

Submit any enquiries to:
Year8Options@ilkleygs.co.uk



ILKLEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

A MOORLANDS LEARNING TRUST ACADEMY

YEAR 8 OPTIONS EVENING

WEDNESDAY 6th MARCH 2024

Carly Purnell- Headteacher

Ms. Gemma Cloughton- *Deputy Headteacher: Quality of Education*



PRIDE



RESPECT



COURAGE



RESPONSIBILITY



KINDNESS



RESILIENCE

Why an options process for year 8?



Broad and balanced and does not close doors



A chance to **personalise**



Gain initial **grounding** in main principles and key knowledge before choosing for GCSE

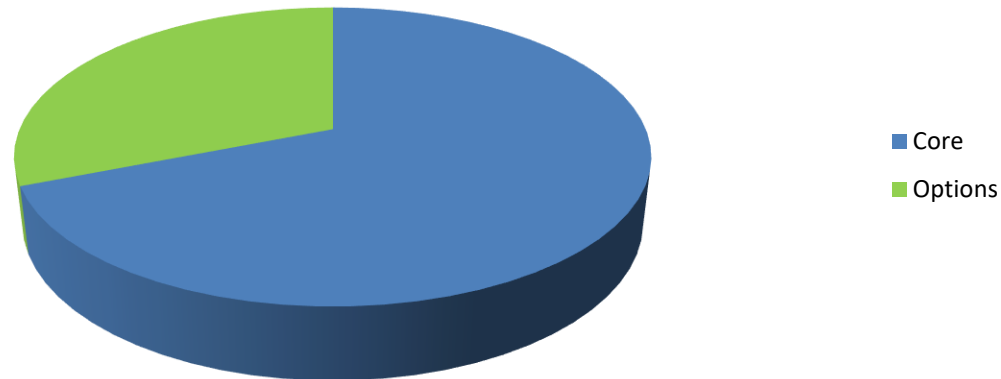
IT IS NOT STARTING GCSEs EARLY, BUT AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN CORE CONCEPTS, KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS THAT UNLOCK LATER UNDERSTANDING.



