

KEY STAGE 5 CURRICULUM OFFER

| 2026/27



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INTRODUCTION

Making Key Stage 5 curriculum choices is an opportunity for you to take control of your education and shape the way you want your future to be. You may not yet know what you would like to do in the future, but you may know what subjects you like. These are the subjects you will probably be most successful in, as half of achieving success is enjoying the journey.

There are a range of courses for you here at Baston House School. It is important to choose subjects that will interest you and motivate you. Spend some time thinking about what you enjoy doing and what keeps you interested in something. Remember that you are not alone in making these decisions. Staff, parents, carers and family members will be able to guide, advise and support you in this decision-making process.

This booklet provides details of the Key Stage 5 curriculum at Baston House School. We have included on the option subject pages the potential teachers who would be delivering the option subjects, however please bear in mind that this is subject to change based on timetabling. You will also find at the back of the booklet some frequently asked questions to help you make sense of the information provided.

We look forward to working with you to shape your future.

Mrs Sharon Oakes and Mr Willem Stapelberg
SMT
May 2026

TIMETABLE STRUCTURE

All Key stage 5 students will study and work towards accreditation in the following core subjects:

- English
- Maths
- Employability

All students will also study the following subjects:

- PSHE
- Health & Fitness
- Preparation for adulthood

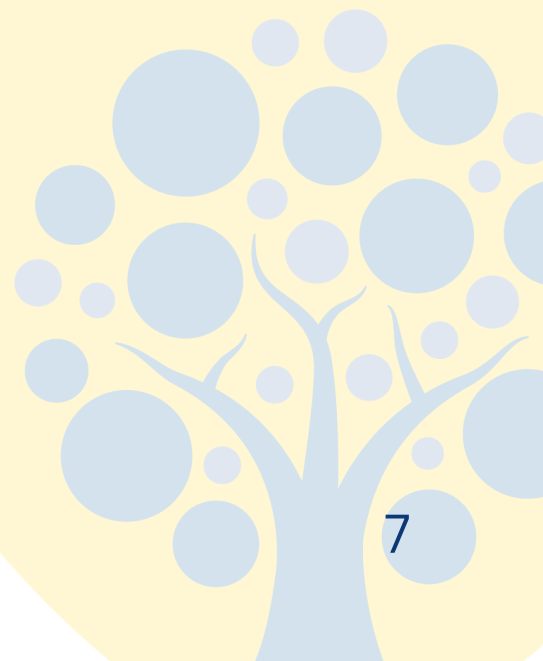
You will have a choice of option subjects to choose from to compliment your core studies. These range from Duke of Edinburgh Awards, BTEC Level 1 & 2 certificates and a range of Unit Award Scheme options.

The next few pages will provide information on all the core and option subjects. Please take time to digest all the information so that you can make an informed choice.

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CORE SUBJECT SNAPSHOTS

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ENGLISH

Of all the subjects on offer at Baston House, English is the one you will use for the rest of your life. Guaranteed! Whatever level you are at, there is a pathway that you will find challenging but doable. It will take time, practise and some effort, but you will improve your ability to communicate effectively with the world around you. That's why it's a core subject.

ENGLISH QUALIFICATIONS

GCSE English Language offers a grade of 1-9, and covers reading and writing stories, reading and writing non-fiction texts, speaking and listening effectively. There are two exams – one is 1 ¾ hours and the other is 2 hours.

If you're not ready for that yet, we have **Functional Skills Level 1**, which covers reading and writing but without stories. There are two exams for this and each one is 1 hour long. There are also some Speaking and Listening assessments.

If you're still building up to this level, there's **Entry Level**, which covers reading and writing, made up of a 1-hour exam, classroom assessments and Speaking and Listening.

Your English progress allows you to move up from one level to the next as your abilities grow, meaning that, whilst we celebrate your success, there will always be something to work towards.

