



Options Evening 2024

*'Life is a matter of choices, and every choice you
make makes you'*

John C Maxwell

The Process

Key Dates

DATE	ACTIVITY
Tuesday 20 February	Student Options Assembly
Thursday 22 February	Options Evening
Tuesday 27 February	Taster Day Deadline
Wednesday 6 March	Taster Day
Thursday 7 March	Year 9 Progress Evening
Friday 15 March	Options Deadline

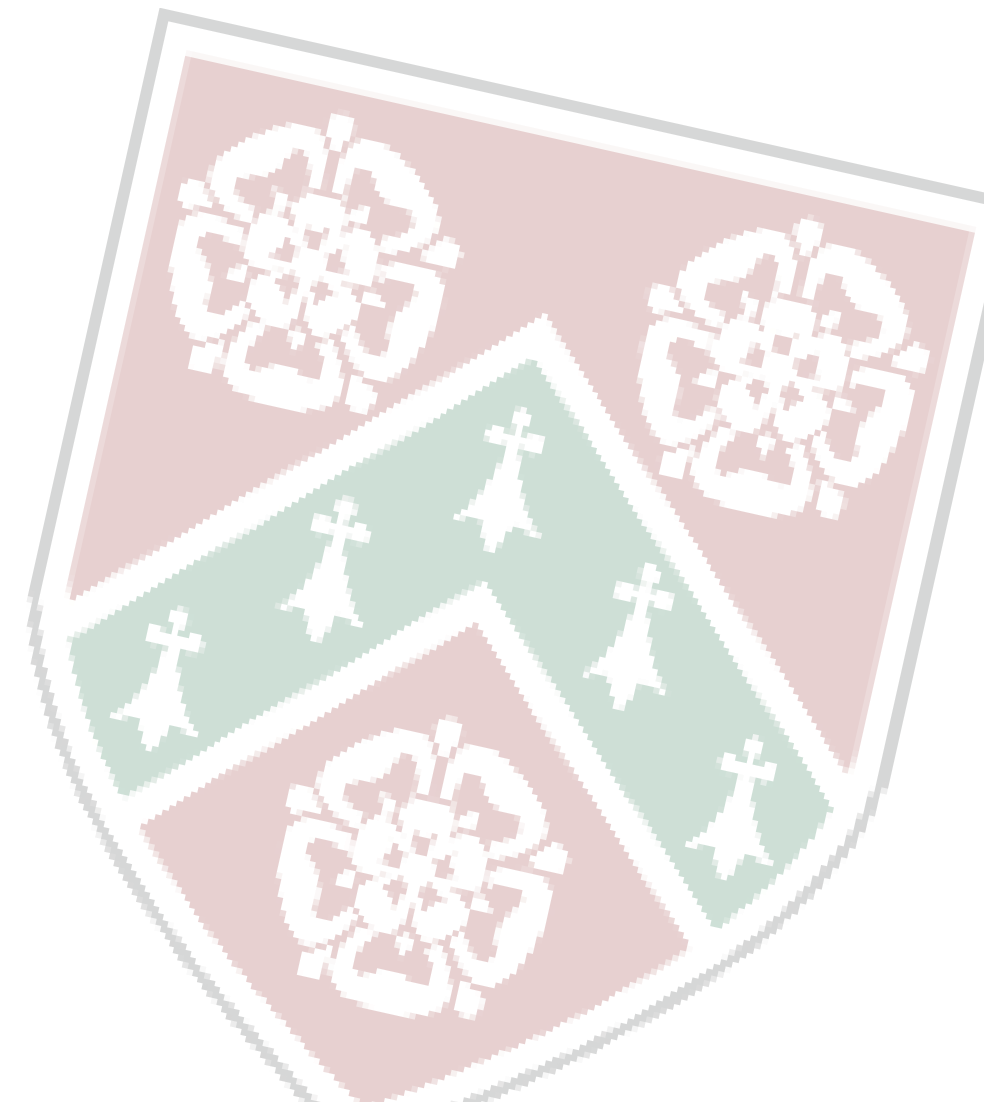
Key Dates

Options Deadline

Options are **not** allocated on a first-come-first-served basis.

