

# Year 9 - Careers Stop the Clock

30<sup>th</sup> January 2023

## Big Question?

**What courses  
will I follow in  
Years 10 and 11?**



# Course Information Booklet and 'Which Way Now'



- Today you will receive the 'Course Information Booklet' and have access to the 'Which Way Now' booklet online.
- You will be reading through these and making sure that you understand them.
- You will be using this information to make some very important decisions about what to study next year.
- You will receive your application form online, this needs to be completed and returned by **Wednesday 15th February**



# Who can help me with my choices?

Get as much information about the GCSE/BTEC courses you are interested in taking so that you can make a fully informed decision – Don't forget – It's your choice

– **Where can you get the information you need?:** -

- Your 'Course Information' booklet and your 'Which Way Now' interactive booklet.
- Parents, carers, form tutors, learning support staff, your Careers Advisor – Mrs Butler and the Careers team and teachers can give their views – **Remember it is your choice and your decision.**
- Take a look at the subject videos on the Rushey Mead website-Pupils-Year 9 options where you can gain an informative and realistic view of the courses.



*Can I help you?*



# What do I choose as I want to go to university?

Don't worry!



You will already be taking GCSE courses in: -

- Science – either Combined = 2 x GCSEs or separate sciences = 3 x GCSEs
- English Language & Literature = 2 x GCSEs
- Maths = 1 x GCSE
- French & RE = 2 x GCSEs

SMART!



That is a total of **7 or 8 x GCSEs** before you add your options!  
For Level 3 at college the most you would need would be **6 x GCSEs Grades 4 & 5 including Maths & English Language**.  
After Level 3 you can then look at university degree courses.



# So what do I need to consider when choosing my options?

Do you have any specific career in mind or are you considering studying any of the following at college: -

- Art \*
- Design Technology \*
- Product Design \*
- Textiles \*
- Drama & Dance \*
- Music \* Sport \*
- Spanish

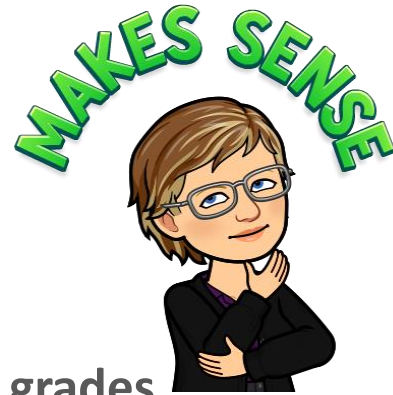
\*\* You can often study these courses at college without having studied them at school

\* To study any of these courses further at college you need to have taken a similar subject at school

- \*\* Media
- \*\* Computer Studies
- \*\* Business
- \*\* Health & Social Care



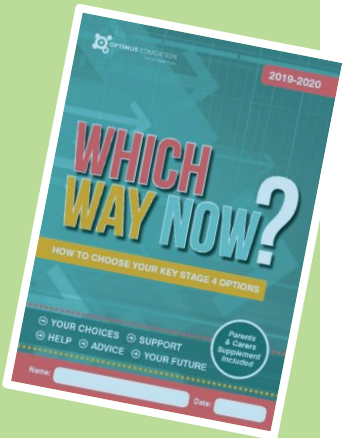
# For one of my options I need to choose between Geography & History – Why is this?



Your Option Choice has been determined by your current grades and your Options Coordinator is Mrs Launa-Hewage.

Alongside Maths, Sciences, English and Modern Foreign Languages, Geography and History are both considered as core GCSE subjects by universities.

- **History** is a challenging subject that requires a good memory for dates and issues, and an analytical mind. You learn to question the reliability of sources, which makes it good for developing critical thinking skills that will be essential once you get to university.
- **Geography** is the study of the shape and features of the Earth's surface, including countries, vegetation, climates, how humans use the world's resources and the environmental impact that humans have on these resources.





## Now – let's move to 'Which Way Now'

- Access your interactive 'Which Way Now? Booklet .
- You won't get it all finished today. Please continue with the booklet in your PD sessions to help you make your choices
- To begin with read through pages 3 and 4 to make sure that you can answer the following questions :

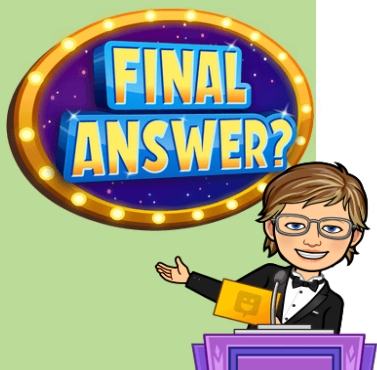
1. How old do you have to be to finish studying or training?
2. Who can help you to make your career decisions and choices for KS4?



# Did you get the answers correct?

1. You have to continue in education or training until you are 18.
2. People that can help you with your decisions are:  
Careers Adviser- Mrs Butler and Careers Adviser/Administrators (Mrs Sewell and Mrs Mee), your parents, your subject teachers and your PSHE teachers.

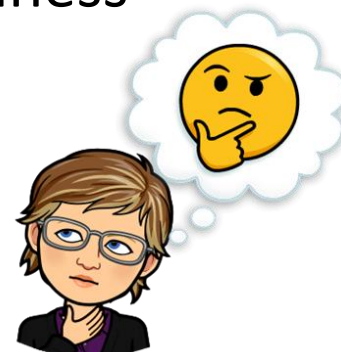
- Your options co-ordinator is **Mrs Launa-Hewage**.
- Your Careers Leader is **Mrs Mugglestone**
- Your Careers Adviser is **Mrs Butler**
- Your Careers Advisers/Administrators are **Mrs Sewell** and **Mrs Mee**.



