



Year 9 Options Choices

Tips on choosing your GCSEs in Year 9



Overview of today's session:

Good Morning Year 9, over the next 4 sessions we will be looking at some “top tips” to help and support you to make your Year 9 GCSE Options choices.

You will have the opportunity to:-

- gain some tips on how to choose your GCSE options
- watch useful videos to help you make your choices
- look at resources to research different subject areas and the types of careers different subjects could lead to
- look at some personality quizzes which will help you to identify potential careers which suit your likes/dislikes and personality type
- complete activities to aid your decision making

Today we will be focusing on looking at some of the things to take into account when choosing your GCSE Options.



Up until now you have had to study all the subjects offered by school but now is the time when you can have some say about what you'll study next.

This is your chance to take some time to really think about the subjects you most enjoy and would like to study further in Years 10 & 11.

If you already have some clear career ideas in mind this is also the opportunity for you to think about which subjects you will need in the future to follow your ideal career path.

If you do not have a career area in mind don't worry, there will be lots of information to help you choose the subjects you feel you will enjoy, and will leave your options open for the future.



When choosing your options you need to think about.....

- ▶ **YOU**. Remember to think about **YOU** when making your choices. Make your own decisions and don't follow what your friends are doing. If you let other people choose for you, you could end up studying subjects or courses that do not suit **you!**
- ▶ Think about what **you** like/dislike both in school and outside school.
- ▶ The subjects **you** are good at and likely to do well in and the subjects **you** enjoy.
- ▶ **Your** skills, qualities, strengths & interests.
- ▶ **Your** future career ideas - are any specific subjects needed? Have you considered all possible careers - are there jobs you don't know about? Are your career ideas right for you?
- ▶ The subjects offered by Fulford School that you can choose from.
- ▶ Skills shortages and jobs of the future.
- ▶ Choose subjects and careers where you can use your skills and qualities and not jobs you think of as being for you because you are male/female. Sometimes some people think of certain jobs as being for men or women, this means they are not doing jobs that would suit them best.
- ▶ Keeping your options open by choosing a broad and balanced range of subjects.



Bad reasons for choosing an option

- ▶ Your friends are doing it
- ▶ You think it will be easy
- ▶ You really like the teacher you've got now
- ▶ Your parents think it is a good idea but you do not
- ▶ You can't think of anything else to choose
- ▶ It sounds good even though you haven't found out about it
- ▶ You think you should do it - even if you don't want to



Activity - *Form Teacher to play the following 5 short videos highlighted in pink.* These videos contain useful “top tips” on what to consider when choosing your GCSE options in Year 9. There are also a couple of links to useful websites you can take a look at in school, or at home.

Top Tips for choosing GCSE Options - <https://youtu.be/fEp62Xk0tn8>

Everything you need to know about choosing your GCSE subjects - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zrjh92p>

What I wish I'd known before choosing my options - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/z7jsd6f>

How to choose your exam subjects wisely for the future you want - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zmwn8xs>

How your GCSE choices can support your future career - <https://careers.startprofile.com/content/media/Educational/GCSE/Videos/3MH-GCSE-vid-Xavier.mp4>

What GCSEs should I take to become a....? - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zmskpg8>

Where could your favourite subject take you? - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zhst2sg>