MATHEMATICS

Through previous assessments you have completed during this year, you will follow either Entry Level, Functional Skills or GCSE Mathematics pathways. All pathways are delivered in class and you will have the opportunity to progress throughout the year, when you are ready.

MATHEMATICS QUALIFICATIONS

The **Entry Level Certificate in Mathematics** qualification is available at Entry Level 1, Entry Level 2 and Entry Level 3.

This pathway consists of one externally set test and one externally set task for Entry 1 and 2 and two externally set tests and one externally set task for Entry 3. Tests and tasks have no time limits for completion and can be sat at any time during the school year. The tests account for 60% of the qualification and the tasks 40%.

The course content for Entry Level qualifications is as follows:

Entry Level 1 and Entry Level 2

- Number
- Geometry
- Measures
- Statistics

Entry Level 3

- Number
- Geometry
- Measures
- Statistics
- Algebra
- Ratio and Proportion

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MATHEMATICS QUALIFICATIONS CONTINUED

Functional Skills Level 1 and 2 can be delivered over one or two years. You will take mock exams twice a year to prepare you for your final exam. The course content for Functional skills is:

- Use of number and the number system
- Use of measures, shape and space
- Handling information and data

The **GCSE Mathematics** pathway is delivered over 2 years with two mock exams to help prepare you for your final examination at the end of the course.

The course content for GCSE Mathematics is:

- Number
- Algebra
- Ratio, proportion and rates of change
- Geometry and measures
- Probability
- Statistics

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HEALTH & FITNESS

Our Post-16 physical education, 'Health and Fitness', equips you with the practical skills and knowledge to maintain an active, healthy lifestyle beyond education. You'll learn how to stay fit affordably through local leisure opportunities, plan personal fitness routines, use public gyms safely, and manage nutrition for health. The programme includes real-world experiences such as navigating to leisure centres independently, booking classes online, and communicating confidently with gym staff. Beyond physical fitness, we focus on lifelong wellbeing—teaching stress management, exercise for mental health, injury prevention, sleep and recovery, and building body confidence. Post-16 PE empowers you to take control of your health with positive habits and the practical tools needed for independent, active living throughout adulthood.

Key skills taught:

- Stress management
- Exercise for mental wellbeing
- Healthy habits
- Safe exercise choices
- Injury prevention
- Sleep and recovery
- Body confidence
- Healthy routines

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PSHE

At Key Stage 5, you will deepen your knowledge and understanding, extend and rehearse skills, and further explore attitudes, values and attributes acquired during Key Stage 4. PSHE education reflects the fact that you are moving towards an independent role in adult life, taking on greater responsibility for yourself and others. Key topics covered include:

- Health & wellbeing
- Relationships
- Living in the wider world

EMPLOYABILITY

In Key Stage 5 you will engage with a qualification in Employability Skills with NCFE at entry 3, level 1 or level 2.

Qualification objectives

The objectives of these qualifications are to help learners to:

- Develop and enhance skills required for the working environment
- Develop learners' confidence for employment and motivation
- Improve communication skills and personal effectiveness
- Provide a basis for further study

Throughout the course, you will be involved in activities and tasks that enhance your experiences within the world of work further, developing your opportunity of employability. Units include mindset, looking for work and interview skills in year 1.

Pupils will complete four units equalling 6 credits which are assessed as written portfolios of work. Pupils will gain an NCFE Entry level 3 Award at the end of year 1.

During summer term students in years 10-14 are expected to take part in work experience. If you are able to support your young person with work experience outside of school, we would very much value your input

PREPARATION FOR ADULTHOOD

As part of our KS5 curriculum offer, we will have a full day of activities covering a variety of topics under the following:

- Travel Training
- Life Skills
- Independent Living

During this day, we will be able to take students out on trips to enhance their independence and also have students engaged with clinical; interventions as required.

Please find more details about each topic below.

Travel Training

This comprehensive curriculum establishes a progressive, multi-stage travel training framework designed to move students from foundational spatial awareness to complete transit independence. By structuring the content into distinct phases, the programme sequentially builds critical life skills, beginning with basic pedestrian safety concepts like "Stop-Look-Listen-Think" and recognition of local landmarks.

