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Year 9 options process - timeline

Wednesday 26th February

Options evening

Monday 2nd March – Friday 13th March

Learning conversations

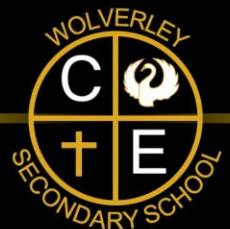
Thursday 12th March

Parents' evening

Monday 16th March – Friday 27th March

Make option choices

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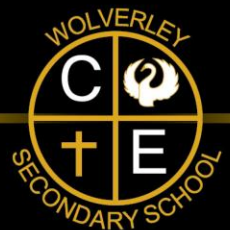


Why the fuss about qualifications?

‘In a competitive job market, academic and vocational qualifications are increasingly important. Those without qualifications are at a higher risk of being unemployed and having low incomes.’

Exclusion, employment and opportunity, Case Paper No 4, Atkinson. A and Hills J, (eds),

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English Baccalaureate

Represents breadth and strength in academic achievement

- **English GCSE**
- **Maths GCSE**
- **Combined Science GCSE (or Triple)**
- **Spanish**
- **History or Geography**

All at or above grade 5



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Compulsory Subjects – ‘Core’

ROUTE A:

Maths

English (Language and Literature)

Combined Science

History or Geography

Spanish

2 option subjects

Core PE

Core PSHE

Compulsory Subjects – ‘Core’

ROUTE B:

Maths

English (Language and Literature)

Combined Science

History or Geography

Option 3

2 option subjects

Core PE

Core PSHE

Compulsory Subjects – ‘Core’

Core:

History or Geography

**Studying both is possible – select history as core
and geography as the option subject**

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GCSE/Non-GCSE options – all study 2

GCSE

- Art & Design
- Geography
- Drama
- Physical Education
- Computer Science
- Food prep and nutrition
- DT - Product Design
- Triple Sciences
(Biology/Chemistry/Physics)
- Business Studies
- Music*

BTEC

- BTEC Enterprise
- BTEC Performing Arts: Dance
- BTEC Sport
- BTEC Music*

Check with Mr Malik

*one of these will run

Pre-option survey

Block 1

GCSE Art & Design
BTEC Dance
GCSE Drama
BTEC Enterprise
GCSE Food Prep & Nutrition
GCSE DT: Product Design
GCSE Geography
GCSE/BTEC* Music
GCSE Triple Sciences (Biology
/Chemistry/Physics)

*Just one course will run

Block 2

GCSE Art & Design
GCSE Business Studies
GCSE Computer Science
GCSE Food Prep & Nutrition
GCSE PE
BTEC Sport
GCSE DT: Product Design

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Students who follow route B

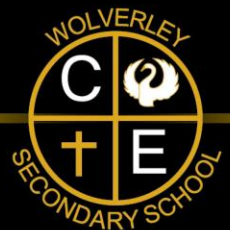
Choose a third choice from:

| Subject | Qualification |
|------------------------|---------------|
| Health and Social Care | BTEC |
| Engineering Design | OCR National |

A few places may be available in Animal Care.

These places are primarily for students who have supported the animal care centre, volunteered or made an active contribution.

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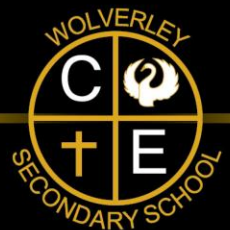
All students:

1. State core subject – history or geography
2. Make a first choice and reserve from Block 1
3. Make a first choice and reserve from Block 2

Route B students also:

Make a first choice and reserve from Block 3

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ALL STUDENTS: CHOOSE 1 FROM HISTORY OR GEOGRAPHY

Core Choice:

Please note if you want to study History and Geography select History in the box above and Geography in Option Block 1.

ALL STUDENTS: CHOOSE FROM BLOCK 1

Block 1: Select one subject from the list below and a reserve.

- GCSE Art & Design
- BTEC Performing Arts (Dance)
- GCSE Drama
- BTEC Enterprise
- GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition
- GCSE Geography
- BTEC Music or GCSE Music
- GCSE D&T: Product Design
- GCSE Triple Science

First choice:

Reserve:

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ALL STUDENTS: CHOOSE FROM BLOCK 2

Block 2: Select one subject from the list below and a reserve.