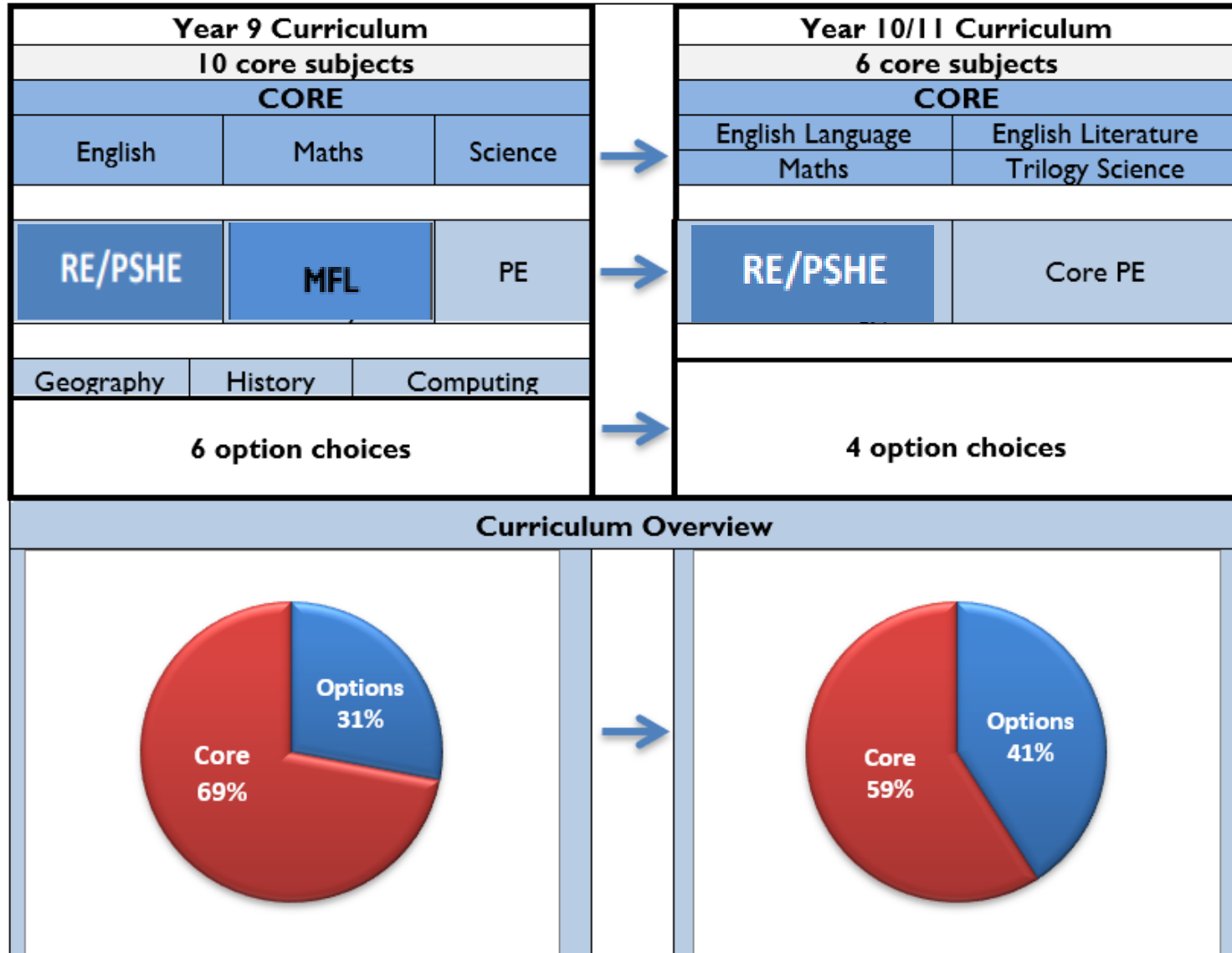
THE YEAR 9 CORE CURRICULUM 2024-5

English	Mathematics	Science	Geography	History
7	7	9	3	3

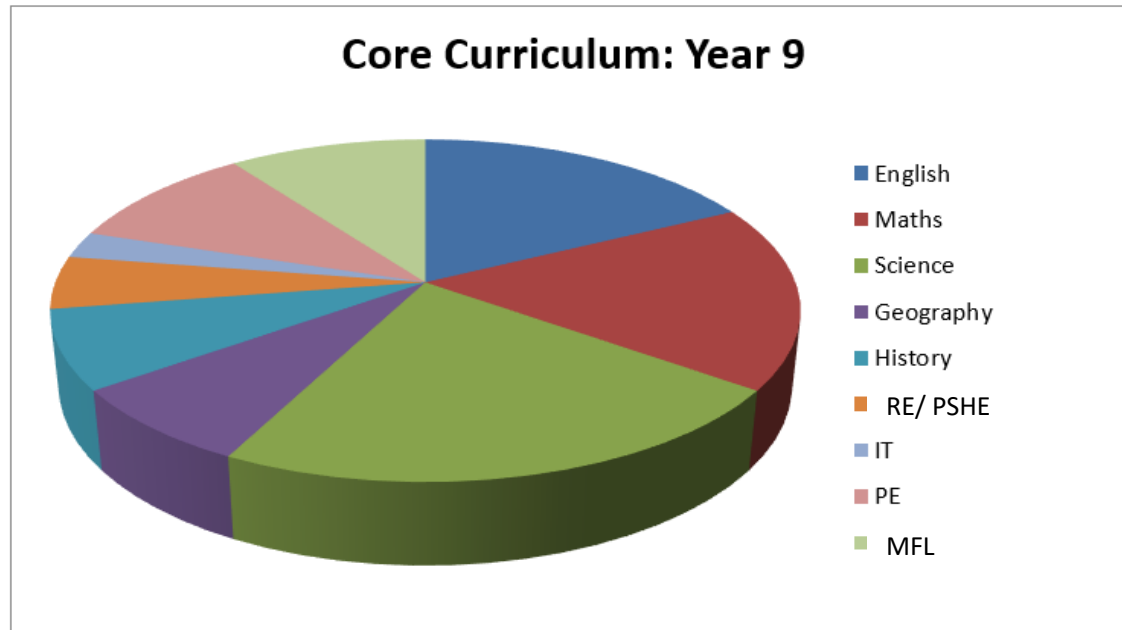
RE/PSHE	Computing	PE	MFL
2	1	4	4



AVOIDING NARROWING TOO MUCH TOO EARLY



WHY ARE ALL THESE SUBJECTS CORE?



- 1) **English, maths, science and RE are statutory** in all schools until the end of Key Stage 4
- 2) **PSHE helps to develop** active, informed and **responsible citizens**, who stay **healthy** and are prepared for **life in modern Britain**, gain **relationships and sex education** and understand **protected characteristics**.
- 3) **PE provides opportunities to become physically confident** which supports health/ fitness.
- 4) **IT** develops skills for life in a **modern, digital world**.
- 5) **Geography and history are both EBACC subjects** and support the development of literacy.
- 6) **MFL: In a global society**, the ability to speak another language is a recognised and valuable skill. A language is also an essential component of the **EBACC**.