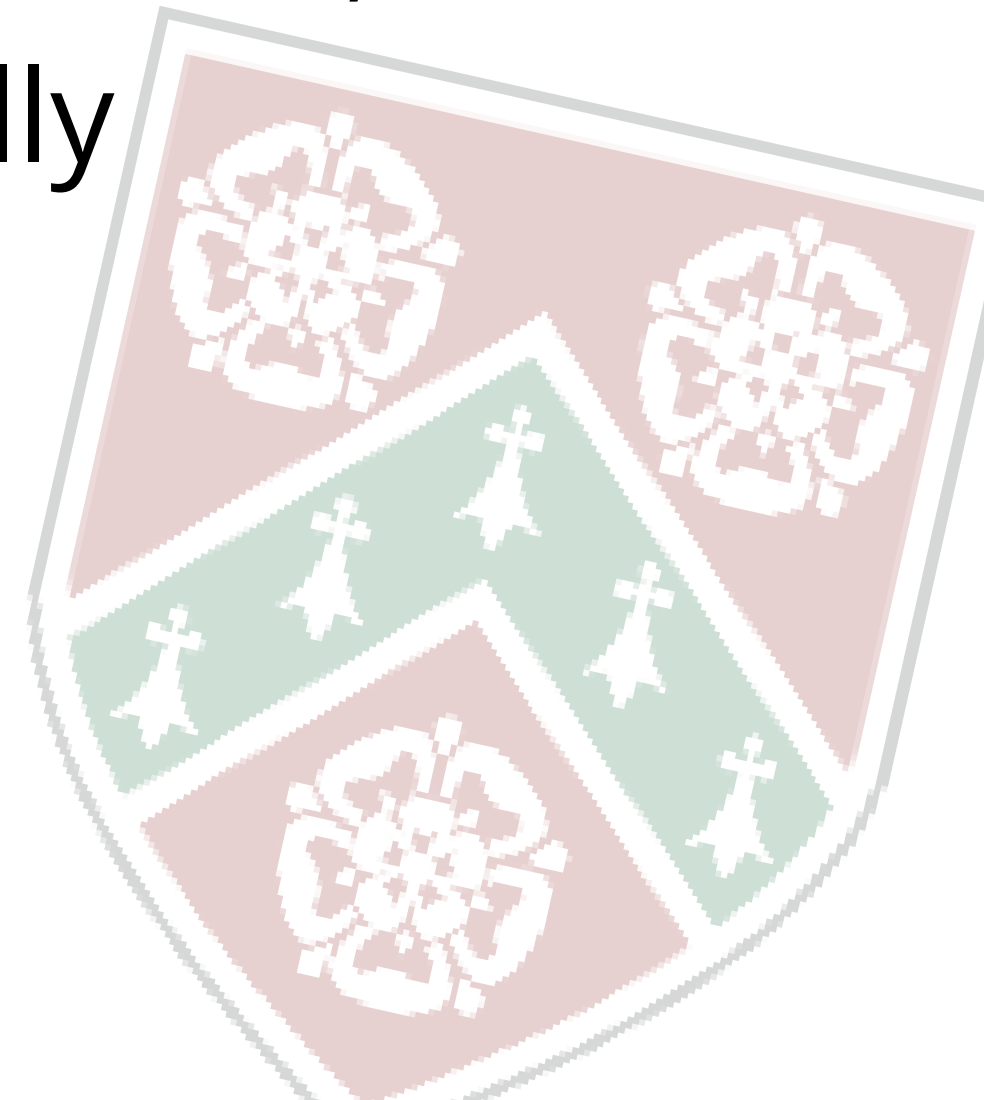
We look at everyone's choices together, unless they miss the deadline.

