

Year 9 - Careers Stop the Clock

Wednesday 29th January

Big Question?

What courses
will I follow in
Years 10 and 11?



What can you expect from today?

- Watch & listen to this presentation
- Read and make notes in your workbook
- Look through your options booklet
- You will be invited to come to the theatre where you will receive information regarding your options from a senior member of Rushey staff.

What can you do to help you decide on your options?

- Research the courses available to you
- Use Careerpilot to check what subjects & qualifications you need for any careers you are interested in.
- Come and see a member of the Careers team in B145 for support & advice.
- Attend the Year 9 options evening tomorrow 30th January 25th January 4pm – 7pm and talk to teachers of the courses that interest you.
- Discuss your options with your parents/carers **but don't forget it is your choice.**





- **Your KS4 curriculum** – These are courses you are required to continue to study in Years 10 & 11
- **You will all study GCSE level courses in the following subjects:**
 - Mathematics
 - English Language
 - English Literature
 - Science (Combined or Triple)
 - Modern Foreign Language (French or Gujarati)
 - Religious Education
- You will also do core PE which is not an examination subject (if you want to take Sport further, it is included as an option as either Cambridge Nat Sport or GCSE PE).

So, what are your options?

Options are the GCSE level study courses that you can choose to study. Most students must choose between Geography & History as their first choice and have one free choice. The remaining students have 2 x free choices (you will be informed if you must select Geography or History as one of your options or if you can make 2 x free choices).

The free choice can be made from the following courses: -

Art	Photography	Computer Science	Drama
Food & Nutrition	Design & Technology	Spanish	Geography
History	Music	Physical education	Business
Media	Dance	Health & Social Care	Economics

Why are Geography and/or History valuable to study?

Alongside Maths, Sciences, English and Modern Foreign Languages, Geography and History are both considered as core GCSE subjects by universities. **Together these subjects combine to make up the English Baccalaureate (EBacc). The EBacc is a set of subjects at GCSE that keeps young people's options open for further study and future careers.**

Although the EBacc is not essential for students considering higher education, it does provide students with a broad range of subjects to help inform their future choices.



Advantages of studying History and/or Geography

- **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. We all live in a volatile, dynamic, and interconnected world. Knowledge of the past is essential in understanding and trying to make sense of what's happening now. GCSE History helps us to do both, through studying key events and individuals from the past and the ways in which they have shaped our present.
- **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. This is a subject gaining more importance and momentum due to the issues arising from climate change and our need to protect our environment. Geography provides students with the knowledge and transferable skills that will reward them personally and assist their personal development.



A student view of choosing options.

As part of the options process, you will have a discussion with a member of senior staff who will help you with your decisions. After the meeting, you should discuss your ideas with people who you know will give you sensible advice – your family, teachers, the careers team, and your Form Tutor. Use this options booklet to find out more about the courses on offer to you at Key Stage 4.

Whatever subjects you choose, the learning that takes place at Key Stage 4 will enable you to grow as an individual, achieve fantastic results, and make a positive difference to the school and the wider community. It is an exciting time but also a time you need to take seriously. Think carefully about what you are doing, make sensible decisions and then work really hard for the rest of Year 9 so that you are ready for the challenge of Years 10 and 11.

When my teachers first talked about options, I was worried, I didn't know what I was going to do as a career, and I didn't know what options to take. Whatever options you pick will impact your life, and they are the biggest decision of your life so far. However, all the support we got in school helped me pick my options. The options I chose were PE and Geography. I picked PE because it is my favourite subject and I enjoy the practical side, but I am also interested in the theory side. I chose Geography as I find the subject interesting and knew it was really important.

My teachers advised me to choose subjects I do well at and enjoyed. Don't forget if you ever need any help or any guidance you always have teachers, parents, careers advisors and your tutor.

Finally, a bit of advice, these options will set you up for your future so pick ones that you really want and not because your friends are doing them. If you do not have a career in mind, then choose a wide range of different subjects that you enjoy.



