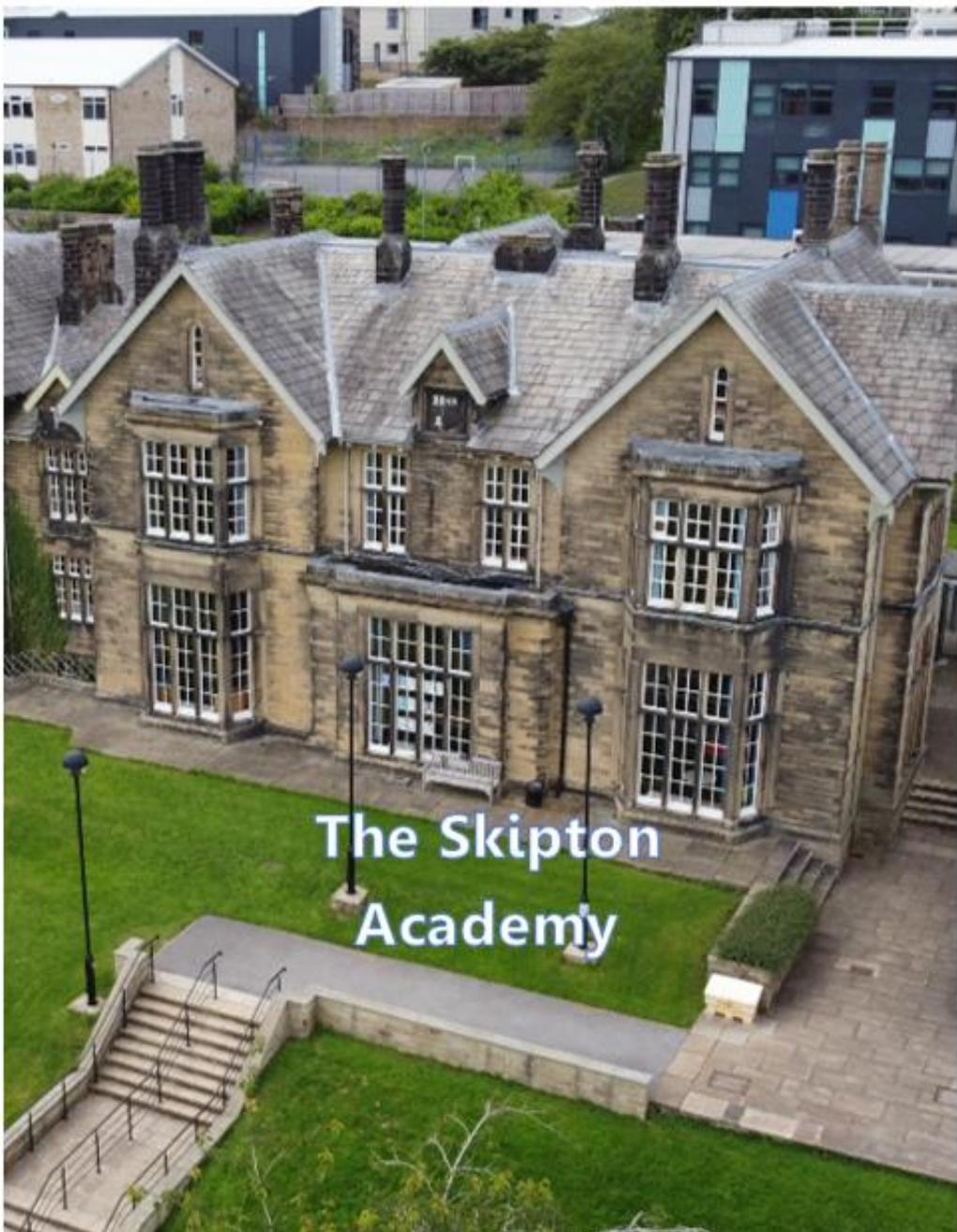




Belong, Challenge, Inspire

Year 9 Options
Parents' Information Evening 2026



Key Stage 4 Options Booklet 2025-2027

Y9 Options 2026



The best choices will allow them to achieve to the very best of their ability.



