

# Welcome to Year 9 Options 2023

Mrs Abbs-Rowe



This presentation will be available via the school website from tomorrow, along with a copy of the Options Booklet. Students received a copy of the Options Booklet today.

# Tonight we aim to:

- Introduce parents/carers to Woking High School's KS4 curriculum for 2023 - 2025;
- Explain the Options process;
- Inform you about the range of courses on offer;
- Answer any questions that you may have;
- Give you time to speak to the specialist staff to help you make informed decisions.



# Things we have done so far to assist students in making choices:

- Aspire to Be Day – November 2022 – Year 9 students started their round of taster lessons in the subjects that are not taught at KS3 (Astronomy, Business, Child Development, Media and Catering).
- Aspire to Be Day - January 2023 – Year 9 Careers Day.
- Session 1 - networking event with over 30 employers in school. Students interviewed a range of employers to find out what different careers involved.
- Session 2 – Innervate led careers session.
- Session 3 – Session led by Surrey University looking at post-18 education and planning.
- Session 4 – Further taster sessions.
- Spring Term – A2B tutor led sessions have looked at post-16 options and looking at personal strengths.

# The options process timeline:

- Options Booklet – distributed to students today.
- 6<sup>th</sup> March – options presentation and subject fair.
- 23rd March – Y9 consultation evening.
- 30th March – submission date.

**'At Key stage 4, the curriculum contains a broad range of appropriate subjects and pupils have a free choice of option subjects'**

# Who can help?

- Mrs Abbs-Rowe – Assistant Headteacher.
- Mr Goosen – Head of Year.
- Mrs Jarman – In school Careers Coordinator.
- Claire Milne – Innervate Careers Advisor.
- Mrs Skerritt – Pastoral Coordinator
- Mrs Grant - SENCo.
- Tutors.
- Subject staff.

# Key Stage Four Curriculum

## The Core Curriculum:

<b>English Language</b>	<b>1 GCSE</b>
<b>English Literature</b>	<b>1 GCSE</b>
<b>Mathematics</b>	<b>1 GCSE</b>
<b>Science Trilogy OR Triple</b>	<b>2 or 3 GCSEs</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>5 or 6 GCSEs</b>

*(26/28 out of the 50 lessons 52%/56%)*

# Core Curriculum – Why?

## **Compulsory Subjects:**

- Legislation
- Needed by college and employers who demand good levels of literacy and numeracy.

In addition:

- Students will also follow a course of Recreational PE.
- A2B, Citizenship and Careers.

# The options

## Option subjects:

- Students choose 4 option subjects and 2 reserves;
- Five hours allocated to each subject;
- **18** courses offered.

*(20 out of the 50 lessons 40%)*

Please note:

We use the term options as there is a choice of subjects to choose between, not because there is a choice to complete them or not.



# Key Stage Four Curriculum

English Language	1 GCSE
English Literature	1 GCSE
Mathematics	1 GCSE
Science Trilogy OR Triple	2 or 3 GCSEs
4 Options choices	4 GCSEs
<b>Total</b>	<b>9 or 10 GCSEs</b>

## In addition...

- Able Mathematicians will be offered the chance to study GCSE Statistics and Further Maths.
- Students will be approached with details about these qualifications through their Maths teacher in the Autumn Term.

**‘the curriculum is ambitious and well designed, with strong academic and vocational elements’**

**Ofsted 2019**

# Reformed GCSEs:

- All GCSEs will be graded on a scale from 1 to 9 (9 is the highest with 1 the lowest).
- Grade 4 = Standard Pass, Grade 5 = Strong Pass.
- Students will need to re-sit English and Maths if they do not achieve at **least a 4**.
- Greater emphasis has been placed on good literacy and numeracy skills.
- Changes to the school leaving age mean students need to be in education or training to the age of 18.

# Qualifications - GCSE:

## **General Certificate of Secondary Education**

Mainly terminal exams.

Some NEA (Non-Examined Assessments)

- Internally assessed.
- Externally moderated.
  
- Level 2 Grades 9-4, Level 1 grades 3-1.

# GCSE courses:

16 courses on offer

- Art and Design
- Business
- Design and Technology
- Food Preparation and Nutrition
- Geography
- Latin
- Media Studies
- Religious Studies
- \*Astronomy
- \*Computer Science
- \*Drama
- \*French
- \*History
- \*Music
- \*Physical Education
- \*Spanish

# What are Technical Awards?

- Vocational learning qualifications offered by Cambridge exam board.
- Vocational courses provide the skills related to a specific career.
- Assessed through coursework and external assessment and tend to have exams throughout the course. Allowing the use of practical skills.
- Worth the same as a GCSE.
- Very clear progression routes from Level 2 to Level 3 (post-16).