9.00am, Friday 15 March 2024



The Options Form

- The Options Form is digital and will be live from Friday 8 March
- The Options Form can be accessed via the QR code on page 13 of the Options Booklet
- Students can only submit one Options Form, so must consider their choices very carefully



Subjects

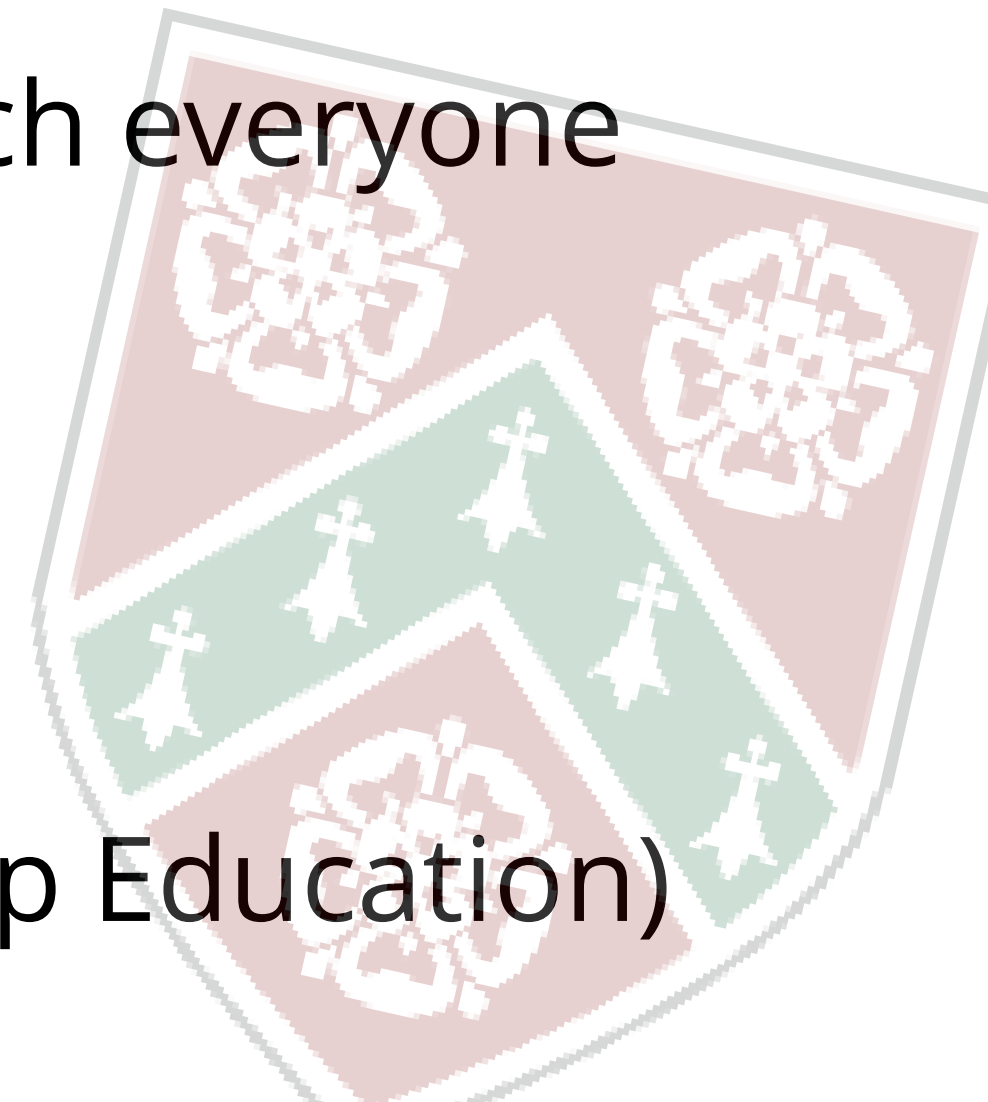
Compulsory Subjects

There are **examined** subjects which everyone must take:

- English Language and English Literature (two GCSEs)
- Mathematics (one GCSE)
- Combined Science (or Triple Science)

There are also **non-examined** courses which everyone must study:

- Physical Education
- Religion, Philosophy and Ethics
- iGEN (Personal, Social, Health & Citizenship Education)



Options Subjects

Students must choose **four** Optional Subjects in total, one from each of the four Options Blocks.