Changes from Y9 into Y10



CADEMY

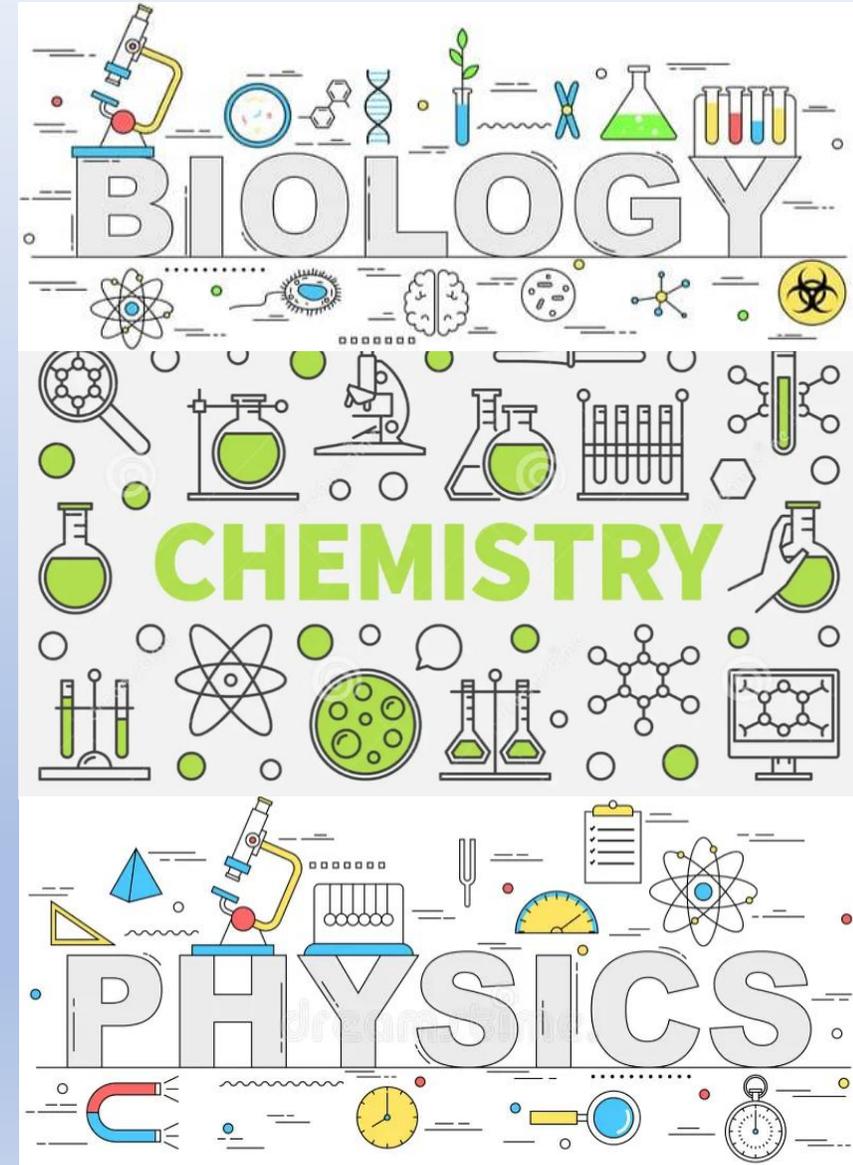
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Year 9 Subjects	Year 10 Subjects
Core: Art Biology Chemistry English Food / Textiles French Geography History IT/Computing Mathematics Music PDT inc. RSE / RE PE Performance Physics Technology	Core: English – 2 GCSEs [Language & Literature] Mathematics – 1 GCSE Science (Combined Trilogy) – 2 GCSEs Foundation (non-examined): PE Personal Development Time. (including Religious Studies, Careers and RSE) Options (4 subjects from): EBacc Subjects: GCSE History GCSE Geography GCSE French GCSE Computer Science GCSE Separate Sciences: Biology, Chemistry & Physics (New from 2024) GCSE Spanish (New for 2026) Non-EBacc Subjects: GCSE Art GCSE Business GCSE Music GCSE Textiles GCSE Design Technology: Product Design GCSE in Drama (New in 2025) BTEC Tech Award in Digital Information Technology BTEC Tech Award in Sport, Activity and Fitness BTEC Tech Award in Health and Social Care WJEC Level 1/2 Vocational Award in Hospitality and Catering (Technical Award)



New Subject(s) since 2024

- 'Separate Sciences' will be available as an option
- Obtain 3 separate GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics
- Studied alongside the core science lessons and replaces the Combined Science: Trilogy worth 2 GCSEs
- They will be studying science 28% of their time
- Only appropriate for students in set 1 for science
- Leads on to A Level science qualifications



New Subject for 2026

- GCSE **Spanish** will be available as an option
- Counts towards the English Baccalaureate
- They can only study Spanish if they have studied Spanish in Key Stage 3.





How your time will be divided up.

Subject	English	Maths	Science: Combine Trilogy			PE	RE, PSHE & Citizen	Option 1 Ebacc	Option 2 Free Choice	Option 3 Free Choice	Option 4 Free Choice	Total
			Biology	Chemistry	Physics							
Number of periods	10	8	3	3	3	2	1	5	5	5	5	50

- 60% of their time will be spent studying core and foundation subjects.
- Option subjects that they choose will take up the remaining 40% of their time.



