSE.

### ***Choices Deadline***

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2023**