

The Curriculum for years 9, 10 and 11

2017-2020

Aims

- To explain recent changes in government policy on the curriculum and qualifications.
- To explain Brookfield's curriculum plan for the next three years.
- To explain the option choices for students moving into year 9.
- To explain how information, advice and guidance will be offered.
- To explain the schedule for options and key deadlines.



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GCSE, AS and A level reforms in England



Why and how are GCSEs, AS and A levels changing?

GCSEs and A levels in England are being reformed, to match the best systems in the world and keep pace with universities' and employers' demands.

- GCSE content will be more challenging but still suitable for all abilities
- GCSEs will be graded on a new scale of 9 to 1 rather than A* to G as now, with 9 the highest grade, to distinguish clearly between the reformed and unreformed qualifications
- A levels will allow more time for studying and better prepare students for university
- AS levels will be stand alone qualifications to reduce the exam burden on students and teachers.



New GCSE grading structure

In the first year, the same proportion of students will achieve a grade 7 and above as currently achieve grade A and above

achieve a grade 4 and above as currently get C and above

achieve a grade 1 and above as currently get a grade G and above

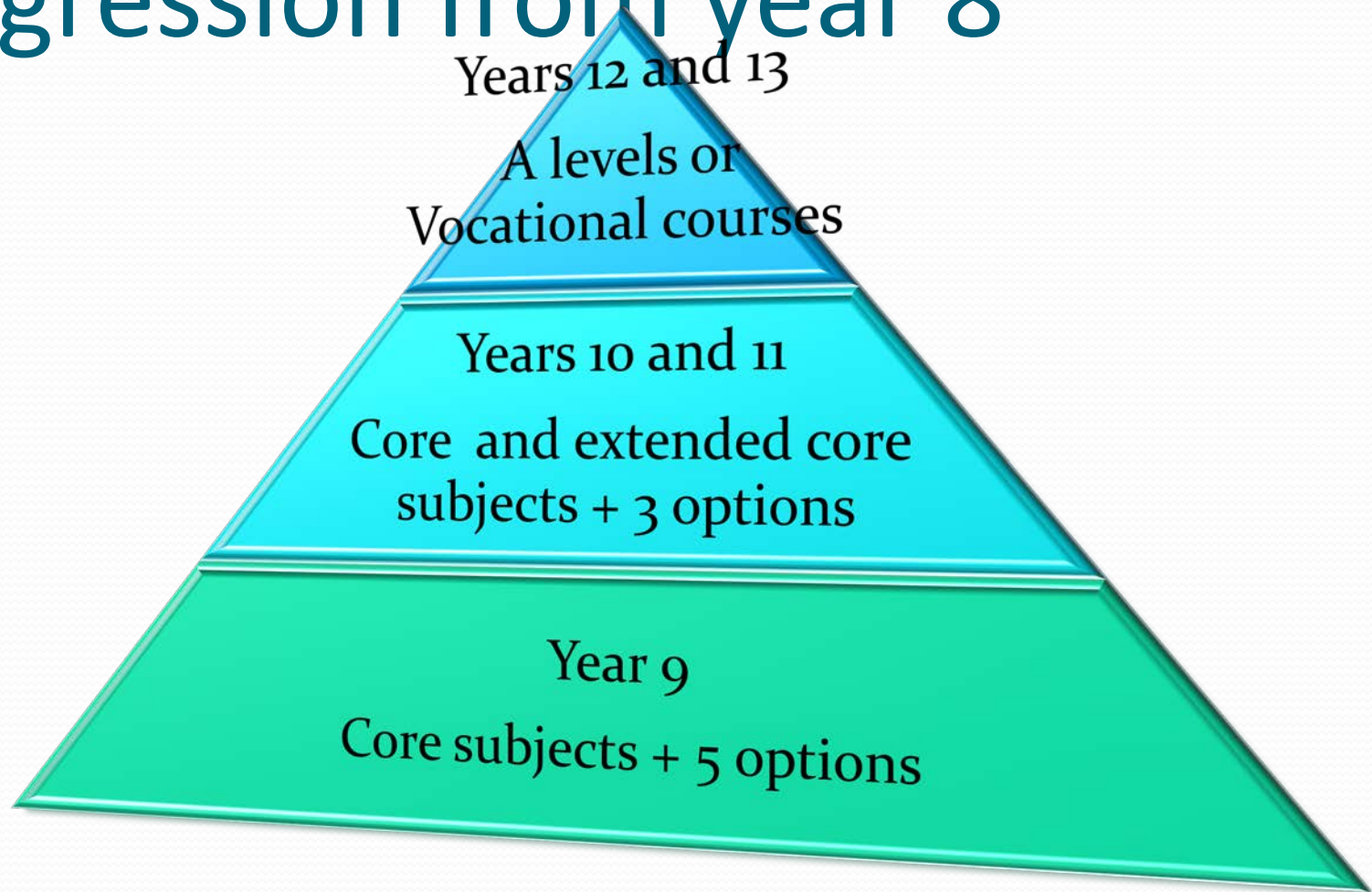
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Grading new GCSEs from 2017