As students advance, they transition from heavily supervised community walks to supported public transit navigation, mastering timetables, ticketing systems, and digital journey planners, before finally progressing to autonomous route execution and problem-solving strategies for disruptions. The final stages culminate in advanced independent travel skills, driver responsibilities, and UK Highway Code familiarity, ultimately empowering students with the confidence, safety strategies, and personal autonomy required to navigate real-world transport networks successfully.

PREPARATION FOR ADULTHOOD

Life skills

Our post-16 life skills programme is designed to build confidence, independence, and preparation for adult life in a supportive and structured environment. Students develop practical everyday skills, including communication, travel training, road safety, money management, and budgeting. They also focus on cooking, food preparation, personal care, hygiene, emotional wellbeing, self-regulation, social interaction, and relationship building.

Through personalised learning, real-life experiences, and community-based activities, we help young people strengthen their independence, develop employability skills, and achieve their personal goals for the future. Ultimately, our nurturing approach celebrates each student's strengths while supporting them to thrive both in education and beyond.

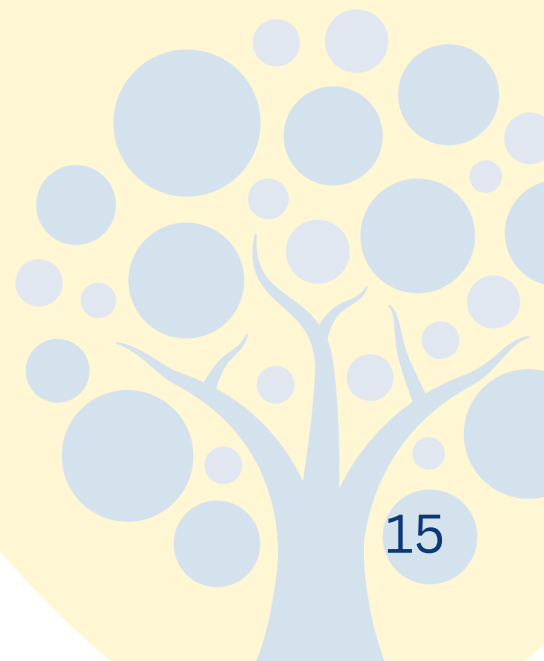
Independent living

Our independent living course is a highly flexible, skills-focused framework designed to help learners, particularly those with learning difficulties or disabilities, develop essential life skills, knowledge, and self-awareness. Available across multiple Entry Levels, this inclusive curriculum consists entirely of class and community activities, completely removing the pressure of formal written examinations.

Learning providers can completely personalise the programme by combining specific modules tailored to individual student needs, covering highly practical topics such as food preparation, hygiene, healthcare, childcare, and group collaboration. Ultimately, the course acts as an adaptable stepping stone that recognises a wide range of learner achievements, helping students build the confidence and transferable social skills required to safely navigate, live, and work independently within their local community.

OPTION SUBJECT SNAPSHOTS

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UNIT AWARD SCHEME

What are Unit Award options?

The Unit Award options provide the opportunity for you to experience a range of subjects and skills which have a common theme or link in an area of interest to you.

You will work towards a portfolio of certificates which demonstrate your skills, knowledge, understanding and engagement with the subject. They are internally assessed by your teachers and are not public exams.

The teaching team will select the level of Unit Award Schemes appropriate for you; it can be custom made to help you to engage and enjoy the course and prepare for future qualifications with a greater understanding of the subjects. If you have enjoyed a particular aspect of the course, you can then progress to Entry Levels, BTEC/GCSEs or apprenticeship options in the future.

UAS IN ART

Teachers:

Baston House School site - Mrs Tracy Mitchell

Woodside Park School site - Ms Sanchia Orr

Do you enjoy drawing, painting, printing or modelling? Using your creative skills, you will learn how to use a variety of resources and materials including textiles, paint, lego and charcoal. You can learn and develop a wealth of practical and transferable skills with a range of Unit Awards Schemes which can be modified to suit your needs and abilities, from entry level to level two.