The English Baccalaureate - GCSE

English	Maths	2 x Science	Language	History Or Geography
Grades 5 - 9				

This is not a new qualification in itself, but recognises students achieving 6 GCSE grades 5-9 in the above academic subjects.

The English Baccalaureate is a combination of 6 traditional academic subjects.

Currently, only History and Geography are recognised as Humanities subjects.

Modern Foreign Languages (French and Spanish) are both available at KS4, although you only need to select one as part of the English Baccalaureate. There is a new structure to the specifications in these subjects for first teaching in 2024 and first exams in 2026.



WHY HAVE OPTIONS BEEN INTRODUCED INTO YEAR 9?

Research shows that that a curriculum designed by student choice encourages motivation, achievement, direction and success.

SUBJECT	PROGRESS SCORE 2023	SUBJECT	PROGRESS SCORE 2023
Travel & Tourism	+1.99	History	+.43
Biology - separate	+1.22	Photography	+1.12
Engineering	+1.43	Chemistry – separate	+.71
Spanish	+.5	Technology	+.74
Philosophy	+.4	Geography	+.47
Art	+.62	Music	+1.04
Health and Social	+.74	Physics	+.95

THE OPTIONS CURRICULUM

YEAR 9 CORE PROGRAMME:

English	Mathematics	Science	Geography	History
RE/PSHE	Computing	PE	MFL	

YEAR 8 into 9 OPTIONS PROGRAMME:

Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Option 5	Option 6
Technology	Creative Arts		Free Choice A	Free Choice B	Free Choice C
↓	↓		↓	↓	↓
Electronics Food Resistant Materials Textiles Event Management/Catering Design Engineering	Art*** Drama Music Photography*** Media Studies***	3 choices from: A 2 nd language (NB: this takes up 2 free options) A 2 nd or 3 rd specialist technology A 3 rd creative art Computer Science Introduction to Business Studies Introduction to Law Philosophy and Ethics Pre-GCSE PE Digital IT Preparation for Adulthood ** (guided option) Accelerated Literacy (AL)**** (guided option)			

CORE + OPTIONS = A BROAD AND BALANCED CURRICULUM

TECHNOLOGY

Specialist Technology Option:

A choice from:

**FOOD
TECHNOLOGY**

TEXTILES

**RESISTANT
MATERIALS**

**ELECTRONIC
PRODUCTS**

**IF YOU CHOOSE A SPECIALIST TECHNOLOGY, YOU CAN ALSO CHOOSE A
SECOND OR THIRD SPECIALIST TECHNOLOGY AS PART OF YOUR FREE
OPTIONS**



SPECIALIST TECHNOLOGY OPTIONS

EVENT MANAGEMENT AND
CATERING

DESIGN ENGINEERING

Available to all, but some students may be also 'guided' to these more practical options where appropriate.



THE CREATIVE ARTS OPTIONS:

2 choices from:

**ART
OR
PHOTOGRAPHY***

DRAMA

**MEDIA
STUDIES***

MUSIC

NB: You can choose both art and photography, but one of them must be one of your free options

****You can choose both media and photography, but one of them must be one of your free options**



FREE OPTIONS

Option 5	Free Option
Option 6	Free Option
Option 7	Free Option

CHOICES:

Any specialist technology not already chosen

A third creative subject not already chosen.

A second language either French or Spanish

ADDITIONAL SUBJECTS:

Computer Science

Digital IT

An Introduction To Business

An Introduction To Law

Philosophy and Ethics

Pre-GCSE PE (PGP)

A supported subject:

- Preparation for Adulthood**
- Accelerated Literacy**



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TAKING A SECOND LANGUAGE

- Students will complete an intensive one year **ab initio course (from scratch)** in order to prepare them for starting the GCSE alongside their peers who have studied the language in year 7 and 8
- Students will be in a class with other students who have also opted to choose a second language. If students opt to pick up a second language, **they can't drop the language they have been learning from year 7 until the end of year 9.**

Please note, choosing to study a second language will take up two free option choices.

• We recommend that only students who are **performing well in their first language** will cope with the demands of learning a new language from scratch in year 9. If students are unsure of whether studying two languages would be appropriate, please ask the MFL teacher for their advice.



