

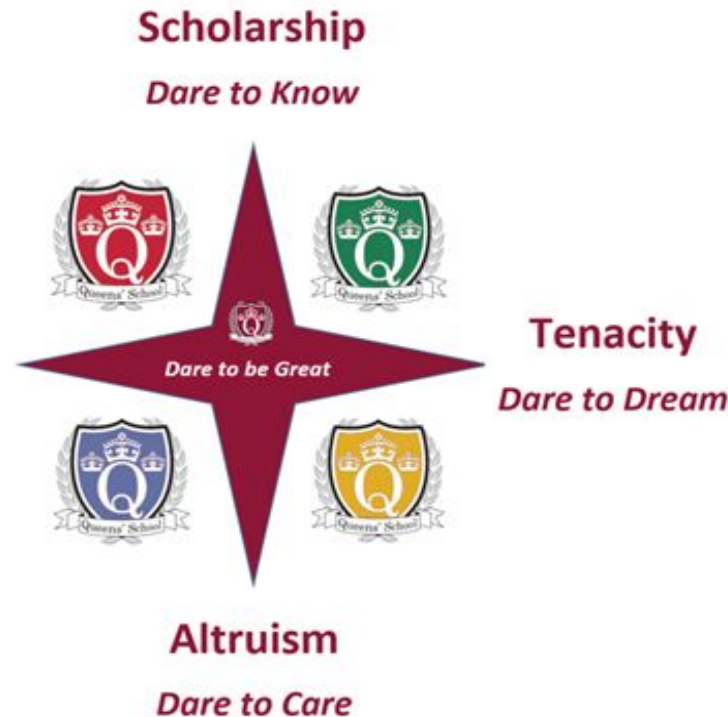
Year 9 GCSE Options Assembly

3 rows per form

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FD
FX
TC
TM

Respect
Dare to Act



3 rows per form

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AB
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SW

“Everything you've ever wanted is one step outside your comfort zone.” - Robert Allen [author & mentor]

GCSE: General Certificate in Secondary Education

Year 10 – 11

GCSE = Level 2 Qualification

Year 12 - 13

A-Level = Level 3 Qualification

Your GCSE results are a very important part of your academic journey. The choices you make and the results you get can affect:

- **The sixth form you go to**
- **The qualifications you take next**
- **Your eligibility for a university course**
- **The universities you can apply to**
 - **Your career prospects**

Choices...



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KS4 Curriculum: Pathway E

Subject (s)	Number of GCSEs	Number of lessons
GCSE English Language & GCSE English Literature	2	8 lessons/fortnight
GCSE Mathematics	1	7 lessons/fortnight
GCSE Combined Science OR GCSE Triple Science	2 or 3	12 lessons/fortnight
Choice 1: French or Spanish (MFL)	1	5 lessons/fortnight
Choice 2: History or Geography (Humanity)	1	5 lessons/fortnight
Choice 3: open choice	1	5 lessons/fortnight
Choice 4: open choice	1	5 lessons/fortnight
	9 or 10	



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Pathway E

- > This is the pathway the majority of students are placed on.
- > It represents a broad academic curriculum combination with the core and applied literacy, numeracy and language skills and knowledge which the school knows to be of educational importance;
- > It facilitates entry to competitive university and college courses and careers.
- > It means that students are entered for the **Ebacc**, a government-approved suite of qualifications which it is expected that the majority of students are entered for.

Ebacc consists of: GCSE English Language, GCSE Mathematics

GCSE Combined Science or Triple Science

GCSE Modern Foreign Language

GCSE History or Geography

Pathway E -further notes

- > You should assume, unless you are specifically told otherwise, that you are on Pathway E. This is because you are automatically on this pathway, as are most students.
- > Pathway E students are not informed by letter that they are on Pathway E for the reasons stated above. You cannot choose your pathway.
- > The school recommends that one of your open choices be a **practical or performative subject** (i.e. PE, Drama, Music, Art, Technology) in order to provide balance in your timetable, and also because these subjects partially comprise non-examined assessment (NEA-coursework) which can be completed during the school year before the intense examination period.
- > **You are welcome to take more than one MFL, or History AND Geography.**

Pathway C:

- > Where a student is identified as needing particular additional support in order to ensure the best possible chance of a standard or strong pass in either/both English Language and Maths, they will follow this pathway which replaces one option with a programme of Core Skills, including a combination of extra foundation English and/or Maths.
- > Options information (letters, login codes for Options Online etc) are always sent to YOU, not to your parents. As Year 9 students growing into young adults and GCSE students, YOU are now expected to manage your future aspirations and choices.

