



Year 9 Parents' and Options Evening

Thursday 23rd January 2020

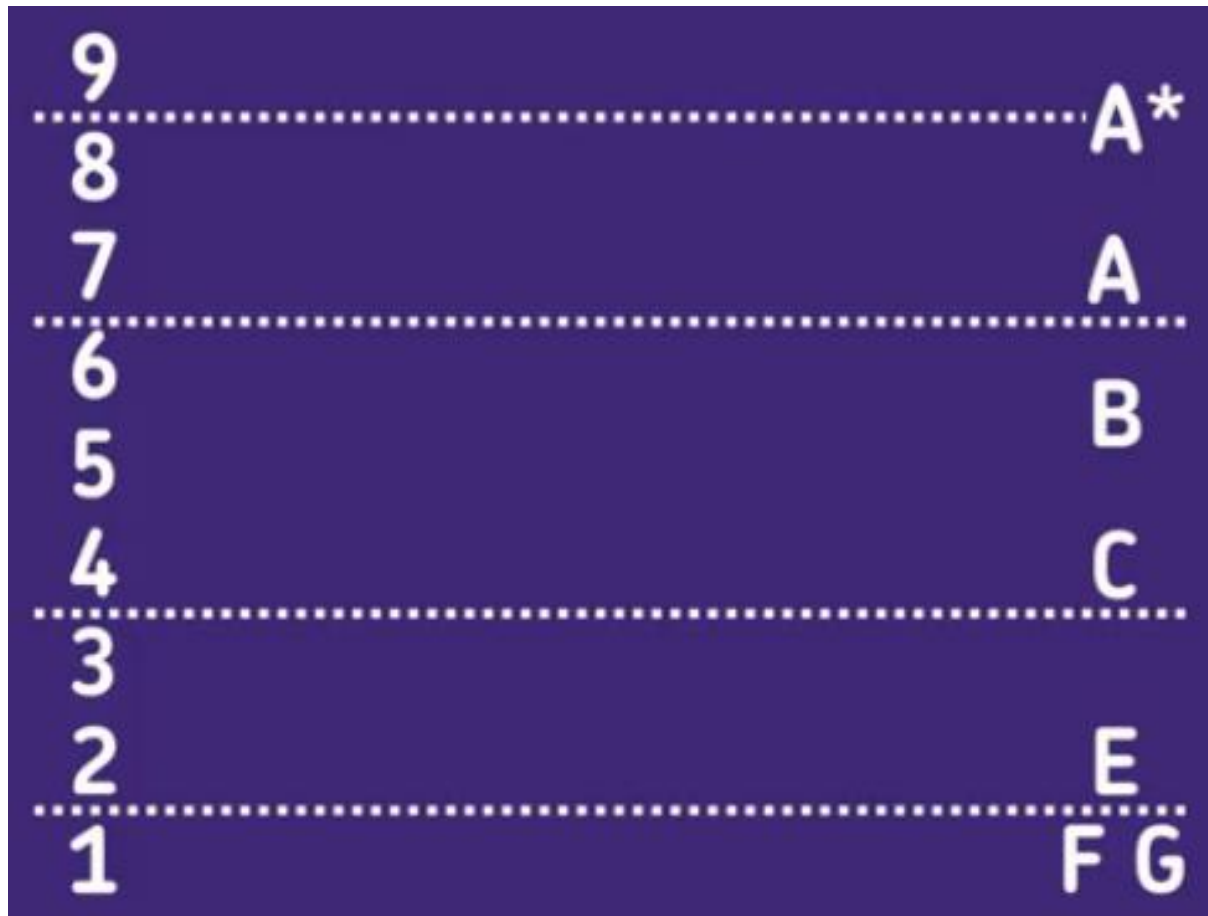
6pm & 7pm

Please come in and take a seat, the presentation will begin shortly



Compulsory Examined Subjects

English Language	English Literature
Mathematics	Science
A Modern Foreign Language	



The expectation has been that students would find the new exams 'too hard' but that grade boundaries would be adjusted as necessary to ensure parity of performance with previous years.

