

Kendrick School



**KEY STAGE 4
CURRICULUM
AND YEAR 10 OPTIONS
2026-2028**

Introduction



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- Thursday 26th 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



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- 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).

Students will do 11 GCSEs in 3 Categories



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- Compulsory
- Choice within Compulsory Subject Area
- Free Choice

Compulsory



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All will do:

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

= 6 subjects

GCSE English



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- **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



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- 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



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- 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



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All will do:

- A Humanity
- A Language

= 2 subjects

Humanity



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- Geography
- History
- Religious Studies

Language



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- French
- German

This makes 8 subjects



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

- The 3 subjects **NOT** already chosen from the Humanities group and Languages group
- The 8 subjects which are not in the compulsory category



These are:

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

..... = 11 !



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

Please note



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- 11 GCSEs are more than enough – please do not do additional GCSEs outside school
- Please do NOT do GCSEs early, especially do not do Maths GCSE early as Universities value grades achieved at the same time – ie end of year 11

Compulsory Subjects (Non Examination)



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

The Process



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- 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 6th or 7th choice, if one of their first 5 doesn't fit the groupings.



The Process

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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

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- All students should complete the Google questionnaire by **9am on Friday 20th March**
- Any changes students wish to make **BEFORE** Friday 20th March can be indicated by completing another Google questionnaire – we will take the most recent submission
- Any changes students wish to make **AFTER** Friday 20th March should be emailed to kperry@kendrick.reading.sch.uk .
- All emails will be acknowledged



Process

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- 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 5th choice with their 6th or 7th choice
- Occasionally we may need to replace a student's 4th choice with a 6th or 7th choice



Process

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- 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

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- 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

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- 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

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- 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

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- **Year 9 Options talk – Thursday 26th February**– options talk - email with copies of the PowerPoint, options booklet, specification links and Google Options form.
- **Wednesday 4th March** -Year 9 parents information evening- for parents/carers ONLY (**NOT students**)
- **Thursday 12th March** -Year 9 parents consultation evening- for parents/carers and students



Dates

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- **Tuesday 17th March** -Year 9 profiling day – in school
- **Friday 20th 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 confirmed by a Google form



Thank you

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

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