

Which options
shall I take?

Options 2023

Year 9 Guided Options

A very warm welcome...



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WISDOM

HOPE

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DIGNITY

EQUALITY

The importance of Guided Options - making choices for KS4

- They are guided.
- A milestone in life.
- Choices that could affect your future.
- Making good choices will mean that you are more likely to succeed in your subjects.



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How do we help our students to prepare for options?

- Guided Options Assembly – this afternoon.
- Options Information Evening (parents/carers) – tonight at 6pm.
- Options information booklet on the website.
- Options information presentations from subjects on the St Hilda's website.
- Help from Form Tutor in PD.
- Help from Subject Teachers.
- Help from Heads of House.
- Taster Day including a UCAS session – Friday 17th March.
- Submit choices electronically - Monday 20th March.
- Guidance Meetings with SLT Monday 27th March – Parents invited remotely.



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What are the different qualifications?

- GCSE – Mostly exams at the end of 2 years, with some controlled assessment.
- BTEC TECH Award – Equivalent to 1 GCSE, mostly controlled assessment with 1 exam.
- Cambridge National Certificate – combination of exams and coursework.



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What do GCSE grades look like?

New Scale 9-1	Approximate equivalent 'old' grades
9	A* plus
8	A*
7	A
6	B plus
5 strong pass	C plus/B minus
4 standard pass	C
3	D
2	E
1	F/G

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Core Subjects everyone will study:

- Maths
- English Language and English Literature
- Science (Trilogy or 3 separates if one option used)
- RE GCSE
- Core PE
- PD



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What are the choices?

EVERYONE WILL HAVE THREE CHOICES

- Three 'free' choices

OR

- The English Baccalaureate

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Three 'free' choices - what subjects are on offer?

- Art & Design
- Business Studies
- Computer Science
- Creative iMedia
- Design and Technology
- Drama
- French
- Geography
- Geology
- German
- Health and Social Care
- History
- Hospitality and Catering
- Music
- PE
- Psychology
- Separate Sciences
- Sociology

Choose 3 subjects to study

2 reserve subjects



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What is the English Baccalaureate? (EBacc)

- EBacc is a measure to promote breadth of academic study. It is designed to ensure readiness for University.
- English, maths, science (2 or 3 GCSEs).
- French or German.
- History or Geography.
- One 'free' choice.

WHY?

- Top universities appreciate students having core subjects and 'rigorous' subjects.
- Over 70% of students here can access the top universities.
- Our advice is to choose a language and a humanities subject.

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The English Baccalaureate? (Ebacc)

Pick a language, a humanities and ONE other

Pick one language

- French
- German

AND pick one humanities

- Geography
- History

We will ask for 2 reserve subjects because we can not guarantee all of your choices.

- Art & Design
- Business Studies
- Computer Science
- Creative iMedia
- Design and Technology
- Drama
- French
- Geography
- Geology
- German
- Health and Social Care
- History
- Hospitality and Catering
- Music
- PE
- Psychology
- Separate Sciences
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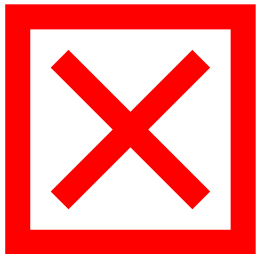


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The wrong reasons to pick a subject:

- Your friends are doing it.
- Your parents think it's a good idea – but you don't.
- You know someone who's done it and they say it's great.
- You think it will be easy and won't have to work hard.
- It sounds good even though you haven't researched it.
- A favourite teacher.



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The right reasons to pick a subject

- You like it or find it interesting.
- You're good at it.
- You need it or it's useful for your future career.
- You can develop new skills by doing it.
- You think you will do well in it.
- Your teachers, parents and you think it is a suitable choice for you.



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Taster day – Friday 17th March

- A chance to visit four subjects you are interested in.
- A chance to try out something new!
- Talk to the teachers.
- Everyone will do a UCAS training session.
- Form will be handed out tomorrow.
- Select your four choices and a UCAS session.
- Needs to be returned on Monday 6th March in Form.

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Start talking and finding things out!!! A reminder...

- Options information booklet on the website.
- Options information presentations from subjects on the St Hilda's website.
- Help from Form Tutor in PD, Subject Teachers and Heads of House.
- Taster Day including a UCAS session – Friday 17th March.
- Submit your choices electronically - Monday 20th March.
- Guidance Meetings with SLT - Monday 27th March.



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After the Taster Day....

- Submit options choices form by the end of Monday 20th March.
- Link will be sent electronically to the form.
- Attend guidance meeting to finalise choices.



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Questions

- What happens if my son/daughter makes a mistake in their choice?
- What about languages? Isn't it too much pressure for them?
- Could what they study in Year 10 affect their options at college and university?
- Why are you not forcing them to do the EBACC?



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Format of the evening

6:00 - 6:30 – Talk 1 from Mrs Code and Mr Bellmon

6:35 – 6:55 – Presentation for Subject 1

7:00 – 7:20 – Presentation for Subject 2

7:25 – 7:45 – Presentation for Subject 3

7:50 – 8:10 – Presentation for Subject 4

8:15 – 8:15 – Talk 2 from Mrs Code and Mr Bellmon

A bell will be rung at the end of each session – please make your way as quickly as possible to the next session.

Please check on the sheet given to you on arrival for the room numbers for each subject.



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Thank you for listening



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