Same proportion of students will receive 7, 8, 9 as previously received A* and A



Science Information

Set 1: Separate Science (Biology, Chemistry and Physics)
(Students are awarded **3 GCSE qualifications**)

Sets 2-6: Combined Science – Trilogy
(This is equivalent to **2 GCSE qualifications** covering content from all 3 sciences)

There is no longer a single GCSE Core Science option

Science Setting Y9 & 10

Current Y9 sets
(5 sets)

Summer term Y9 sets
(5 sets)
Start GCSE work

Y10 sets
(6 sets)

Set 1
(30 students)

Set 1
(~**25** students)

Set 1
(~**25** students)

Set 1:
Separate
Sciences

Set 1 are on a separate course: 3x GCSEs in the time usually allocated for 2 GCSEs.

Set 2
(30 students)

Set 2
(~30 students)

Set 2

Sets 2-6:
Combined
Science

6 sets in Year 10 allows smaller teaching groups. This requires some movement between sets at the start of Y10

Set 3
(26 students)

Set 3
(~30 students)

Set 3

Movement between sets 2-6 based on results in mocks and assessments.

Set 4
(23 students)

Set 4

Set 4

No movement between sets 1&2 since they are on separate courses.

Set 5
(15 students)

Set 5

Set 5

Combined Science students can still access A-level sciences provided they achieve a grade 7-7 or better.

Set 6



Year 9 End of KS3 Science Exams

All students in Year 9 will sit two end of KS3 Science Exams on **Tuesday 25th February 2020.**

The results of these exams will determine the Science Set that students will be placed into for GCSE.

They will also, therefore, determine the exam pathway that they will follow at KS4; Separate Sciences or Combined Science.

These exams are **extremely important** and students must revise thoroughly in preparation for them.



Year 9 End of KS3 Science Exams

- Revision material will be given out, if it hasn't already, to help students prepare. Teachers will also do some revision in class to assist students with preparation for these exams.
- The exams will cover Year 7, 8 and 9 topics.

Any questions about Science, please speak with Mr Matthews



Why is a Modern Foreign Language compulsory at Gordon's?

- Academically valued
- Proven to help develop literacy skills
- The world is getting smaller!
- Part of the English Baccalaureate



The English Baccalaureate (EBacc.)

- First 'awarded' in 2011
- Made up of GCSE passes (A*-C) in:

Mathematics
English Language
Double or Triple Science
A Modern Foreign Language
A Humanity – History or Geography

The EBacc is not certified, in much the same way that the 5x 9-4 grades (including Maths & English) are not certified, but are 'real'.



How is the English Baccalaureate measured?

EBacc now has two measures:

1. Students who achieved the EBacc (Standard Pass)

This is the % achieving Ebacc at grade 4

2. Students who achieved the EBacc (Strong Pass)

This is the % achieving Ebacc at grade 5

Should I choose a humanities subject just to achieve the English Baccalaureate?

'No' is the simple answer



What are the option subjects?

Art and Design	German
Business Studies	History
Business (BTEC)	Music
Computer Science	Physical Education (GCSE)
Design and Technology	Photography
Drama	Religious Education (Full Course)
Food Preparation and Nutrition	Spanish
French	Travel and Tourism (BTEC)
Geography	



Business GCSE or Business BTEC?

Business	Enterprise (Business) First BTEC
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More academic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More vocational
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% Externally marked exam 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 40% Externally marked exam • 60% Coursework (Internal)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better preparation for AS & A levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better preparation for vocational post-16 qualifications

Mr Grace, Head of Business Studies, and Ms Sims, Head of Careers, are available to discuss these options should you wish.



Travel and Tourism BTEC

A vocational qualification

Good preparation for post - 16 vocational qualifications

75% Assessed by coursework

25% Assessed by external examination

Please discuss any questions you may have with
the course leader, Miss Suarez



BTEC Public Service

- This course is by invitation only. It is for those students on the Learning Support register who cannot access a Modern Foreign Language.
- From September 2020 “Extra Core” will cease to operate



Sixth Form Subject Entry Criteria

- Please pay attention to the subject entry criteria for Gordon's Sixth Form.
- This is to ensure student options are not limited higher up the school.
- These are all found on page 15 of the Key Stage 4 Options and Academic Guide.



Please note

A subject will 'run' based on:

- Student demand
- Staff availability

Students must select 3 option choices and a **reserve** choice.

They **will not** be able to change their selections once they have been made, so please encourage your son/daughter to select carefully and thoughtfully!



What happens now?

- Read the Options Booklet.
- Students should advice from their teaching staff and parents over the next few weeks.
- Return the options form to Mrs Dibbens in the School Office by **Tuesday 11th February**