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UAS IN DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

Teachers:

Baston House School site - Ms Sanchia Orr/Mr Sam Chilton-Higgins

Woodside Park School site - Ms Sanchia Orr

Do you enjoy designing, making or constructing? Using your creative skills, you will learn how to use a variety of tools, equipment and materials including wood, metal, plastics and electronics. You can learn and develop a wealth of practical and transferable skills with a range of Unit Awards Schemes which can be modified to suit your needs and abilities, from entry level to level two.

You will learn 'the tricks of the trade' in joining methods, isometric drawing, planning, designing, modelling, making and how to safely use hand tools and power tools, cast metal and computer aided design and manufacture (CAD CAM). You will also learn how to apply a variety of finishes to your products. These courses can lead on to progressing to higher level courses in art, design and technology

UAS IN ICT

Teachers:

Baston House School site - Mrs Joy Wickes

Woodside Park School site - Mr Juan Vargas

Are you interested in 'visual technology'? For example, photography, graphic design and digital media. Digital Technology will provide you with the tools and techniques to explore a wide range of themes and ideas that can be applied across a wide range of areas including designing magazines, posters, presentations, social media, websites and digital posts. If you have a creative mind and enjoy technology, you will find this option engaging and invaluable.

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UAS IN FOOD TECHNOLOGY

Teachers:

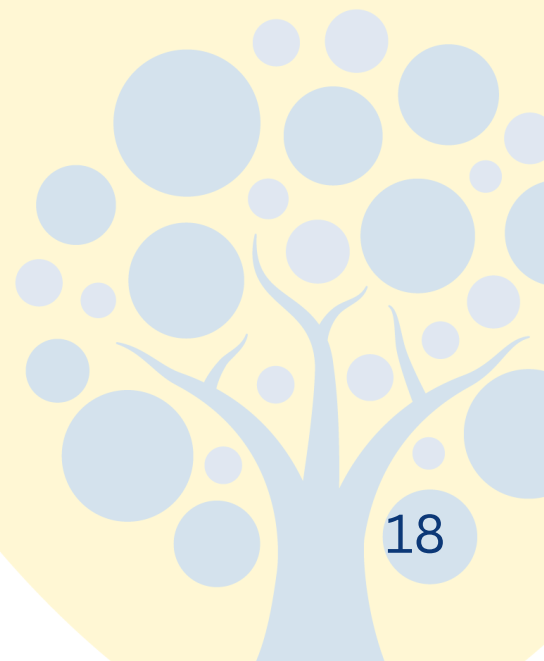
Baston House School site - Ms Samantha Adams

Woodside Park School site - Miss Emily Clifford

On this course you will have the opportunity to complete a range of unit award schemes that will be selected to suit your taste, interest and ability. All dishes are cooked from scratch. You will have the opportunity to adapt your recipes to suit your taste or dietary requirements. All units are coursework based. There are no final assessments at the end of the year.

You will also have the opportunity to complete nationally recognised courses such as Level 2 Food Hygiene, Level 2 Food Safety and Food Allergy course; all of which will be very impressive on your CV, especially if you are interested in a part-time or full-time job in the catering industry. They will also prove your commitment to the subject if you are considering moving on to catering college in the future.

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BTEC ART & DESIGN

Teachers:

Baston House School site - Mrs Tracy Mitchell

Woodside Park School site - Ms Sanchia Orr

Level 1 and 2
Each Level is a 2-year course

Why Study Art and Design?

Art and design actively encourage creative thinking, allowing you to generate new ideas and approaches to problems across different disciplines. You will learn skills like visual communication, colour theory, composition, and critical analysis gained through art studies are valuable in various professional fields.

Art provides a platform to express your emotions, perspectives, and individual identity through various mediums. You will practice with different art techniques, materials, and digital tools, that will equip you with the ability to execute your creative vision effectively.

