

GCSE Options – Year 9

You will take 9 GCSE's in total

Either

6 Core Subjects and 3 Options

Or

7 Core Subjects and 2 Options

Core compulsory curriculum

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 Core PE 3 lessons a week)
- PSHE (themed days in Year 10, 1 every 3 weeks)

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.**

Please note

We try our very best to accommodate your 1st choice but this is not always possible

- Choices are subject to staffing and timetable constraints
- Some optional subjects may not run if insufficient numbers opt for them

Timelines

- Taster sessions for optional subjects: **Wednesday 14th January.** Prefects will be available at break and lunch for advice in the Sports hall Classroom.
- Virtual Parents' evenings – **Thursday 8th January and Tuesday 13th January**
- Complete the online form and submit by **Friday 30th January**

Programme for Year 9 Options

Year 9 OPTIONS PROGRAMME 2025/2026

Thursday 11 th December	Year 9 Options Information Evening
Friday 12 th December	Electronic Options Forms launches
Thursday 8th January	Year 9 Parents' Evening (1)
Tuesday 13th January	Year 9 Parents' Evening (2)
Wednesday 14th January	Taster sessions for students
Friday 30 th January	Deadline for option choices

Forms and booklets

- Booklets will be sent out by Parentmail **next week**.
- Available on the website under “Parents” then GCSE Options 2026.
- Your electronic “Option Choices Form” will also be sent to parents via Parentmail on **Friday 12th December**. 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 advisor appointments are available – email Mr Marley requesting one
- Your Year 9 Form Tutor
- Mr Moseley (KS3 Well being and Progress Lead)
- Miss Holland (KS4 Well being and Progress Lead)
- Mrs Grogan (Senior Assistant Headteacher)
- Ms Dixon and Ms Langham (Pastoral Admin Assistants)

Useful Careers websites

- www.careersbox.co.uk
- www.icould.com
- www.ucas.ac.uk
- www.nhscareers.nhs.uk
- 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
- Specialist lessons/teachers
- 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