



ORMISTON ILKESTON
ENTERPRISE ACADEMY

Year 9 Options Booklet: Student Information



COURAGE



AMBITION



RESPECT



EXCELLENCE

Dear Year, 9 Student,

As you approach selecting your Year 10 options, remember the importance of these choices in shaping your academic journey and future opportunities. You will shortly be making your options choices, these are the subjects you will study throughout years 10 and 11, alongside the core subjects.

Consider both your interests and long-term goals when making selections. A balanced mix of core subjects and optional courses will provide you with a well-rounded education and diverse skill set.

We're here to support you through this process, offering guidance and answering any questions you may have. Take time to review the options resources on the website and discuss options with teachers, parents, and peers. Your thoughtful decisions now will pave the way for future success.

What are the core subjects?

At Key stage 4 core subjects are studied by all students, regardless of their options choices. These subjects are:

- English Language and English Literature
- Maths
- Triple Science
- PSHE and Core RE
- Core Physical Education

What are the options choices?

You will be asked to choose three subjects from our list of options subjects. These subjects enable the curriculum to be personalised to your individual interests or needs.

Choice 1 – This is a choice between two of our EBacc subjects, History or Geography.

Choice 2/3 – These are free choices from the following subjects.

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| History | OCR Sports Studies | GCSE Art |
| Geography | BTEC Enterprise | GCSE Design and Technology |
| German | BTEC Performing Arts (Drama) | GCSE Music |
| | BTEC Health and Social Care | GCSE RE |
| | OCR Creative iMedia | |
| | WJEC Hospitality and Catering | |

What is the EBacc?

The English Baccalaureate (EBacc) offers students a broad and balanced education by requiring core subjects including English, mathematics, science, a language, and humanities. It prepares you for further education by emphasising traditional academic disciplines valued by universities and employers, enhancing employability through transferable skills.

Studying languages and humanities fosters cultural awareness and communication skills crucial in a globalised world.

The EBacc provides standardised recognition of academic achievement, serving as a benchmark for excellence and ensuring students are equipped for success in higher education and the workforce, though its suitability may vary depending on individual interests and career goals.

To study the EBacc at OIEA students would be required to study German alongside either Geography or History.

How do I choose my options?

When choosing your Key Stage 4 options the following information should help guide your choices.

Choosing your options subjects is an important decision that can significantly shape your academic journey and future career prospects. Here are a few areas to consider that will help you make informed choices based on your interests, strengths, and future aspirations:

- **Identify Your Interests:** Consider subjects that genuinely interest you and align with your passions. Reflect on topics you enjoy learning about and activities you find engaging. Choosing subjects, you're enthusiastic about can enhance your motivation and enjoyment of learning.
- **Assess Your Strengths:** Reflect on subjects where you excel or have a natural aptitude. Recognising your strengths can guide you towards subjects where you're likely to thrive and achieve success. However, don't shy away from challenging yourself in areas where you may have less experience – this can lead to personal growth and skill development.
- **Explore Future Education and Career Paths:** Research potential career paths or areas of study you're interested in pursuing after secondary school. Identify any specific subject requirements or recommended courses for your desired fields. Consider subjects that provide relevant knowledge and skills for your future endeavours.
- **Review Course Content:** Take the time to review the content and structure of each subject you're considering. Look into the topics covered, coursework requirements, and assessment methods. Consider how many exams are included and when they are sat. Some coursework subjects enable you to spread out assessment across years 10 and 11.
- **Keep Long-Term Goals in Mind:** While it's essential to focus on subjects you enjoy and excel in now, also consider how your options choices may impact your future opportunities. Think about how your chosen subjects can support your long-term academic and career goals.

Remember, your options choices are a personal decision, and there's no one-size-fits-all approach. Take the time to reflect on your interests, strengths, and aspirations, and choose subjects that will inspire and challenge you while setting you up for future success.

To further support you with the decision-making process you will have meetings with members of the Senior Leadership Team following the submission of your provisional option choices.

Should you have any specific questions regarding subjects you can speak to your subject teacher. Alternatively, you can contact subject leaders via email, contact details for key staff are included below.

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| Mr J Lockhart | Assistant Principal with responsibility for the options process. | jlockhart@oiea.co.uk |
| Mr O Forster | Vice Principal for Quality of Education | oforster@oiea.co.uk |
| Mrs T Marriott | Assistant Principal: SENDCO | tmarriott@oiea.co.uk |
| Mrs A Pape | Assistant Principal with responsibility for Careers Information, Advice and Guidance | apape@oiea.co.uk |
| Mr O Cotton Mrs A Magill | Co-curriculum Directors responsible for Maths, Enterprise and iMedia | ocotton@oiea.co.uk amagill@oiea.co.uk |
| Mrs K Spalding | Curriculum Director responsible for English and Languages | kspalding@oiea.co.uk |
| Mr S Cross | Curriculum Director responsible for Science, Health and Social Care and Sport | scross@oiea.co.uk |
| Mr J Fotheringham | Curriculum Director responsible for History, Geography and RE | jfotheringham@oiea.co.uk |
| Mr B Underhill | Curriculum Director responsible for Art, Design Technology, Drama, Music and Hospitality | bunderhill@oiea.co.uk |

Timeline for the Options Process:

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| Monday 12 th February | Information about the 2024 Options process is available on the academy website. https://www.oiea.co.uk/curriculum/gcse-options |
| Thursday 15 th February | Year 9 Parents' and Carers' Evening. |
| Friday 16 th February | Online options portal opens. |
| Wednesday 13 th March | Deadline for provisional options choices to be submitted. |
| Monday 25 th March | Options meetings with SLT begin. |
| May 2024 | A letter confirming options choices will be sent to students, parents, and carers. |
| Friday 27 th September 2024 | <p>Most students are very happy with their choices; however, we know that some students will change their minds about their choices in September. Students can make changes where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• They have discussed the reasons for the change with Mr Lockhart. They must give a POSITIVE reason for wanting to opt for a different subject.• There is a place available in the subject.• The change has been discussed with parents/carers and agreed.• They agree to catch up work missed, even if this requires attendance at extra sessions after school to do so. <p>Changes can only be made up to Friday 27th September. After this date, we do not allow changes, as there is too much missed work to catch up.</p> |