# Technical Awards we offer

2 courses:

- Child Development
- Hospitality and Catering

# Options are not optional!

Making choices advice given to students this morning:

- Broad and balanced, not too similar.
- Choose subjects that will allow you to keep your pathways and choices for college open.
- Choose subjects with a range of assessments, some linear and NEA based, so it can be spread out during the year.



# Parental involvement

## Discourage students from:

- Copying friends' or siblings' choices.
- Choosing courses because they like the teacher.
- Choosing a subject just because it is new.
- Choosing a subject because others think they should.

## Encourage students to:

- Consider their post-16 plans.
- Choose courses they find interesting.
- Choose subjects that they are good at.
- Choose subjects that they enjoy.
- Take their time to select, considering the choices and making time to discuss it as a family.
- Have a look at post-16 provider website together.
- Look at Unifrog together to talk through choices and decisions.

# Summary

- **Four** courses from the 18.
- **Two** reserve choices.
- **All** choices have to be made online by 30<sup>th</sup> March.

# SIMS options online

- Options selection is made electronically.
- Students will be sent an email invite to their school email address tomorrow.
- A help video will be available on Class Charts from tomorrow too.
- I will be available every break and lunchtime in L6 for support and help.
- There is no rush to do this; it is not first come first served, so use the time available to make considered choices.



# GCSE English Language

DEPARTMENT	EXAM BOARD WEBSITE	SPECIFICATION NUMBER
English	<a href="http://www.aqa.org.uk">www.aqa.org.uk</a>	7551
LEVELS	ASSESSMENT (H/U)	COURSE CONTACT
No tiers of entry	100% Linear Exam	<a href="mailto:enquiries@wokinghs.wyke.norfolk.sch.uk">enquiries@wokinghs.wyke.norfolk.sch.uk</a>

This course offers a skills-based approach to the study of English. It gives students the opportunity to improve and then demonstrate their functional competence, ability to investigate, analyse and use language creatively.

**Assessment**  
Students will be assessed by two Language examination papers.

**UNIT 1 - Communicating Information and Ideas 50% (2 hours exam)**  
Students will respond to a 19th Century non-fiction text and a non-fiction text from either the 20th or 21st Century. The exam papers will test students' comprehension skills and their ability to compare and analyse texts. Students will also complete a writing task that may be thematically linked to the original source material.

**UNIT 2 - Exploring Effects and Impact 50% (2 hours exam)**  
Students will respond to two texts from either the 20th or 21st Century. Questions will examine comprehension and the ability to synthesise information, compare and analyse text. They will also complete a piece of creative writing.

**Spoken Language - Separately Endorsed**  
The students will complete a speaking task that will not form part of their GCSE qualification, but will be acknowledged separately on their final certificate and is compulsory.

**Successful students are...**  
Those who can demonstrate skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing necessary to communicate with others confidently, effectively, precisely and appropriately.

**Progression**  
Students can study A-Level English Language, Literature or a combined A Level qualification. The analytical skills required for GCSE English are excellent preparation for subjects such as Sociology, Psychology and Law. The study of English benefits a broad range of careers especially Journalism, Publishing, Law and Media.

# Triple GCSE Sciences

DEPARTMENT	EXAM BOARD WEBSITE	SPECIFICATION NUMBER
Science	<a href="http://www.aqa.org.uk">www.aqa.org.uk</a>	8461, 8462, 8463
LEVELS	ASSESSMENT (H/U)	COURSE CONTACT
Paper 1 (Grades 9-10) Foundation (Grades 5-10)	100% Linear Exam	<a href="mailto:sciences@wokinghs.wyke.norfolk.sch.uk">sciences@wokinghs.wyke.norfolk.sch.uk</a>

The Science Department offers the opportunity for able and enthusiastic scientists to study each of the three Science disciplines - Biology, Chemistry and Physics - as separate GCSE qualifications. The number of each course allows students to develop a highly detailed knowledge and deeper understanding of the scientific concepts. Students who study Triple Science are allocated 12 hours of curriculum time as opposed to the 10 given to study of the Triple GCSE course. Each subject is taught by a specialist teacher.

**Assessment**  
Each of the 3 GCSEs is assessed through linear exams. There are 2 papers for each subject (a total of 6 papers). Each of the papers will assess knowledge and understanding from distinct topic areas. Each written exam is available at Foundation or Higher tier and a student must sit the same tier for both exams in each subject. Each exam will be 1 hour 45 minutes long and worth 100 marks. Each paper will contribute 50% of the mark for that particular Science GCSE. It will include multiple choice, structured, closed short answer and open response styles of questions. Students have to participate in practical activities during the course in order to answer questions in the exams about what they have learned from the activities in the final exams.