An art and design background will open doors to diverse career paths like graphic design, illustration, fashion design, product design, animation, art direction, and more.

Studying art history and diverse artistic movements helps you gain a deeper understanding of different cultures and perspectives.

Engaging in artistic practices like drawing and sculpting can improve hand-eye coordination and fine motor skills.

The two-year courses will be coursework based during art lessons, with a final exam in the Spring term that will take place during your art lesson with your art teacher, you will be given a theme to research and will create a piece of artwork around that theme, using materials of your choice.



BTEC FIRST AWARD IN ICT

Teachers:

Baston House School site - Mrs Joy Wickes

Woodside Park School site - Mr Juan Vargas

2 year course

If you choose to study the **BTEC First Award in Information and Creative Technology** you will gain a broad understanding and knowledge of the Information Technology sector and some aspects of the creative industries. The focus will be on understanding Information and Creative Technology through the selection of optional specialist units.

The course will cover online systems which is relevant in many roles in the industry. The course also covers web authoring, creating an online digital portfolio, digital animation where you will design and produce your own digital animated product and digital graphics where you will design, create and test graphic products and think about the creative aspects of the product as well as the technical aspect.

You will be assessed by completing three internal assignments within given deadlines. There is also one external assessment which is computer-based and accounts for 25% of the final grade.

BTEC HOME COOKING SKILLS

Teachers:

Baston House School site - Ms Samantha Adams

Woodside Park School site - Miss Emily Clifford

Level 1 and 2

Each level is a 1-year course

If you have enjoyed your Food Technology lessons and would like to continue to learn new practical skills in the food room, this course may well be suitable for you. On this course you will learn the essential life skills of home cooking which can benefit your health and general well-being. You will understand food safety and hygiene, how to store, buy food on a budget and have the skills to cook healthy, cost-effective meals for you, your friends and your family. All dishes are cooked from scratch. You will have the opportunity to adapt your recipes to suit your taste or dietary requirements.

There will be a final assessment in the food room in the spring. The assessment booklet will be completed in your lesson times in the food room. Examples of these can be found in the food room. Do come in and have a look. The practical assessment comprises of one or two courses of your choice which you will make in the food room and will have plenty of time to cook it.

This may be your start to a career in catering or it may help you to continue to enjoy cooking when at home.



DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

Teachers:

Baston House School site - Mr Colin Drew

Woodside Park School site - Mr Colin Drew

Each award is a one year course

Choosing to study for **Duke of Edinburgh Award** is a great decision to make for lots of reasons. The course offers a life-changing experience and an opportunity to discover new interests and talents. This qualification is a tool to develop essential skills for life and work. It is also a recognised mark of achievement and respected by employers.

You will need to complete the Bronze Award to progress to Silver and Gold. Each award takes one year.

There are four sections to the award consisting of:

- Volunteering- Supporting individuals or giving back to the community.
- Physical- Improving in an area of sport, dance or fitness.
- Skills- Developing practical and social skills and personal interests.
- Expedition- Planning, training for and completing an adventurous journey.

The courses involve helping the community and the environment, becoming fitter, developing new skills, planning, training for and completing an expedition and, for Gold only, working with a team on a residential activity. Any young person can do their DofE – regardless of your ability, gender, background or location. Achieving an Award is not a competition or about being first, it is all about setting personal challenges and pushing personal boundaries.

Through a DofE programme can help to improve your self-esteem and build confidence and gain essential skills and attributes for work and life such as resilience, problem-solving, team-working, communication and drive, enhancing CVs and university and job applications.

UAS/BTEC

PERFORMING ARTS

Teachers:

Baston House School site - Mr James Graydon/Miss Sammy-Jo Shaw

Woodside Park School site - Mr James Graydon

We will explore anything and everything around the performing arts. working in both groups and independently, you will learn all sorts of skills in expression, speech, language, body language and non-verbal communication. As we master the art of performance through drama, we will also learn how to evoke various emotions from an audience, as well as how to develop a character and wear the mask of another.

