

David Nieper Academy – Options 2018

- No career paths closed off to students.
- These were some of the things I wanted to do as a child. None of them involved being a teacher!
- Very few young people know what they want to do, this is fine!



Key Dates

Activity	Date
Y8 Options Talk 6pm in the Hall Market place in the Canteen from 6.20-7.30pm	Tuesday 6 th March,
Options Taster Sessions for subjects. 50 minute lessons, students to pick 4 subjects to try. Forms in packs.	Friday 9 th March
Deadline for submission of options forms to tutors	Friday 16 th March
Students to be notified of choices	June

The Process

- You make your initial option choices on the options form ...
- This will dictate whether some subjects can or cannot be offered as options – you MUST think carefully about your choices, these should end up being the subjects you study for three years.
- The final date for pupils to submit options forms to tutors is Friday 16th March.

The Choices

You will study the following examined courses:

- **ENGLISH LANGUAGE and ENGLISH LITERATURE (2 X GCSE)**
- **MATHEMATICS (1 x GCSE)**
- **SCIENCE (CORE and ADDITIONAL – 2 or 3 x GCSE)**

In addition you will also take part in:

- Physical Education.
- Personal, Social Health Education, Careers Education and RE.

Core = 5 (All Students)

English Language
English Literature
Mathematics
Science

Physical Education (Core)
PSHE
(All Students)

Options = 4
x choices

GCSE Changes

- Grading has moved to a 9-1 scale, with grade nine being roughly equivalent to a top A* grade and a grade four equivalent to a low to mid-grade C.
- You will continue to receive 4 assessment point reports, from the Academy, which will outline your Son/Daughters working at grade and their attitude to learning score.
- We will keep you informed over the next three years as this grading system evolves.

New GCSE grades explained

9	A*
8	A
7	
6	B
5 (strong pass)	C
4 (standard pass)	
3	D
2	E
1	F
	G
U	U

EBACC

- The English Baccalaureate (EBacc) is awarded when students secure a grade 4 or above at GCSE level across a core of five academic subjects – **It is not a qualification in itself.**
- For some careers, university courses this combination of subjects may be beneficial. However, it may not be a combination that is appropriate for all students.
 - English
 - Mathematics
 - Science
 - French
 - Geography, History, Computer Science

Tips for making the right choices

- Here are some **good** reasons for choosing a subject:
 - you have **ability** in a subject and have **achieved good results**
 - you are **interested** in a particular subject
 - you **enjoy** a subject
- Here are some **bad** reasons for choosing a subject:
 - your friends have chosen the subject (it may not be appropriate for you)
 - you like the teacher (you may not stay with the same teacher)

Every year some pupils ignore the dos and don'ts and make the mistake of choosing subjects because they like a particular teacher or their friends are studying those subjects. This almost always results in serious mistakes being made with option choices and a lot of distress.

PLEASE make YOUR selections based only on what YOU want to study and believe YOU are good at.

Option Blocks 2018

A	B	C	D
GCSE Art	GCSE Food	GCSE Computer Science	GCSE Geography
GCSE History	BTEC Dance	BTEC Drama	GCSE Film Studies
BTEC Sport	GCSE French	GCSE Design Technology	GCSE Design Technology
GCSE Textiles	GCSE Geography	GCSE Religious Studies	BTEC Health and Social Care

Ebacc subjects are shown in orange.

Students cannot pick both BTEC Dance and BTEC Drama as these are similar qualifications. Students should avoid picking more than two subjects from Textiles, Food, Design Technology and Art as these all contain a heavy coursework element with deadlines in close proximity to each other.

Students can only pick French if they have taken this in Y7 and Y8.

Students cannot pick Geography or Design Technology twice.

Options Taster Day

Name:

Form:

Y8 Options Taster Day – Friday 9th March

All year 8 will be off timetable P1-P4 to try 4 options subjects on Friday 9th March. Students will be back in normal lessons P5 and P6.

Students need to pick one subject per period to try out each lesson from the choices below and hand this sheet to tutors or Mr Endacott by Wednesday 7th March.

Students need to attend 4 taster sessions on Friday.

Students will be notified of sessions by tutors on Thursday.

P1	P2	P3	P4
Religious Studies Mrs Worthy	History Mrs Clarke	Health and Social Care	Geography Mr Ruddy
Film Studies Mrs Heeley <u>Creegan</u>	French Mr Clerc	Food Mrs Adani	Textiles Mrs Adani
Geography Mr Ruddy	Dance Mrs Turner	Design and Technology Mrs Thorpe	Drama Mrs Turner
Sport Mr Brankin	Computer Science Mr Endacott	Art Miss Hallam	Design and Technology

Taster Day choices

	P1	P2	P3	P4
First Choice				
Second Choice				

What Now?

- Speak to the Heads of Faculty and Subject Teachers about any of the courses on offer. Core subjects included also.
- Ask about details of courses – exam/coursework, subject specific commitments, queries etc.
- Parents; ask about your child's potential in that subject.
- Discuss future aspirations/intentions/college/employment.
- Fill in the sheet for taster day on Friday and hand to Mr Endacott or your form tutor tonight or tomorrow.