ARE YEAR 8 STUDENTS MATURE ENOUGH TO BE MAKING CHOICES?

- Many successful schools, locally and nationally run a partial or full options process with considerable success.
- Students will be given further information, advice and guidance to support their decisions.
- The choices are designed to inform the Key Stage 4 process more effectively; students are not locked into GCSE syllabi unlike with a full 3-year KS4.
- If students choose the following combination (with any specialist tech), they can still take all the subjects in year 9 which were compulsory prior to an options process:

TECH	CREATIVE		FREE CHOICE 1	FREE CHOICE 2	FREE CHOICE 3
Food	Art	Music	MFL	MFL	Drama



DOES THIS MEAN STUDENTS WON'T HAVE ANY NEW SUBJECTS TO CHOOSE FROM WHEN DECIDING ON GCSES IN YEAR 9 INTO 10?

NEW GCSE SUBJECTS WHICH ARE **NOT AVAILABLE IN NEXT YEAR'S YEAR 9:**

- 1) Separate Science**
- 2) Health and Social Care**
- 3) Hospitality and Catering**
- 4) Performing Arts**
- 5) BTEC Sport (Level 2)**



X AND Y BANDS

Next year, students will stay in their tutor groups but will be placed into one of **two mixed-ability bands: X or Y band**

- Students will be taught the following subjects in their X or Y band:
- English Maths Science MFL PE
- 5 further subjects (geography, history, computing, RE and PSHE)
- Students will take 6 option choices;
- It is likely that 3 of these choices will be taught across the year group with students from X **and** Y bands. This is also how options in years 10 and 11 will be timetabled.
- The remaining options will be taught in a student's X **or** Y band



YEARS 8 TO 9 OPTION PROCESS

Year 8	
PROCESS	DATES
Year 8-9 Options Assembly Launch Distribution of options booklets electronically	Wednesday 7th February 2024 during PBT
February Half Term	
Year 8 Parents' evening	Thursday 22nd February 2024
Options forms available electronically	Wednesday 21st February 2024
PBT sessions with Leadership Team	Wednesday 21st February and 28th February 2024
Year 8 and 9 Options Evening	Wednesday 6th March 2024
Optional drop in meetings with Leadership Team	Monday 4th March – Wednesday 13th March 2024
Deadline for submission of electronic options forms	Wednesday 20th March 2024



ELECTRONIC OPTIONS FORM

<https://www.sims-options.co.uk>

Students should have all activated their accounts by now- they need to see their tutor for advice on how to solve if there are issues.

All Options subjects

You have chosen 6 of 6 ☒ courses and 0 of 1 ☒ reserves from this list

Photography Key Stage 3 Choice Reserve	Art, Craft and Design Key Stage 3 Reserve
Business Studies Key Stage 3 Choice Reserve	Computer Science Key Stage 3 Reserve
DT Electronic Products Key Stage 3 Reserve	DT Food Key Stage 3 Choice Reserve
DT Resistant Materials Key Stage 3 Reserve	Drama Key Stage 3 Choice Reserve
DT/ Essential Technology Key Stage 3 Reserve	DT Textiles Key Stage 3 Reserve
Engineering Design Award Key Stage 3 Reserve	Event Management and Catering Key Stage 3 Reserve
French Key Stage 3 Reserve	Technical Award IT/Specialist IT Key Stage 3 Reserve
Skills for Success Key Stage 3 Reserve	Law / Introduction to Law Key Stage 3 Reserve
Media / Creative i-Media Key Stage 3 Reserve	Music Key Stage 3 Reserve
GCSE PE / Pre GCSE PE Key Stage 3 Choice Reserve	Philosophy & Ethics Key Stage 3 Choice Reserve
Spanish Key Stage 3 Reserve	

My Choices in Order of Preference

(Total Choices: 6)

To change your order of preference select a choice and click the position in the list you would like to move it to.

- Photography**
Key Stage 3 All Options subjects
- DT Food**
Key Stage 3 All Options subjects
- Drama**
Key Stage 3 All Options subjects
- Business Studies**
Key Stage 3 All Options subjects
- GCSE PE / Pre GCSE PE**
Key Stage 3 All Options subjects
- Philosophy & Ethics**
Key Stage 3 All Options subjects



ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS?

If you would like to ask a specific question which you do not feel has already been answered or require further information, please email:

year8options@ilkleygs.co.uk

OR

See a member of **Leadership Team in B10** this evening/ **Inclusive Learning and Careers in the Library.**

Many Thanks



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