Students cannot select the same subject twice.

Option Blocks A, B and C subjects are taught for 5 hours per fortnight.

Block D subjects are taught for 4 hours per fortnight.



Your Options Subjects

BLOCK A

Computer Science¹

Geography

History

Spanish

Supported Learning
(SEND only)

BLOCK B

Spanish

Statistics &
Further Maths²

Art⁴

Citizenship

Photography

Design & Technology

PE / Sport Studies⁵

Child Development

Construction

Creative iMedia

Enterprise & Marketing

Hospitality & Catering

BLOCK C

Computer Science¹

History³

Textiles⁴

Art⁴

Drama

Photography

Design & Technology

PE / Sport Studies⁵

Child Development

Construction

Enterprise & Marketing

Hospitality & Catering

BLOCK D

Triple Science¹

Citizenship

Religious Studies

Statistics

Dance

Music

Travel & Tourism

KEY:

GCSE

EBacc

Vocational

GCSE or Vocational?

GCSE

Graded on 9 to 1

Focus on knowledge, application and understanding

All or the majority of the assessment takes place at the end of the course

All or the majority of assessment is by exam

VOCATIONAL

Grading is Distinction* to Pass

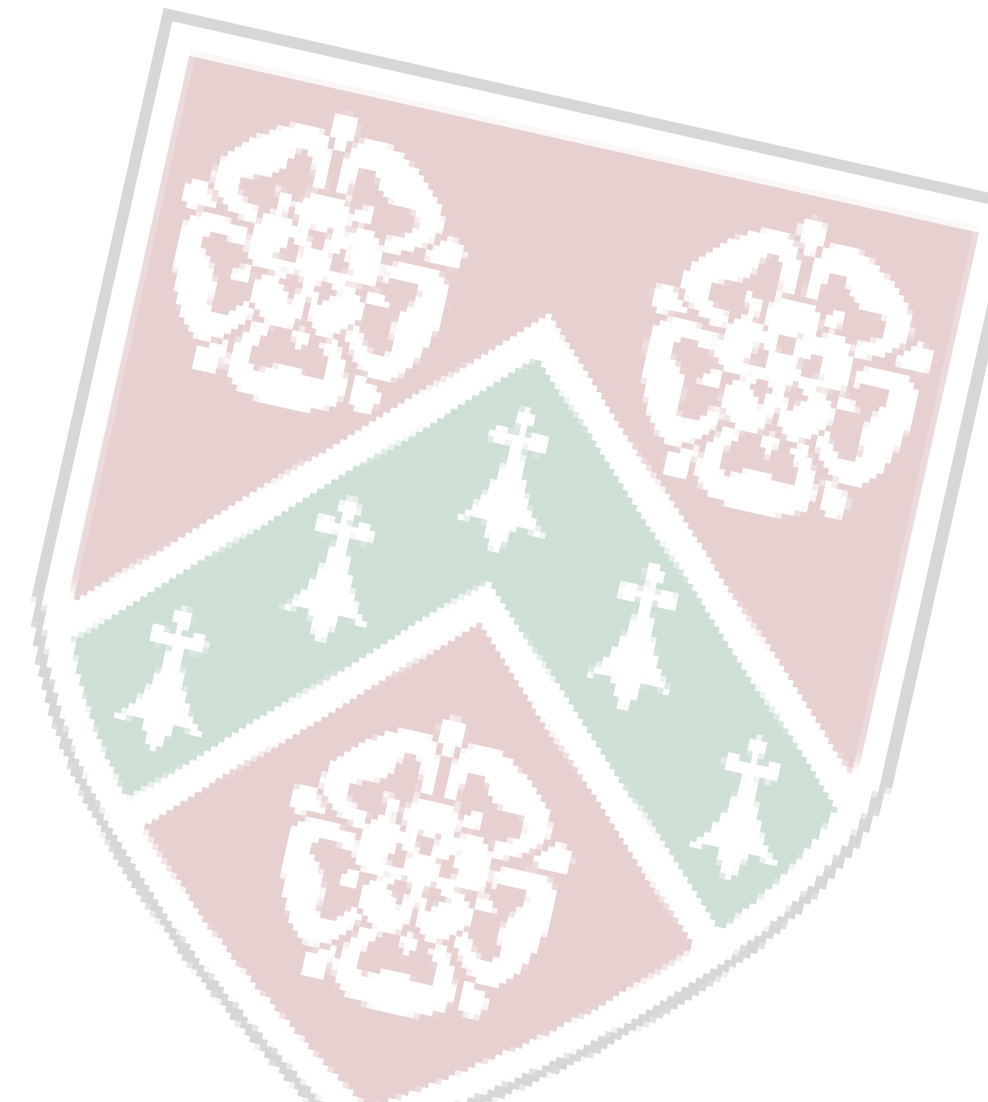
A mix of practical and theoretical learning