KS4 Curriculum: Core Skills pathway

Subject (s)	Number of GCSEs	Number of lessons
GCSE English Language & GCSE English Literature	2	8 lessons/fortnight
GCSE Mathematics	1	7 lessons/fortnight
GCSE Combined Science OR GCSE Triple Science	2 or 3	12 lessons/fortnight
Core Skills: further foundation support in English/Maths	Functional Skills*	5 lessons/fortnight
Choice 2: History, Geography or MFL	1	5 lessons/fortnight
Choice 3: open choice	1	5 lessons/fortnight
Choice 4: open choice	1	5 lessons/fortnight
	8 or 9	



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KS4 Curriculum

Open Choice Subjects:

French	Drama	Resistant Materials*	<u>Classical Civilisation**</u>
Spanish	Art	Graphics*	<u>Sociology**</u>
History	Music	Textiles*	<u>Psychology**</u>
Geography	Computer Science	Food & Nutrition*	<u>Business**</u>
Religious Studies	PE		

Restricted combinations: * You may not choose more than one technology subject
** You may not choose more than one new subject

GCSE Science: What is Combined and Triple Science?

- Everyone has to do **Science at GCSE**.
 - This includes Biology, Chemistry and Physics
- You will be invited to take either **Combined Science** or **Triple Science**.
- **Combined Science** is **x2 GCSE** qualifications, **Triple Science** is **x3**. Both are 6 lessons a week, so **studying Triple requires more independent learning**.
- **We will predominantly look at your end of KS3 assessment** and then select which students are invited to choose whether to study Triple Science or not.
 - You do not have to pick triple it if you receive this letter.
- This will not affect wanting to study a science at sixth form or college.
 - (depending on your GCSE grade!)

This does not change your other GCSE option choices or pathway in any way.



Additional information

- **You will also continue to have Core PE lessons**

Activities focussing on getting you active and keeping you healthy both in mind and body. This includes students who have chosen GCSE PE.

- **You will also continue to have LLL lessons**

Activities focussing on learning and developing important skills and knowledge about life, health, relationships, careers and the wider world.

Example combinations

Pathway E

- History, Spanish, Food and Drama
- Geography, Spanish, Psychology and Graphics
- History, French, Religious Studies, Computer Science
- Geography, French, Art and GCSE PE
- History, French, Computer Science, Business

Pathway C

- Core Skills, Geography, Music, Computer Science
- Core Skills, Spanish, Art, History
- Core Skills, GCSE PE, French, Business
- Core Skills, Geography, Resistant Materials, Religious Studies

Thinking backwards...

A career in medicine



Skills required:

- Scientific and mathematical
- Communication- written and spoken
- Extended knowledge of human anatomy and behaviour
- Manual dexterity (hand-eye)

Combination

1. Spanish
2. History
3. Psychology
4. Resistant Materials

Thinking backwards...

Skills required:

A career in journalism



- Communication- written and spoken-possibly in multiple languages
- Research- working with source materials and evaluating them
- Interest in society and culture

Combination

1. French
2. History
3. Music
4. Sociology

Thinking backwards...

Skills required:

Running a business



- Communication- written and spoken-possibly in multiple languages
- Understanding how businesses operate
- Understanding needs of a local/national workforce

Combination

1. Spanish
2. History
3. Business
4. Religious Studies

Thinking backwards...

Skills required:

A career in Law



- Ability to analyse in close linguistic detail the meanings and interpretations of long documents
- communication- written and spoken-possibly in multiple languages and for international law
- understanding ethics
- speaking confidently in front of others
- creative thinking and problem solving with people

Combination

1. History
2. French
3. Religious Studies
4. Drama

Striking a balance



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A timeline of what happens next:

Today! Monday 22nd January:	Introduction to GCSE options assembly
February onwards:	Introductory Loom videos on all subjects, including 'new' subjects
W/b 5th February:	Options booklet published on our website.
W/b 22nd February:	Further Options Guidance Assembly
Tuesday 12th March:	GCSE Options Evening. Y9 families invited into school.
Friday 15th March:	Third 'How to submit your Options' assembly.
Monday 18th March:	Options Online invitations to be sent out to Year 9 students, selections can now be made
Thursday 21st March:	Deadline for submission.
May onwards:	Invitation letters to study either Combined or Triple Science

What should I now ask myself?

- **What might I want to do at university, or as a career, and what subjects will I need?** Signing into UNIFROG can help you a lot with this!
- **What subjects do I enjoy?**
- **What subjects am I good at?**
 - **Who might be good to speak to for advice?**