**Successful Students are...**  
Those who have a genuine curiosity about the world around them. They often also have a logical approach to problem solving. Students studying Triple Science also need to be able to cope with the greater depth of subject knowledge required by the syllabus.

**Progression**  
By studying three GCSE Science subjects, students will be well prepared should they wish to take A-Level Science. It would also provide an excellent base for Science based courses at University such as medicine, dentistry, veterinary, forensic or research Science.

# GCSE Drama

DEPARTMENT	EXAM BOARD WEBSITE	SPECIFICATION NUMBER
Drama	<a href="http://www.aqa.org.uk">www.aqa.org.uk</a>	8261
LEVELS	ASSESSMENT (H/U)	COURSE CONTACT
No tiers of entry	100% Performance 40% Written examination	<a href="mailto:drama@wokinghs.wyke.norfolk.sch.uk">drama@wokinghs.wyke.norfolk.sch.uk</a>

Drama is an exciting subject, evening lessons and experiences through a range of activities and an audience through varying theatrical styles. GCSE Drama combines both performance work and academic study.

**Explore drama as a practical art form in which ideas and meaning are communicated to an audience through choices of form, style and convention. Students will create, perform and analyse drama informed by their theoretical knowledge of drama and theatre.**

**Assessment**

**Component 1: Understanding Drama** - Students will develop knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre, study a set play ('Blood Brothers') and evaluate a live theatre performance (inspired by a theatre visit) in preparation for a written examination at the end of the course, contributing 40% of the final grade.

**Component 2: Devising Drama** - Students will develop ideas in response to a range of stimuli in order to create a devised performance for assessment, worth 10% of the final grade. Each student will also be assessed on the completion of a Devising Log, documenting the creation and development of their ideas, as well as analysis and evaluation of their own work; this constitutes 30% of the final grade.

**Component 3: Texts in Practice** - Students will be assessed on the performance of two extracts from one play. The performance will be assessed by an external examiner and is worth 20% of the final grade.

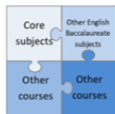
**Successful students are...** reflective, analytical, determined and enjoy problem-solving and performing. These students are particularly well suited to the demands of drama.

**Progression:** GCSE Drama is a good stepping stone to a career in theatre, media, radio, the literary industry, sales and marketing, drama therapy and public relations work. The study of Drama can help you develop transferable skills into any career.

## Decisions:

Use this page to help you plan the order of your choices. Mark on here the decisions that you make so that you have them to refer to.

Options Selection:	One from this column	Three plus Two resources from this column.
	Selection 1 - Preference subject	Consider carefully the order of these choices. (Refer to page 5 for help)
	French Spanish Latin Geography History	Art and Design Astronomy Business Computer Science Child Development (Technical Award) Creative Media Production (BTEC) Design and Technology Drama Food and Nutrition French Geography History Hospitality and Catering (Technical Award) Information Technologies (Technical Award) Latin Music Media Studies PE (BTEC) Physical Education Religious Studies Spanish



# Options Booklet 2023

\*Printed copy was given to all students today.

\*An electronic version will be posted on Class Charts to view from tomorrow.

\*An electronic pdf version will be on the website from tomorrow, along with this presentation.

# Deadline:

## 30th March 2023

(Choices will be confirmed by 1<sup>st</sup> July. If we can't accommodate 100% of choices, we will contact students earlier to discuss this with them.)

**For more information about Options please contact:**

**Mrs Abbs-Rowe** ([MABBBSROWE@wokinghigh.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:MABBBSROWE@wokinghigh.surrey.sch.uk))

**Mr Goosen** ([BGoesen@wokinghigh.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:BGoesen@wokinghigh.surrey.sch.uk))

**Mrs Jarman** ([cjarman@wokinghigh.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:cjarman@wokinghigh.surrey.sch.uk))

Parents/carers can make appointments to discuss options if required; see options book for details.

Thank you for listening.

## Subject Fair is in the Main Hall:

In the Main Hall, you now have an opportunity to meet subject staff and to find out more about the options on offer.

You will also find our Innervate Careers Advisor, Claire Milne, and Mrs Jarman our school Careers Co-ordinator in the hall who can give help and advice.

Post-16 providers are there too, so you can chat about courses after Year 11 and the requirements for the next step.

Mrs Walter will also be available for further help and advice.