

# WHICH WAY NOW?

Name:

2025

## How to choose your key stage 4 options

Help

Support

Advice

Your choices

Your future

## The Options Process

During January and February, you will need to make important choices about the subjects you will study in Year 10 and Year 11 so you can hand in your final options form in March.

This booklet helps with the thinking you will need to do if you are going to make sensible, informed choices.

You will work through this booklet during registration time starting on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February. Each day you will have different activities to complete that will help you to reflect on your areas of strength and your interests. On Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February, you will have Options Hour, which will give you the chance to speak to students currently studying the courses available. This will be a great chance to ask what the courses are really like and hopefully support you in making a more informed choice. On Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February we will have Options Evening in which you and your parents will be able to come into school and talk to members of staff about the options you are thinking about.

Your choices form will need to be returned no later than **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March**. An electronic form will be shared with you to complete closer to the time once you have had your options interview with a member of the Senior Team. Make sure you use the time between now and then to think very carefully about what might be the best courses for you.

This booklet will start you on this process.

After the deadline date of  
**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March,**  
you may not be able to change your mind.

It is important for you to realise that it may not be possible for you to do all of the subjects that you choose.

## ACTIVITY 1: Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February

### Where am I now?

Before you decide what you want to do, it is useful to find out where you are now. Start with a review of your schoolwork by filling in the tables below from your latest Progress Check report.

**Start to get a clear picture in your mind of which subjects you are best at.**

**What grades does my Progress Check say I will get in these subjects?**

	Predicted Grade	On course to meet target?	Effort	Would this be a suitable subject for me to study in Year 10 and 11?
Art				
DT				
English				<b>Everyone studies this subject</b>
Geography				
History				
ICT				
Languages				
Maths				<b>Everyone studies this subject</b>
Music				
PE				
RE				<b>Everyone studies this subject</b>
Science				<b>Everyone studies this subject</b>

**What realistic targets can you set yourself?**

	GCSE Grade								
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
English Language									
English Literature									
Maths									
RE									
Science									
French/German									
History									
Geography									
Computer Science									

## **ACTIVITY 2: Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February**

### **Which subjects will suit me most?**

This task asks you to reflect on yourself a little bit more and the strengths that you have as a learner. Some students might enjoy practical activities more, so subjects like PE or Drama might be better for them. Others might enjoy more creative activities, so subjects like Art or Design Technology might be a sensible choice.

Look at the questions below:

Questions to consider	What about me?
Do you like practical subjects?	
Are you creative?	
Are you good at revising for written exams or prefer more coursework based subjects?	
Are you academic? Do you think learning a foreign language would be useful to you?	
Do you enjoy science? Are you achieving 6+ in Science and Maths and would like to do science more than once each day?	
Which subjects do you like most?	

### **ACTIVITY 3: Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February**

#### **What does and what does not matter most when I make my choices?**

Look at the list below and read through the reasons for choosing a subject.

Rank order them. Put 1 by the reason which you think is the most important for you to consider when choosing a subject. Put 2 by the next most important, and so on, down to 8 by the least important reason.

Don't forget to give a reason why each one is important or not.

<b>Reason</b>	<b>Rank Order</b>	<b>Why is it important/not important?</b>
<b>I like the subject</b>		
<b>I need it for my career</b>		
<b>I'm likely to get a good grade</b>		
<b>My friend is doing it</b>		
<b>It suits my learning style</b>		
<b>I like the teacher</b>		
<b>I think it looks interesting</b>		
<b>My teacher thinks I should do it</b>		

**When you are making your mind up, do not be influenced by the things that do not matter and do not ignore the things that do matter.**

**ACTIVITY 4: Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February**

**Preparation for Options Hour**

Tomorrow you will have a chance to speak to students and staff about the courses available to you to choose for your GCSE's.

It will be really important for you to go and talk to as many different people in your 15-minute slot as possible. You may have some ideas of subjects you would like to talk to more than others, but it will be important for you to go to as many as possible so you get a good idea of everything available to you.

Use your time today to think about some questions you might like to ask staff and students about the courses.

Questions to ask students:

Questions to ask staff:

Subjects or Courses that you are particularly interested in:

**ACTIVITY 5: after Wednesday 12<sup>h</sup> February**

**Interview Preparation**

**Justification Sheet**

In the five boxes below, you are going to explain why you have chosen your options in the order that you have. It is important that you give as much information as is possible as, during your interview with a member of the senior leadership team, you will be expected to discuss these reasons in detail.

<b>EBacc Subject Choice:</b>	<b>Why would you like to study this course?</b>
<b>Free Option 1:</b>	<b>Why would you like to study this course?</b>
<b>Free Option 2:</b>	<b>Why would you like to study this course?</b>
<b>Free Option 3:</b>	<b>Why would you like to study this course?</b>
<b>Free Option 4:</b>	<b>Why would you like to study this course?</b>

**Checklist:**

Tick off each of these tasks once they are completed.

<b>Task</b>	<b>Completed?</b>
Listened to Assembly 1 on Options	
Completed the Which Way Now Booklet	
Studied the Curriculum Booklet	
Listened to Assembly 2 on Options	
Attended Options Hour	
Done my research and prepared for interview	
Asked my parents for advice	
Completed and returned electronic options form	





# Soar Valley

Year 9 Options Choices 2025

Use this form to keep a record of your choices.



Name..... Tutor Group.....

### Progress Check 2 Grades

English		Science		History	
Maths		French/German		Geography	

**EBacc Subject Choice: You must choose ONE.** Please tick the EBacc option that you wish to study.

French		Geography		Computer Science	
German		History			

You may select other EBacc subjects in the Open Option section if you wish to study more than one.

You will be able to study two of the subjects listed below but we cannot guarantee you will be able to study your top two choices. You need to rank order your top **FOUR** choices. Put a 1, 2, 3 and 4 against the subjects you wish to study. Put the number 1 by the subject you wish to do most, 2 by the next, etc.

### Open Option Choices:

Art—Fine Art		Food Prep & Nutrition		Media Production	
Art—Graphics		French		Music	
Art—Photography		Geography		Physical Education	
Citizenship		German			
Computer Science		History			
Design Technology		ICT			

Remember, you must be prepared to do any of the four that you choose.

The final copy of this form must be returned no later than Friday 7th March

# ASPIRE ENJOY ACHIEVE