Often directly related to a specific area of employment

Majority of the assessment is by ongoing coursework, but may include an exam

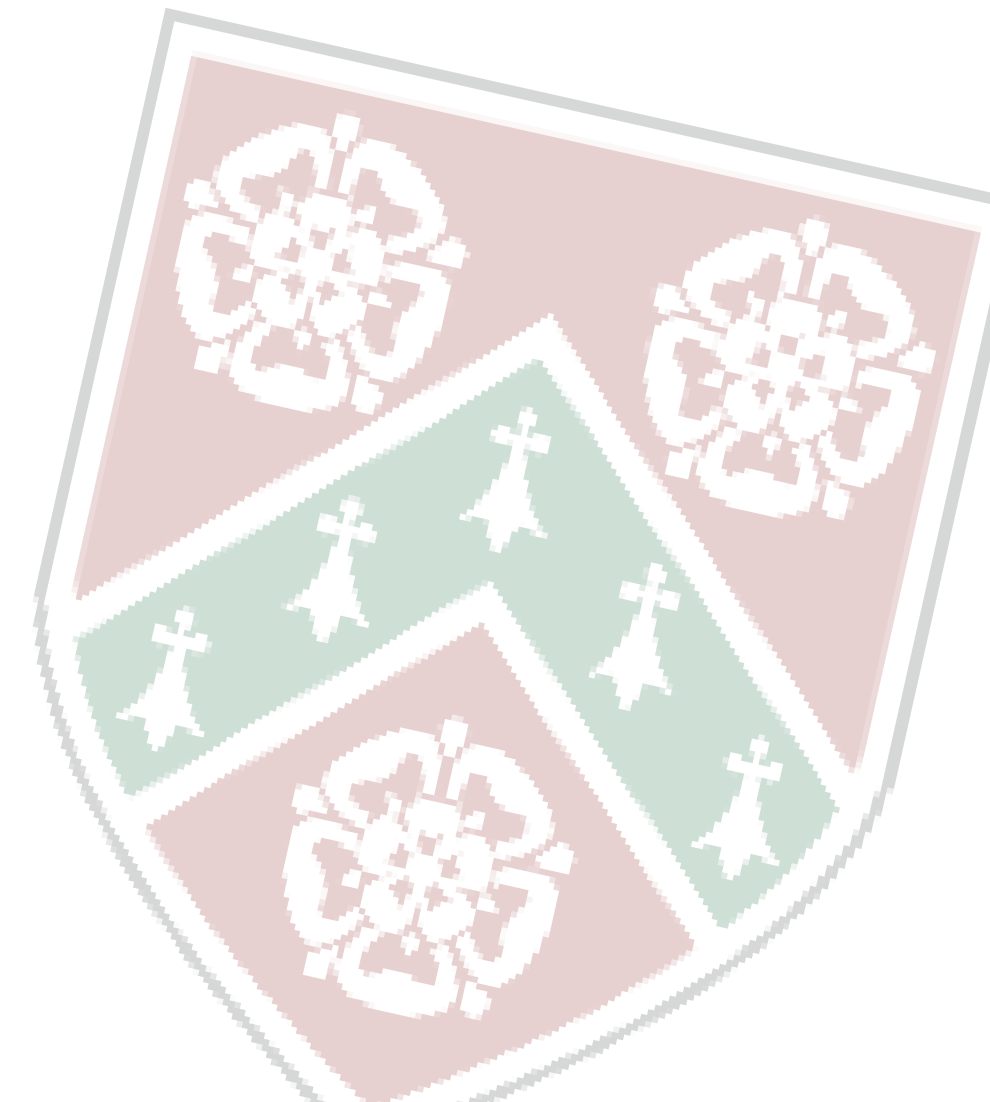
GCSE & Vocational Grading

VOCATIONAL AWARD LEVEL	VOCATIONAL AWARD GRADE	GCSE EQUIVALENT
2	Distinction*	9 8
2	Distinction	7
2	Merit	6 5
2	Pass	4
1	Distinction	3
1	Merit	2
1	Pass	1



GCSE Grading

'New' grading structure	'Old' grading structure
9	A*
8	
7	
6	B
5	
4	
3	D
2	E
1	F
	G
U	U



What can they choose?

Students must choose **four** Optional Subjects in total, one from each of the four Options Blocks.

We do not limit the number of vocational qualifications students can take.

We do have some particularly challenging subjects, which require teacher recommendation.

We also offer the 'EBacc'...



What is the EBacc?

The English Baccalaureate (EBacc) is a set of GCSE subjects that, when taken together, may add further weight to applications for Higher Education, especially Russell Group universities.

Subjects are taken in a combination of English, Mathematics, Science (including Computer Science), Geography or History, and Spanish.



How to choose

Here to help

Subject
teachers

Colleges and
employers

Form
tutors

Mrs
Bardell

SLT form
Buddy

Mrs
Hesselgrove
(careers
adviser)

Parents,
siblings...

Mrs
Cowen

Mr
Corcoran

Mrs
Thompson

Careers advice

Our C&K Careers Adviser, Mrs Hesselgrove, is in school 3 days a week (**Monday to Wednesday**) and is available for 'drop-ins' at lunchtime or students can make an appointment.

The Careers Office is in the Library.



