

# GCSE Options – Year 9

# English Baccalaureate

- Not compulsory at RHS
- Consists of English Language/Literature, Maths, Science\*, a modern foreign language or a classical language and a humanity (Geography or History)
- \* either GCSE Combined Science or Triple separate sciences from Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Computer Studies.

# Core compulsory curriculum

- 6(or 7) GCSEs consisting of:
- English
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- Combined Science (2) **OR**
- Triple Sciences: Biology, Physics or Chemistry (3)
- A foreign language: Spanish, French or Latin

# Optional subjects

**Choose 2 if you have opted to do Triple Science or 3 if you have opted for Combined Science:**

- Art and Design
- Art textiles
- Computer studies
- Business Studies
- Drama
- French or Spanish (not taken as part of the core)
- Geography
- PE
- History
- Home Economics: Food and Nutrition
- Latin (not taken as part of the core)
- Music
- PRS

# Entitlement curriculum

## Compulsory for all students but not examined:

- PRS (1 lesson a week if not taken as an option)
- PE (Non examined if PE GCSE not taken as an option)
- PSHE (themed days in Year 10, 1 each half term)

# Making your choice

## Choose:

- Subjects you enjoy and are good at
- Be mindful that GCSE's are content heavy
- Ones that you need for a particular career path
- Talk to students, teachers and your parents

## Not ones because:

- Your friends are doing them
- You like the teacher

**MAKE SURE YOU READ THE DESCRIPTION OF EACH SUBJECT CAREFULLY!! YOU MUST SELECT A RESERVE.**

# Timelines

- Taster sessions for optional subjects: **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> January.**  
Prefects are available at break and lunch for advice.
- Virtual Parents' evenings – Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> January and Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> January
- Complete the online form and submit by **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January**

# Forms and booklets

- Booklets will be sent out by parentmail on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> January
- Available on the website under “Parents” then GCSE Options 2023.
- Also available on FROG.
- Your electronic “Option Choices Form” will also be sent to parents via parentmail on Wednesday 11th January. Please only submit ONE form. Submitting more than one form may result in your options being invalidated.



# Sources of help

- Mr Marley (Curriculum Lead for PSHE and Careers)
- Careers appointments are available – email Mr Marley requesting one
- Mrs Grogan (Senior Assistant Headteacher)
- Mrs Koe and Ms Langham (Pastoral Admin Assistants)

# Useful Careers websites

- [www.nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk](http://www.nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk)
- [www.careersbox.co.uk](http://www.careersbox.co.uk)
- [www.icould.com](http://www.icould.com)
- [www.ucas.ac.uk](http://www.ucas.ac.uk)
- [www.nhscareers.nhs.uk](http://www.nhscareers.nhs.uk)
- [www.russellgroup.ac.uk](http://www.russellgroup.ac.uk)
- <https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/job-sectors/subjects>



# Science GCSE

Year 9 Options at Rugby High School



# 2 Choices...

## Combined Science

- ▶ 2 GCSE's equivalent

## Triple Science

- ▶ 3 GCSE's
  - ▶ Biology
  - ▶ Chemistry
  - ▶ Physics

# Combined Science

- ▶ 6 lessons a week
- ▶ 2 lessons per science
- ▶ Achieve a double 'grade' e.g. 7-7

# Triple Science

- ▶ 9 lessons a week
- ▶ 3 lessons per science
- ▶ Achieve 3 separate 'grades' in each Science

For both:

- Exams and qualification at end of 11
- No coursework
- Key practical skills assessed in exams

# Why choose Combined Science?

- Fewer Science lessons a week
- Option to study another GCSE subject
- Some of the theory on the Triple courses is very demanding

# Why choose Triple Science?

- ▶ More Science!  
9 lessons a week, versus 6
- ▶ More Extra curricular activities  
There are more opportunities for Triple Science students to take advantage of
- ▶ Higher level content is covered  
Allows for easier transition into A-level Sciences
- ▶ Advisable for able students  
If you wish to consider a Science or Science-based course at university e.g. medical courses