The Core Curriculum at Key Stage 4

All students will spend 60% of their timetable on the core curriculum.
This will lead to **5 GCSE qualifications** in:

GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE (Graded 9 to 1)

GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE (Graded 9 to 1)

GCSE MATHEMATICS (Graded 9 to 1)

GCSE COMBINED SCIENCE: TRILOGY (WORTH 2 GCSEs graded 9-11)

CORE PE and PDT (inc. RE, Careers & RSE) are not accredited courses.

Which options are right for them?



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What is the English Baccalaureate?

English - Language & Literature	Maths	2 x Science Computer Science	Language French or Spanish	History Or Geography
Grades 9-5				

- This is not a new qualification in itself, but recognises students achieving 6 GCSE grades 9-5 in the above academic subjects.
- It is a traditional, academic pathway and is especially recommended for those learners who are considering further and higher education and keeps all of your options open. If you are thinking going to University you must seriously consider obtaining a E-Bacc.

A study by the UCL Institute of Education shows that studying subjects included in the EBacc provides students with **greater opportunities in further education** and increases the likelihood that a pupil will stay on in full-time education. Sutton Trust research reveals that studying the EBacc can help improve a young person's performance in English and maths.

The government's ambition is to see 75% of pupils studying the EBacc subject combination at GCSE by 2022, and 90% by 2025.



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Choice of Pathway

1) Full English Baccalaureate:

- All core subjects
- 1 x MFL - French or Spanish
- 1 x Humanity – Geography or History
- 2 x free options which could include a second humanity

2) Mixed EBacc / Non-EBacc:

- All core subjects
- 1 x Humanity – Geography or History
- 3 x free options which could include a second humanity

Broad & Balanced Curriculum

Subjects can be grouped into the following areas:

Humanities / Social Sciences

- Geography
- History
- Business
- Health & Social Care

Creative / MFL

- Art
- Music
- Drama
- French
- Spanish
- Textiles

Technology / Practical

- Digital I.T.
- Computer Science
- Technology: Product Design
- Food & Nutrition
- Sport, Activity and Fitness

Try and not have too many free choices in the same column or their curriculum may not be broad and balanced and may limit future pathways for them.

What Skills Will You Develop from your Choices?



1. LISTENING

receiving, retaining and processing of information or ideas



2. SPEAKING

oral communication of information and ideas



3. PROBLEM SOLVING

the ability to find a solution to a situation or challenge



4. CREATIVITY

use of imagination and generation of new ideas



5. STAYING POSITIVE

ability to use tactics and strategies to overcome setbacks and achieve goals



6. AIMING HIGH

ability to set clear, tangible goals and devise a robust route to achieving them



7. LEADERSHIP

supporting, encouraging and developing others to achieve a shared goal



8. TEAMWORK

working cooperatively with others towards achieving a shared goal

Align these skills to your future goals

Progression and Careers Routes

Progression:

- Post 16 – sixth form, college, level 3 apprenticeships.
- Courses – subject requirements from Key Stage 4.
- Post 18 – university, degree apprenticeship, workplace.

Careers:

- Do they have a career in mind?
- Does it require any particular qualifications?
- What GCSEs/BTECs would be relevant to their pathway?

Careers Drop-Down Day – **25th Feb.**

Taster Lessons:

Staff ran 4 taster sessions to introduce Year 9 students to 1 GCSE subject, offering hands-on experiences and insights into a subject they are considering taking at GCSE but are not sure.

Careers Fair:

An opportunity to speak to employers / Post 16 providers to see what they subjects / grades they require students to have by the end of Key Stage 4.

The Options Process



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PROCESS	DATES
Option Booklet email to parents/carers and students	Monday 16 th February
Y9 Options Assembly	Wednesday 4 th February
Y9 Parents' Option Evening	Wednesday 18 th March
Option Interviews (small groups)	From Monday 16 th March
Option Form Deadline	Tuesday 24th March 9:00 am



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Making Informed Choices

- Don't make choices based on the fact that you like your current teacher. We will not be able to tell you who will be teaching you next year.
- Don't choose a course based on what your friends are doing.
- Don't assume some courses will be easier than others – all require hard work and homework.
- Don't choose before studying the booklet, gaining more information and speaking to your teacher and attending The Options Information evening on Wednesday 19th March
- Consider what might be your future career but remember most people change their minds. It is best to aim as high as possible. Don't close doors for yourself.
- Make sure you understand what each subject involves. New subjects may look attractive at first glance. You may think you know what an 'old' subject involves. Read the booklet.
- Be realistic/honest with yourself.

Options 2026



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The best choices will allow you to achieve to the very best of your ability

1. Do I like the subject?
2. Will I do well in the subject?
3. Am I specialising too early?
4. Will the type of assessment suit my learning style?
5. Will the qualifications I choose support progression to education or training beyond 16?
6. Which subjects do I need for my possible career? Ask Mr Khalil for a careers interview if you think it will help you