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• GCSE Art & Design• GCSE Business Studies• GCSE Computer Science• GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition• GCSE Physical Education• GCSE D&T: Product Design• BTEC Sport | First choice: |
| | Reserve: |

ROUTE B STUDENTS ONLY: CHOOSE FROM BLOCK 3

Block 3: *Route B students only.* Select one subject from the list below and a reserve.

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• OCR National Engineering Design• BTEC Health and Social Care | First choice: |
| | Reserve: |

Restrictions

Due to a high level of subject crossover, some combinations of subjects should not be chosen:

GCSE PE and BTEC Sport

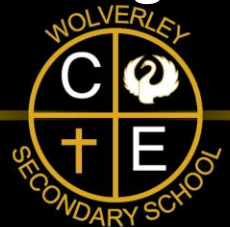
GCSE Drama and BTEC Dance

GCSE Business Studies and BTEC Enterprise

Route B - Option 3

GCSE DT: Product Design and OCR National: Engineering Design

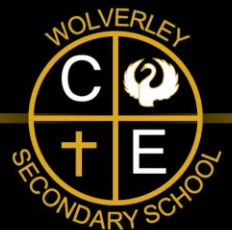
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What's different about Key Stage 4?

- **There are no easy courses!**
- Higher level and greater amount
- More independent learning
- Mock and final examinations
- Be prepared to give time to your studies

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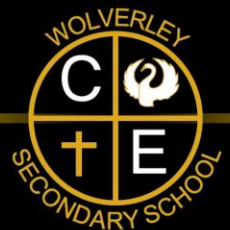


How do I make my choice?

Think carefully about your subject choices and find out about subject content and assessment; research the necessary subject requirements for any career in which you may be interested.

- **Personal strengths**
 - **Effort**
 - **Enjoyment**
 - **Ability**
 - **Progression**
- **Use the options booklet**

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Questions you may have:

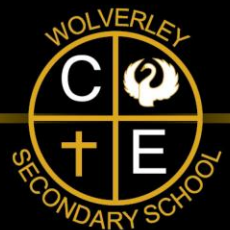
What happens if only a few students opt for a subject?

If the demand is too small, then it may not be possible for the course to run. We will do our very best to provide the subject, but there is no guarantee as sometimes it is simply not viable to run very small groups.

What happens if too many students opt for a subject?

If there are too many students for places on a course then we will, of course, do our best to find a solution – but there is not a guarantee. If we cannot find a way to provide the course for all students that have opted for it then we will prioritise students who ensured the timely return of the pre-options survey. Students will be informed if this applies to them.

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Questions you may have:

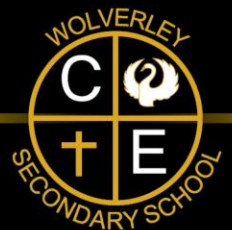
Will my son/daughter be allowed to change their mind after courses have started?

We urge you, very strongly, to talk through subject choices with your son/daughter and to attend all of the support events such as learning conversations, options evening and Year 9 parents' evening. With this thorough preparation, we don't expect students to change their mind. On rare occasions, we will *consider* a change of options but no more than 3 weeks into the new course.

Will my son/daughter have the same teacher as they do now?

There is no guarantee of which teacher your son/daughter will have; they should not make their choice based on this.

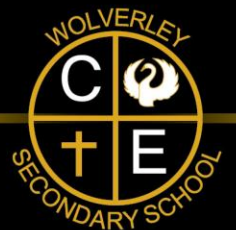
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Can the school guarantee that I will be given my first choice of subjects?

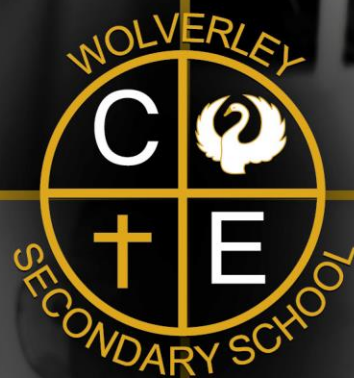
Every attempt will be made to give you the subjects of your choice but we ask you to select a **reserve** preference so we can best meet the needs of every student

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So what next?

- Join us for refreshments and informal discussions
- An opportunity to meet subject representatives of the option subjects – they will be able to answer any questions that you have



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Year 9
Options
are
Coming
Be Prepared

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