



KS4 SUBJECT SPECIALISMS

2024-26



KS4 SUBJECT

SPECIALISMS

**You will start the process of
choosing which subjects you
want to study at GCSE in
January**



KEY DATES

KS4 SUBJECT SPECIALISMS 2024-26



WC MONDAY 8TH JANUARY

The Subject Specialism booklet will be available on the school website and emailed to parents. Have a look and start to think about which subjects you may want to consider choosing!



FROM 8TH JANUARY

Subject Specialists information sessions: Teachers will discuss what you can expect from their subject at GCSE. This will happen in your usual lessons where time will be given to provide information about the GCSE course.



THURSDAY 11TH JANUARY

Meet the Professionals: You will have the opportunity to meet professionals who work in industry and ask questions about their career. This will introduce you to careers you may not have thought about which will help you decide on which subject would be most suitable!



THURSDAY 25TH JANUARY

Year 9 subject specialist evening: You will be able to come into school with your parents to speak to teachers to find out about the different subjects you might want to study. You will also have a parents evening appointment for English, Maths and Science.



TUESDAY 30TH JANUARY

Specialism's Taster Morning: You will participate in three 50-minute taster sessions to give you the opportunity to experience 'new' subjects and make an informed decision about whether or not you wish to specialise in them.



WEDNESDAY 1ST FEBRUARY

Deadline for Specialisms choices: This is the first week back after the February half term so there will be the opportunity for some last minute conversations at home before making final choices! You must make your specialisms choices by this date.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, YOUR TUTOR WILL BE THE FIRST POINT OF CONTACT FOR BOTH YOU AND YOUR PARENTS.

Where can you find the Specialisms Booklet?

- You will receive an email today with the guide attached
- The year 9 Google Classroom
- The school website specialism page
- It will be emailed home to parents today



CHOOSING YOUR SPECIALISMS

All students will study:

- English Language GCSE and English Literature GCSE
- Maths GCSE
- Combined Science (worth 2 GCSEs)/Triple Science (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) which is worth 3 GCSEs as a specialism subject

You will all choose a **Humanities specialism (1 GCSE)**

Students choose Geography GCSE or History GCSE or Religious Education GCSE. (Students can also take another Humanities subject if they wish to.)

You will choose a Languages (or Vocational) Specialism (1 GCSE)

Students choose German GCSE or French GCSE or Mandarin GCSE. This should be the language you have studied in Year 9.



WHAT IF I DON'T WANT TO STUDY A LANGUAGE?

- For a small number of students, a Languages GCSE may not be appropriate. These students may apply to take one of our vocational qualifications that are the equivalent of 1 GCSE instead:
- Health and Social Care OCR Cambridge National
- iMedia OCR Cambridge National
- Music Technology VCERT
- All students can study these subjects as well as their Languages GCSE.



CHOOSING YOUR SPECIALISMS

2 Further Specialism Choices (2 GCSEs)

Any 2 subjects from the following:

GCSE subjects:

Art
Business Studies
Computer Science
Design Technology – Product Design
Design Technology – Textiles
Drama
Food Preparation and Nutrition
French
Geography
German
History
Mandarin

Media studies

Music

PE

Photography

Psychology

Religious Education

Triple Science

Vocational (GCSE equivalent) courses:

Creative iMedia Cambridge National

Health and Social Care Cambridge National

Music Technology VCERT

Preparation for Adult Life Level 1 (by invitation)



What should I do now?

Read the Specialisms Booklet and:

- Know the key dates
- Find out about different courses
- Find out if there are any entry requirements for the courses you want to study
- Prepare questions you may have ready for January

Enjoy your Christmas and be prepared to come back in January ready to start the process of choosing your specialism

