



Year 9

Options Presentation

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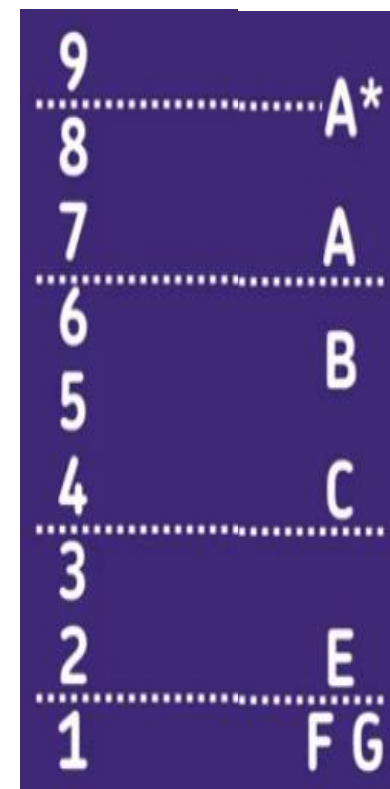
Compulsory Examined Subjects

English Language	English Literature
Mathematics	
Science	
A Modern Foreign Language	



Reformed GCSEs

- GCSEs changed between 2015-2018
- All subjects now 'reformed'
- New grading system 1-9
- More rigorous curriculum focusing on core skills (numeracy & literacy)
 - English: SPaG moved from 5% - 20%
 - Maths: Learning formulas
 - Science: 20% of questions require maths skills





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)

The current link between maths and science sets will cease at the end of year 9 and will have no impact on GCSE maths or science setting.



Year 9 Science Exams

All students in Year 9 will sit Science Exams in the Summer Term.

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.

The dates of these exams in the summer term are to be confirmed depending on the GCSE and A Level arrangements.

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
- Careers
- 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 it is a government measure



What are the option subjects?

Art and Design	German
Business Studies	History
Business Enterprise (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?

GCSE Business	BTEC Enterprise (Business)
<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 Key Stage 4, and Miss 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, Mrs Suarez



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 in 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 options e-form by

Monday 1st February