# What else do I need to consider when choosing my options?

What interests you. Are you: -

- A practical person – You enjoy making, fixing things  
– Design
- Do you enjoy cooking -Food
- A creative person, interested in Fashion – Design, Art & Photography
- An avid gamer/interested in coding – Computing
- Are you interested in becoming your own boss - Business
- Are you a performer who loves to express yourself – Drama/Dance
- Do you love Sport – Physical Education
- Do you want to become a journalist or work in TV - Media

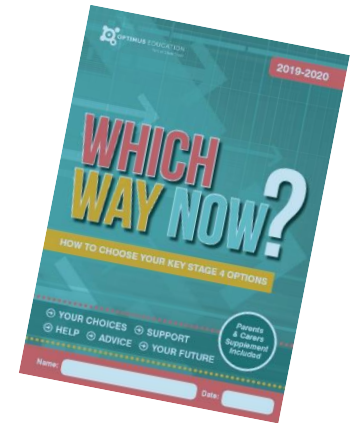


Complete the quiz on Pages 8 & 9 of Which Way Now? to help you.



# Now it is time to look at the choices available to you

- Spend some time looking through the booklet yourself.
- As you read check your answers to the quiz.
- Make a note of any questions you may have.
- Even if you don't think that you are interested in a subject do read about it.



# So what do you know so far?

## Answer the following:



1. What GCSE grade is a pass grade?
2. Which subjects can you do a Technical (BTEC) qualification in?
3. How is a Technical (BTEC) course different to GCSE?
4. What is the difference between a Level 2 and a Level 3 qualification at college?
5. What do you have to do at college if you have not got a grade 4 or above in English Language and/or Maths?
6. What are CORE subjects and why do you have them?
7. Do you cover any other subjects in years 10 and 11 which you don't do an exam in?



# Answers



1. What GCSE grade is a pass grade? **Grade 4.**
2. Which subjects can you do a Technical (BTEC) qualification in? **Dance, P.E., Health and Social Care, Music.**
3. How is a Technical (BTEC) course different to GCSE? – **The work you do in a Technical (BTEC) course is always related to a vocational/work situation. The end of Year 11 examination is smaller but you do more controlled assessments. (BTECs are not easier- they just use a different way of learning.)**
4. What is the difference between a Level 2 and a Level 3 qualification at college?  
**Level 2 = GCSE grades –mainly 3s      Level 3 = GCSE grades 4-9**
5. What do you have to do at college if you have not got a grade 4 or above in English Language and/or Maths? **If you have not achieved a Grade 4 or above in your English Language and/or Maths, you would continue with these GCSEs alongside a Level 2 course at college and retake these GCSEs.**
6. What are CORE subjects and why do you have them? **Core subjects are compulsory- they provide you with a solid foundation of skills and knowledge that will enable you to progress.**
7. What other subjects will you cover? **You will all cover PSHE in stop the clock sessions. You will all do PE and you will all have Careers education.**



# Optional subjects

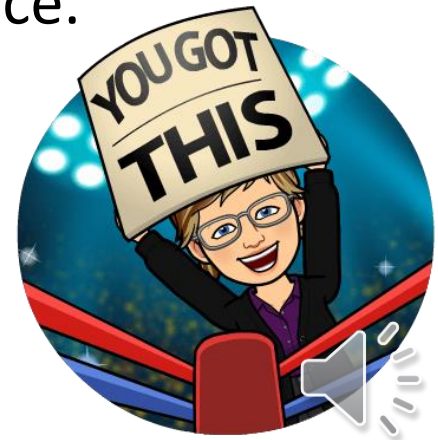
- These are the subjects that you can choose to apply to study.
- You will have 2 choices.
- You will have to choose 1 subject and a reserve from each column.
- You cannot choose the same subject twice e.g. you cannot do BTEC Sport and G.C.S.E. PE and Sport.
- Most of Year 9 will be recommended to take History or Geography in this case 1 of your choices must be History or Geography.



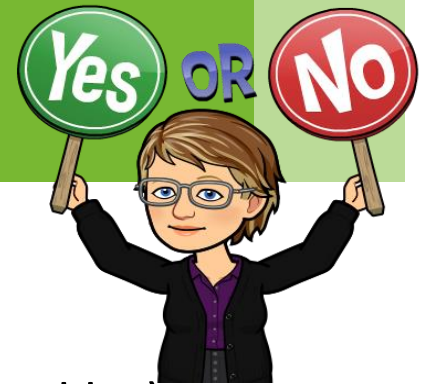
# Prepare any questions that you may have about choosing courses

- Think about what you want to know and then create a list of questions.
- Keep these in a safe place and make sure that you ask them and record the answers.
- Don't just find out about your two most likely choices. Compare these with other subjects so that you can make an informed choice.

Remember 'It's Your Choice'



# Let's take a closer look at what you might choose



- Now write down the 2 subjects that you are thinking of applying to do.  
(Page 10 & 11 of your Which Way Now booklet).
- **Remember** it has to be **one from each column**.  
You should think about what you are interested in, what you are best at and what you need for the future.
  - What are your subject choices?
  - How are these courses assessed?
  - What sort of topics will you learn about?
  - Why are these choices suitable for you?
  - What sort of careers are these subjects useful for?



**You Can Do It!**



## What next?

- Share your courses booklet with your parents/carers.
- Watch the videos about each option with your parents/carers.
- Ask staff about the subjects.
- Read your booklet carefully and be ready to complete the online form once you have researched thoroughly.
- You must complete and return your online Option Choices form by **Wednesday 15th February**.