Information from your Careers Team

We know that making these choices sounds scary but don't forget that before you add your option choices, you already will have the following qualifications by the time you leave Rushey Mead: -

Science – Combined = 2 x GCSEs or separate sciences = 3 x GCSEs

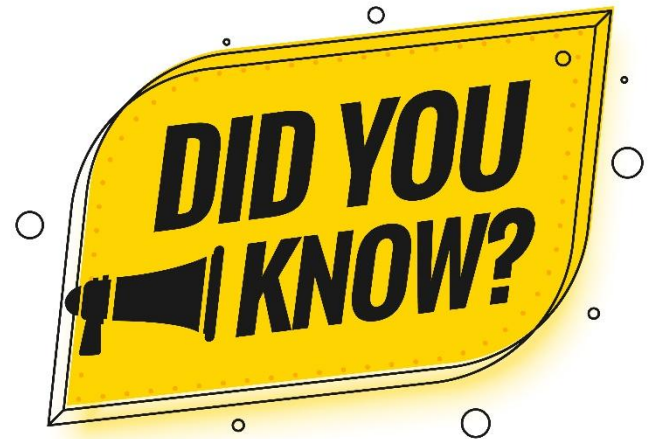
English Language & Literature = 2 x GCSEs

Maths = 1 x GCSE

French or Gujarati = 1 x GCSE

RE = 1 x GCSE

That is a total of 7 or 8 x GCSEs before you add your options! To study A levels at college the most you would need would be 5 or 6 x good GCSE Grades including Maths & English Language.



How to choose your options

For some subjects - Art & Design, Drama, Dance, Music, Food & Sport, you might need to have studied these at Rushey Mead to be able to continue studying these subjects at college and on to university.

- Do you have a career in mind? If so, use the Careerpilot job sector or job search to look up your chosen career and find out what qualifications you need.
- Read the information linking option choices to possible careers on pages 6-18 in your workbook. Use the subject search on Careerpilot: -[Careerpilot : Jobs by subject](#)

Start with a subject

Choose a subject you love and see where it might lead



Art



Biology



Business Studies

Consider: -

- Do you enjoy fixing and making things (design technology?)
- Are you creative – enjoy drawing/designing (design technology/Art?)
- Do you want to have your own business (Business or Economics?)
- Do you enjoy keeping fit (Dance/Sport/Physical Education?)

Remember, you don't have to choose something academic if you don't want to, as you have plenty of academic subjects in your main curriculum.



Reasons NOT to choose a course.

- **I like the teacher** – you will probably have a different teacher next year.
- **My friends are going to do this course** – if this is the only reason, think again. Your friends might enjoy the course, but you might hate it!
- **My family want me to do it** – this is a difficult one as your family do have your best interests at heart, however, if you choose to do a course that someone else has chosen for you, there is a risk that you might hate it and as such not do well in it.

Remember: -

- There is more chance of you getting a good grade in a course if you have chosen it based on your future career/what you think you will enjoy/what you think you will be good at. **Do your research and make your own decision.**
- **Remember that you are committing to study these courses for the next 2 years. You will not be able to change your options after the deadline of Thursday 13th February 2025 as the timetabling process will begin straight after this deadline.**

Now I would like you to look at the table in your workbook on Pages 5 & 6 of your Options workbooks and write beside each subject Yes, No or Maybe and you will complete this again at the end of the workbook to see if anything has changed.

There are notes for courses that require coursework as well as exams. The remaining courses are assessed by exams alone.



You will be asked to come to the theatre to discuss options with a senior member of staff. In the meantime, please complete the following: -

- Look through your Options booklet for the courses you are interested in studying. Read about them to see if you would be interested in studying these courses. (There is a briefer version of the course information in your workbook if you would prefer to use this)
- Make notes on your workbook if there are any careers that you want to research and look at the Careerpilot website as soon as you can to help you make your decision.
- Note on your workbook any questions that you would like to ask course teachers when you attend your Options Evening tomorrow - Thursday 30th January 5pm-7pm.
- Finally, refer to page 19 of your workbook and write Yes/No/Maybe against each course. Compare your answers with those that you gave at the start of this session on Page 5 & 6 of your workbook.



Don't forget: -

- The final date for completing your options is **Thursday 13th February**.
- You will not be able to change your options after this date, so make sure that you are sure about your choices.
- You cannot select both Dance & Drama as options. You must choose one or the other.

Contact your Careers team if you need any further help or support by email careers@rushey-tmet.uk or pop in to see us in B145 at break or lunchtime – We are here to help.