SLT Options Buddies

9A - Mrs Barber

9B - Mr Clee

9C - Mrs Halliday

9D - Miss Hansom

9E - Mrs Lord

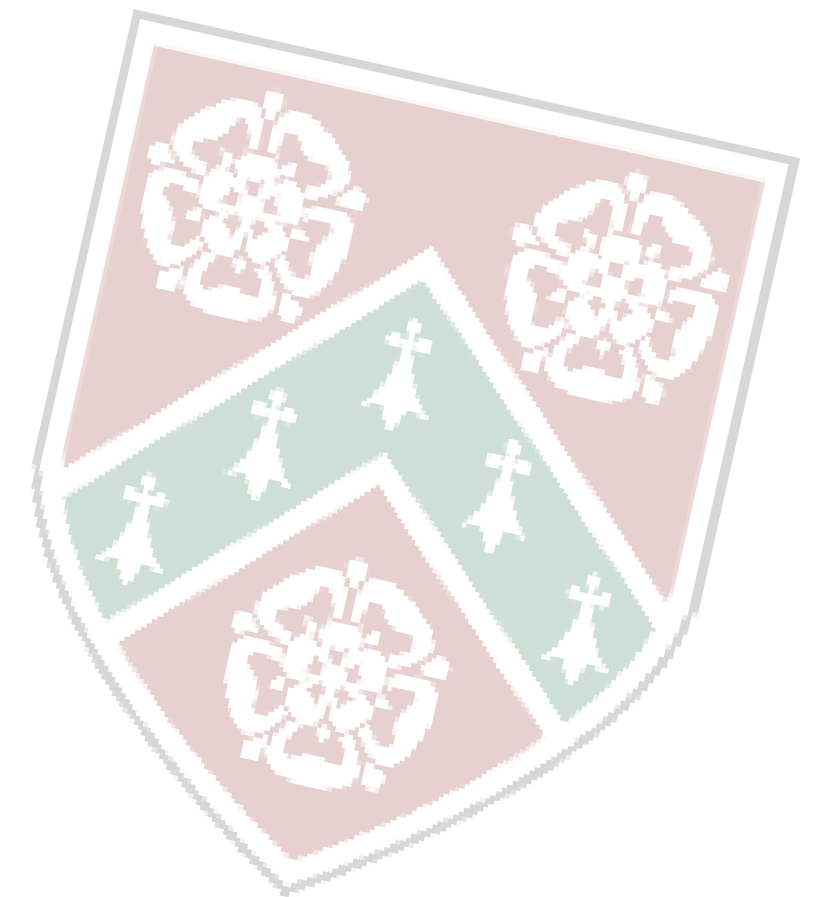
9F - Mr Meads

9G - Mr Oliver

9H - Mr Stephenson

9I - Miss Hansom

Students can arrange a one-to-one discussion with their form's Senior Leadership Options Buddy (before the deadline).



How to choose

**Students should
think carefully
about the next
step...
researching
backwards from
where they want
to be**

Hopes

&

DREAMS

Likes

Interests

Talents

Skills

Strengths

Future

Dislikes



Being too narrow in their choices

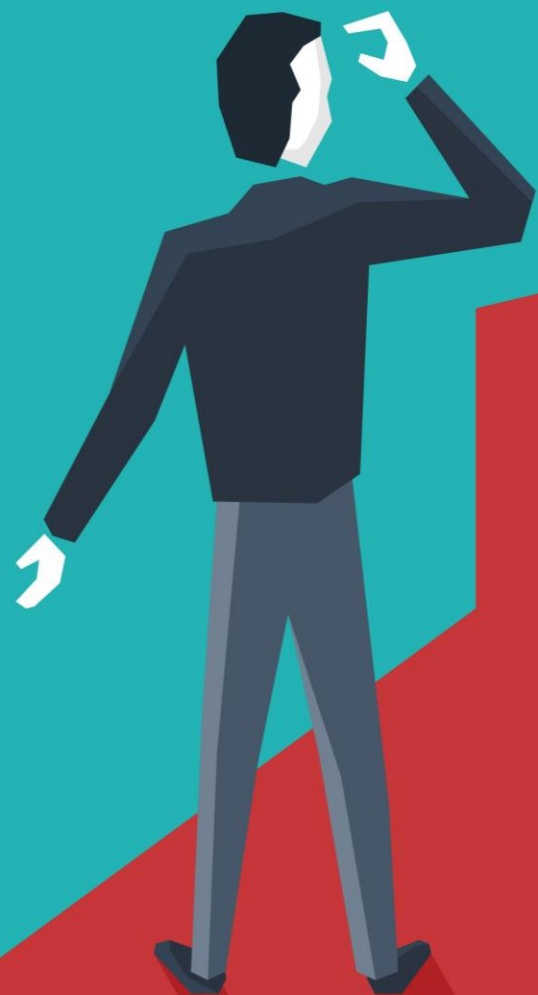
Because they like a teacher

Following a friend

Not understanding the course

The 'easy' option

Rushing



Options Taster Day

Students will all experience two new taster lessons on Wednesday 6 March.

In that week, all other subjects will offer a taster lesson within their usual lesson time.

All taster lessons will include 5 minutes of information about that subject, and the rest will be like a KS4 lesson.



Bookable Taster Lessons

Child Development

Citizenship

Construction

Creative iMedia

Enterprise and Marketing

Hospitality and Catering

Photography

Travel and Tourism

Students will need to choose 2 first choices and 1 reserve choice

Taster Lesson booking is open!

The link was emailed to school and primary parent's/carer's email addresses on Tuesday

PLUS!

Interested in Dance?

Students can take part in a dance workshop, run by an artist from Northern School of Contemporary Dance.

The workshop includes a contemporary technique class and choreography experience.



**Tuesday 5 March,
9am-11am.
Sign up with
Mr Cotgrave by 1.05pm
Friday 23 February!**



**We are available for
questions, just ask!**