New grading structure	Current grading structure
9	A*
8	A
7	A
6	B
5	B
4	C
3	D
2	E
1	F
1	G
U	U

GOOD PASS (DfE)
5 and above = top of C and above

AWARDING
4 and above = bottom of C and above

Progression from year 8



The Curriculum Plan

	Year 9 (2018-19)	Year 10 (2019-20)	Year 11 (2020-21)
English	7	8	8
Mathematics	7	8	8
Science	7	10	10
Foreign Language	4	5	5
Geography /History	3		
Computer Studies	3	*	*
Religious Studies	2	*	*
P.E.	4	3	3
PSE / Beliefs, Values and Life	1	1	1
Option A	3	5	5
Option B	3	5	5
Option C	3	5	5
Option D	3		

Year 9 Decisions

Foreign Language	1	French	German	Spanish
			You may only opt for German or Spanish if you are already learning them in year 8.	
Humanities	1	Geography	History	
P.E.	1	Pre GCSE PE /BTEC Sport	Core PE (You will not be able to select GCSE PE or BTEC Sport in Years 10 and 11)	

4 Other Options	Art	Art (Textiles)	Geography	Music
		Citizenship	History	Music Technology
<p>If any subject is over-subscribed, priority will be given to students who are working above, at, or if below, closer to their target grade.</p> <p>Students may <u>not</u> choose both music and music technology, both art and textiles or both D&T (Graphics) and D&T (Res Mats).</p>		Food Studies	Design & Technology (Graphics)	Design & Technology (Resistant Materials)
		Drama	Dance	French

Year 9 Options - PE

- Everyone will continue to take P.E. in years 9,10 and 11.
- If you think that you might want to study for a P.E. qualification in years 10 and 11 (either a GCSE or a BTEC) you will need to select the pre GCSE PE / BTEC Sport option.
- In year 9 you would then have one theory lesson per fortnight, as well as practical P.E. lessons.
- During year 9 you will then be able to decide whether you want to take GCSE PE, BTEC PE or not to do a PE qualification after all.

Possible Year 10/11 Options

Continued from Year 9	New in Year 10
Art (Fine Art)	Art (Photography)
Art (Textiles)	Business Enterprise
Citizenship	Business Studies
Dance	Computer Science
Drama	Creative iMedia
French	Food Preparation and Nutrition
Geography	Health and Social Care
German	Hospitality and Catering
D&T (Graphics or Resistant Materials)	ICT
History	
Music	
Music Technology	
PE(GCSE PE or BTEC Sport)	
Religious Studies	
Spanish	

N.B. – The availability of subjects for year 10 in 2019/20 has not yet been finalised and cannot be guaranteed. Some subjects not on this list may be available and others which are

Choosing your options

- **DO think about**

- What you hope to be doing in 3 – 5 years time. (Find out what qualifications you will need to get there.)
- What subjects you are doing well in.
- Advice from your teachers – they know you and they know the courses.
- How the course is assessed – will it suit you?
- Will the content of the course interest you?
- Have you chosen a good balance of courses – different types of subjects.

Choosing your options

- **DON'T think about**
 - What your friends are doing.
 - Which teachers you like or don't like.
- **DON'T**
 - Look for easy options – there are none.
 - Assume that new subjects will necessarily be better or more interesting than subjects you have studied already.

Year 8 Options Schedule 2018

- 19th February – Briefing for year 8 parents/carers
- February – Briefing for year 8 students (in PSE lessons)
- 26th February – publication of year 8 options booklet on website.
- 1st March – Year 8 subject evening
- 5th March – Year 8 options forms open on insight via the school website.
- 8th March – Year 8 options evening
- 23rd March – Deadline for submission of options
- June/July – Options confirmed
- September – Students begin option courses

How to submit your options

- Log on to Insight via the school website. Use your usual school user name and password.
- Select Year 8 Options and make your choices
 - Foreign Language
 - Humanities
 - PE
 - 4 other subjects
- Log out and then ask your parent/carer to log in.
- They will be able to see your option choices and need to approve them by clicking OK.
- Your options will then be submitted to school.

Year 8 Options

- Find out as much information as you can before making your choices.
- Think about what you need to do to achieve your long-term goals. Don't think only about the next year.
- Don't be influenced by the subjects your friends have selected. They might not have the same ambitions as you.
- Don't choose a subject because of the teacher. You are quite likely to have a different teacher next year.
- You will not be able to take a subject in years 10 and 11 if you have decided not to study it in year 9.