# GCSE OPTIONS <br> 2024 

## INFORMATION

## Key Stage 4 (Years 10 and 11)

We want students to be able to pursue a broad and balanced programme of study at Key Stage 4. Some years ago, the government introduced the English Baccalaureate or E Bacc as a measure of how well schools are performing and to encourage students to study a broad range of subjects at KS4. Students are said to have obtained the E Bacc if they gain GCSE passes in English Language and Literature, Maths, either GCSE combined Science or 3 single Sciences (Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Computer Studies), a language (including Latin) or a humanity (either History or Geography).

At Rugby High School we decided not to make the E Bacc compulsory as we felt that our curriculum model offered students a broad choice of subjects and that it was important to preserve the element of student choice. At the moment universities and employers don't require students to have the E Bacc. However, this may change in the future so you should bear this in mind when making your choices.

## The Year 10 Curriculum will be as follows:

| Core Curriculum (Compulsory for all students) | Qualification |
| :--- | :--- |
| English | 1 GCSE |
| English Literature | 1 GCSE |
| Mathematics | 1 GCSE |
| Language: Spanish or French or Latin | 1 GCSE |
| Triple Science: <br> Biology, Chemistry \& Physics | 3 GCSEs |
| OR Combined Science | 2 GCSEs |
| Non - examined PE |  |

## Options

Students choosing to study triple science should choose two options from the list below. Students choosing Combined Science should choose three options:

| Art and Design OR Textiles | Geography |
| :--- | :--- |
| Business | History |
| Computer Science | GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition |
| Drama | Music |
| French or Spanish or Latin (the language <br> not chosen as part of the core curriculum) | Philosophy and Religious Studies (PRS) |
| PE |  |

## Entitlement Curriculum (Compulsory for all students)

- Philosophy \& Religious Studies*
- Physical Education
- Personal Health and Social Education (includes Careers Education and Guidance, Sex Education, Work-Related Learning, Enterprise Education, Citizenship, Economic Well-Being and Financial Capability)

These are non-examination subjects
In PE, students may opt for GCSE PE instead.
PSHE will be delivered through a series of collapsed timetable days rather than as a timetabled lesson.
*Philosophy and Religious Studies can be studied in one of two ways:

1. Compulsory single lesson a week (non-examined)
2. Taken as an option = GCSE full course

Please note: if you choose non-examined Philosophy and Religious Studies you do not need to specify this on your options form.

## Making Your Choice

Do

- Choose subjects that you enjoy
- Choose subjects that you are good at
- Choose subjects that you may need to follow a particular career or educational path
- Talk to your parents and teachers about your choices


## Don't

- Choose a subject because your friends have chosen it
- Choose a subject simply because you like the teacher (you may get a different teacher next year)

Please note that all choices are subject to staffing and timetable constraints, some subjects have a number restriction on the size of the group, e.g. Drama. Some optional subjects may not run if insufficient numbers opt for them.