You would be able to either pursue UAS portfolios or the two-year BTEC qualification. The BTEC course consists of 3 practical components, where you will explore the performing arts, develop skills, techniques and perform in response to a set brief. You will be practically assessed in school on your ability to perform using an informed approach as a result of exploring and investigating different performance techniques, influences, stylistic qualities and creative intentions.

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TRINITY ROCK AND POP MUSIC

Teachers:

Baston House School site - Mr James Graydon/Ms Karen Oldman

Woodside Park School site - Mr James Graydon/Ms Karen Oldman

1 or 2 year course

Music is a universal language that can help us express ourselves as well as communicate with others in ways that words often can't. Many musicians also experience an increase in self-confidence, creativity and a sense of achievement.

You can continue, or even start, your musical journey through **Trinity Rock and Pop Music** in keyboards, guitar, bass, drums and vocals.

It can be a one or a two year course, depending on how far you wish to progress.

The grades range from Initial to grade 8 and for each grade you will learn 3 pieces of your choosing from the syllabus, (including a technical focus piece) on your chosen instrument(s). When you are ready it will be filmed in the music room and sent for exam admission. Based on performances and the marks given, a total out of 100 will be calculated and awarded distinction, merit or pass.

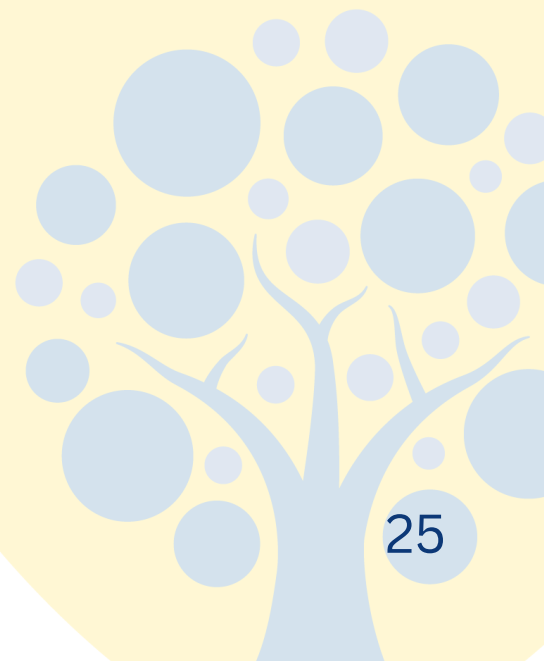
Music can take you where you want to be taken: for personal goals, further education (Grades 6 to 8 are eligible for UCAS points) or employment opportunities within the creative arts industry.





NEXT STEPS

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SELECTING YOUR OPTIONS

You need to decide on three option subjects that you will do over two full days. Each subject will be timetabled over four lessons.

Below are the option blocks which set's out the courses you can choose from. You need to choose **ONE** course per option block.

Option A	Option B	Option C
UAS Food Tech/BTEC Home Cooking	UAS Food Tech/BTEC Home Cooking	UAS Food Tech/BTEC Home Cooking
UAS/BTEC ICT	UAS/BTEC ICT	UAS/BTEC Art or UAS DT
Duke of Edinburgh	UAS/BTEC Art or UAS DT	Duke of Edinburgh
Trinity Rock & Pop	Trinity Rock & Pop	UAS/BTEC Performing Arts

