

# Kendrick School



**KEY STAGE 4  
CURRICULUM  
AND YEAR 10 OPTIONS  
2024-2026**

# Introduction



2

- Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February: Year 9 Options talk
- All students will receive **Year 10 Options Booklet** which gives details of all the courses at KS4 and references to all the exam specification details
- The booklet and this PowerPoint presentation will be on the school website
- Please use the booklet to:
- Gain information about all the subjects.
- Please note: some GCSE specifications have changed and are very different from previous courses.

# Introduction



3

- Please use the booklet to learn:
- What a subject is like at GCSE level
- What skills are required
- What skills will be acquired
- What the assessment process is like
- Students should consider:
- **WHAT YOU** enjoy or like to do – what **YOU** are interested in, what will stimulate and enthuse **YOU** for the next two years
- **WHAT** will provide **YOU** a breadth and balance in terms of content and assessment requirements
- **WHAT YOU** ought to do (re: university / career).

# GCSE Grading



4

9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	U
A*			B			C			U
A			B			C			U

**4 = C**  
and above and above

- Broadly the same proportion of students will achieve a grade 4 and above as currently achieve a grade C and above.
- Broadly the same proportion of students will achieve a grade 7 and above as achieve an A and above.
- The bottom of grade 1 will be aligned with the bottom of grade G.

Source: OFQUAL

# Students will do 11 GCSEs in 3 Categories



5

- Compulsory
- Choice within Compulsory Subject Area
- Free Choice

# Compulsory



6

All will do:

- English Language
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- Science (Biology, Chemistry  
Physics -counts as 3)

**= 6 subjects**

# GCSE English



7

- **English Language**
- **English Literature**
- All students are entered for both GCSEs, leading to certification in both subjects.
- The students will be taught in groups based on their Year 10 tutor groups.

# GCSE Mathematics



8

- All students will be prepared for the GCSE qualification in Mathematics at the Higher tier.
- Students will sit three examination papers.
- The course fulfils the requirements of the national curriculum and builds on the mathematics taught at KS3. The subject will be taught in groups similar to the current arrangement.



# GCSE Science



9

- The GCSE course in the 3 separate sciences is taught over 3 years, starting at the beginning of Year 9.
- All students will therefore continue to study the 3 separate sciences through KS4 leading to a GCSE in each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics.
- The students will be taught in groups based on their Year 10 tutor groups.

# Choice within Compulsory Subject Area



10

All will do:

- A Humanity
- A Language

**= 2 subjects**

# Humanity



11

- Geography
- History
- Religious Studies

# Language



12

- French
- German

# This makes 8 subjects



13

So the final **three** subjects can be chosen from:

- The 3 subjects **NOT** chosen from the Humanities group and Languages group
- The 9 subjects which are not in the compulsory category

# These are:



14

- French
- German
- Geography
- History
- Religious Studies
- Business
- Latin
- Art and Design
- Art and Design – Textile Design
- Computer Science
- Drama
- Food Preparation and Nutrition
- Music
- Physical Education

..... = 11 !



15

- English Language
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- Science (Triple Award: Biology, Chemistry, Physics)
- Humanity
- Language
- Three from the remaining twelve subjects

# Compulsory Subjects (Non Examination)



16

- Tutor Period
- Personal, Social, Health & Citizenship Education (PSHCE)
- Work Related Learning
- Physical Education (P.E.)
- Religious Studies (R.S.)
- Computer Skills
- Year 10 work experience



# The Process



17

- English, Maths and Science are timetabled separately.
- The students will be asked to choose 7 subjects in choice order.
- All other subjects will be grouped in five blocks to enable a “best fit” for as many students as possible.
- It may be necessary for some students to consider their 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> choice, if one of their first 5 doesn't fit the groupings.



# The Process

18

In trying for the best fit, the final outcome depends on:

- Number of students wishing to study each subject.
- Number of groups required for each subject
- Available staffing and accommodation
- Subject combinations



# Process

19

- All students should complete the Google questionnaire by **9am on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March**
- Any changes students wish to make **BEFORE** Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March can be indicated by completing another Google questionnaire – we will take the most recent submission
- Any changes students wish to make **AFTER** Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March should be emailed to [kperry@kendrick.reading.sch.uk](mailto:kperry@kendrick.reading.sch.uk) .
- All emails will be acknowledged



# Process

20

- The responses on the Google questionnaire will be used to put all subjects in 5 columns (option lines) such that the majority of students can study their first 5 higher priority choices
- For the few students for which this is not possible, we will aim to replace their 5<sup>th</sup> choice with their 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> choice
- Occasionally we may need to replace a student's 4<sup>th</sup> choice with a 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> choice



# Process

21

- Some subjects will be in several lines (columns), eg if there are 2 groups for a subject, the groups will be in 2 different option lines (columns)
- All students need to study 1 subject from each column
- Student's whose first 5 choices do not fit the columns will be consulted before finalising their options



# Process

22

- By the end of term 5, all students will be sent their proposed options - for most it will be their first 5 choices and for those with clashes it will be the subjects decided after discussion
- ALL students will then need to confirm by a Google form these options or follow a process to change an option
- Students will be asked to discuss this with their parents/carers



# Process

23

- Option changes at this point will be subject to spaces in groups and the option lines (columns) finalised
- Changes in options after the start of year 10 are rare – unless identified as a major issue in the first couple of weeks



# Information

24

- Electronic copies of the following will be sent:
- Year 10 Options booklet
- Specification summary
- PowerPoint presentation
- Student email with link to the Google questionnaire
- **(Trips and Activities: Please note: All trips and activities mentioned in this booklet will be subject to current health, safety and travel guidance)**





# Dates

25

- **Year 9 Options talk – Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February**– the students will receive this options talk and links to the PowerPoint, options booklet, specification links. An email link to the Google Options form they need to complete will be sent later.
- **Date TBC** members of Year 10 or 11 will ‘meet’ year 9 students



# Dates

26

- **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March** -Year 9 parents consultation evening
- **Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March, 9am** - **Deadline** for completion of all Options forms via Google
- By the end of term 5 – students proposed options are presented to them to be confirm by a Google form



# Thank you

27

- Thank you for listening
- With very best wishes for your option choices and the future

# Kendrick School



## KEY STAGE 4 CURRICULUM AND YEAR 10 OPTIONS 2024-2026