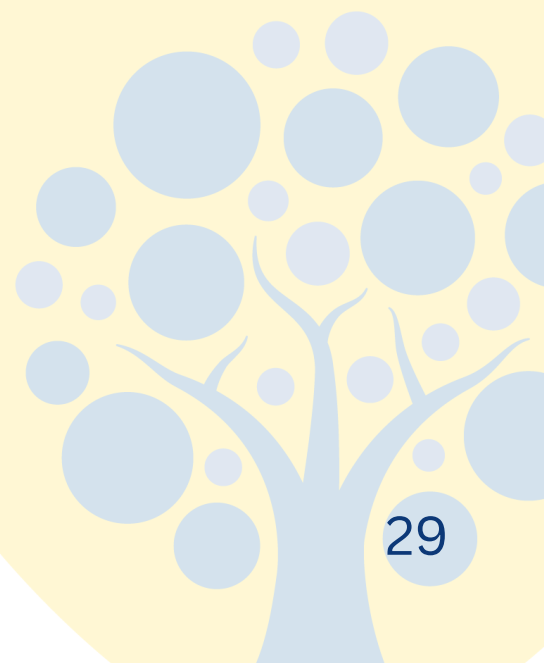
LESSON ALLOCATION

	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI
1	Option A	Option C	Core	Core	Prep for adulthood
2	Option A	Option C	Core	Core	
3	Option B	Option B	Core	Core	
4	Option B	Option B	Core	Core	
5	Option A	Option C	Core	Core	
6	Option A	Option C	Core	Core	

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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1. What is the difference between entry level and Functional Skills?

Entry level qualifications are internally assessed by staff in the school and there are not exams.

Functional Skills assessments are graded as pass or fail and the result is based on exam papers.

2. What is the difference between Functional Skills and GCSE in Maths and English?

Functional Skills English focuses primarily on spelling, grammar and verbal communication. The purpose of the course is to get you confident in interacting with others in both written and verbal communication.

A GCSE English course, which takes place over a two year period, will focus more on the theoretical aspect of study whilst enhancing your reading and writing skills. You will delve deeper into the structure of language, analyse types of texts and compare them.

Functional Skills Maths will provide you with mathematical skills that you can use in daily life such as how to split a bill or measure ingredients for cooking.

A GCSE Maths course, which takes place over a two year period, will explore more complex equations and enhance your academic understanding.

3. What is the difference between GCSEs and BTECs?

GCSEs are an academic qualification in a particular subject. They are normally 100% exam based, although some exams are practical exams done under strict supervision, known as a controlled assessment.

BTECs are more practical, specialist courses that are focused on a specific industry or job area. BTECs tend to revolve around coursework and are assessed via a mix of project-based assessments, written tests, online assessments and exams, depending on the course selected.

Both GCSEs and BTECs have equivalent academic value and are widely recognised by employers, colleges and universities.

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4. What are the different types of BTECs?

BTEC Level 3 is equivalent to A Levels

BTEC Level 1 and 2 are roughly equivalent to the following GCSE grades:

Level 2 Distinction*: Grade 8/9 (Grade A*/ High A)

Level 2 Distinction: Grade 7 (Grade A/High B)

Level 2 Merit: Grade 5/6 (Grade B/ High C)

Level 2 Pass: Grade 4 (Grade C)

Level 1 Distinction: Grade 3 (Grade D)

Level 1 Merit: Grade 2 (Grade E/F)

Level 1 Pass: Grade 1 (Grade F/G)

5. How many options will I take?

You will choose **THREE** option courses. Each will have four lessons per week.

6. I really can't decide. What do I do?

- Talk to someone who listens to you. It could be a family member, a friend or a staff member.
- Ask teachers if they have examples of what they will be doing if you select their subject as an option.
- When or where do you feel most relaxed? For example, if you like to keep your fingers busy, perhaps look further into subjects such as Art, Food Technology and/ or Design Technology. If you would rather be outdoors, look further into subjects such as Duke of Edinburgh.
- Think also about your hobbies or what you enjoy doing. Do you like cooking, enjoy music, making things or technology? See what options are available for you that you would enjoy. If you enjoy your lessons, you'll find it far easier to achieve success.

7. What are the key dates for selecting my options?

- Issue course information to parents: Friday 22 May 2026
- KS5 Options Evening: Wednesday 3 June 2026
- Deadline for options choices: Wednesday 10 June 2026
- Transition programme: TBC

