



Year 9 Options Booklet

Name _____

School _____

Your Education Journey

What next?

You've reached the next stage of your education journey and it's time to choose your options for the next two years...

How will you choose what subjects to study?

How will you decide which courses are right for you?

DONT PANIC...

☺ Education and training are vital to your future success. The number of jobs for poorly qualified, unskilled people are shrinking quickly.

☺ Your education and training will continue until you are eighteen, which will help you to gain the knowledge, skills and qualifications you need.

☺ Involve your parents/carers. Help them to understand what you are doing and how they can help you.

☺ Speak to your subject teachers, form tutors or the careers department who can help you.



Don't
Forget!!

Plan on how to get support and help.

What is the name of your Careers adviser?	
What is the name of your head of year?	
What kind of help do you need? Who can you ask for this help? Where can you go to get this help?	

Research Checklist

When you know exactly what your options are you can research those that interest you. Use this checklist to make sure you don't forget anything.

<u>To Do</u> ✓	<u>Done</u> ✓	<u>Things to Research</u>	
		Read all the options information school gives you	
		Check which subjects are compulsory – The ones you must do	
		Talk to teachers to see if they think that it is a good idea for your to do their course	
		Talk to people who are taking the courses that interest you	
		Talk to your parents/carers and find out which options they think you should do and why	
		Go with your parents to information and other events e.g. taster activities to see what an option would really be like	
		Look up careers which interest you to find out which subjects, qualifications and grades you will need	
		Find out what Apprenticeships could offer you after Year Eleven – see www.apprenticeships.org.uk	
		Speak to your career's teacher, options co-ordinator or a careers adviser about your option choices and career ideas	

Choosing Your Options

What interests you? What makes you work hard? Use the quiz below to find out... Tick as many from each section that you think describes things that you are interested in ✓

A:

- ☐ Building things
- ☐ Being active and working outdoors
- ☐ Making and fixing things
- ☐ Using tools and machines
- ☐ Solving problems

B:

- ☐ Designing and displaying things
- ☐ Being on television
- ☐ Writing a book
- ☐ Playing in a band
- ☐ Doing a makeover

C:

- ☐ Helping people
- ☐ Sorting out arguments
- ☐ Showing people what to do
- ☐ Looking after people
- ☐ Doing voluntary work

D:

- ☐ Finding out how things work
- ☐ Doing experiments
- ☐ Researching and testing ideas
- ☐ Designing a new computer game
- ☐ Doing calculations

E:

- ☐ Organising parties and other social events
- ☐ Buying and selling things
- ☐ Running a business
- ☐ Entering competitions
- ☐ Campaigning for change

F:

- ☐ Making plans
- ☐ Using a computer and calculator
- ☐ Arranging things over the phone
- ☐ Putting CDs/DVDs into the right order
- ☐ Organising your money



Check Your Scores

How many ticks did you get in each section? Write your scores in below. Most people have more than one interest so check out any scores of three and over...

A =	<u>Mostly As:</u> You seem to like practical work. Look for options where you can use practical skills, do something active and work on different types of projects	<u>Subject ideas:</u> <i>Construction and the built environment, Design and technology, Engineering, Food technology, Hair and beauty, Manufacturing, PE, Public services, Sport and active leisure</i>
B =	<u>Mostly Bs:</u> You sound creative. Look for options where you can express yourself and work on new ideas	<u>Subject Ideas:</u> <i>Art, Creative and media, Dance, Drama, Hospitality, Music, Performing arts, Photography, Textiles</i>
C =	<u>Mostly Cs:</u> You seem to be a social person. Look for options where you can find out more about people and how society works	<u>Subject Ideas:</u> <i>Citizenship studies, Geography, Health and social care, History, Languages, RS, Retail, Travel and tourism</i>
D =	<u>Mostly Ds:</u> It seems you like to investigate things. Look for options where you can use your number and thinking skills to find out more about why things are the way they are	<u>Subject Ideas:</u> <i>Biology, Environmental and land-based studies, Chemistry, Geography, History, Maths, Physics, Statistics</i>
E =	<u>Mostly Es:</u> You sound like an enterprising person. Looks for options where you can use your energy, communication, number and thinking skills to test your ideas about how to improve the world	<u>Subject Ideas:</u> <i>Business studies, Citizenship studies, Economics, IT, Languages, Psychology, Retail</i>
F =	<u>Mostly Fs:</u> Being well organised seems important to you. Look for options where you can use your planning, communication and computing skills to find out more about the systems and structures that keep the world working properly	<u>Subject Ideas:</u> <i>Business, Economics, History, Hospitality, ICT, Law, Travel and tourism</i>

Taking the First Step

What are you like? How do different subjects help you in the future? Use this activity to help you organise your ideas:

<p><u>ME...I AM</u></p> <p>Some suggestions could be Practical, Creative, Sociable, Investigative Enterprising, Organised</p>	<p><u>I LEARN BEST BY</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Seeing and reading ○ Listening and talking ○ Touching and doing ○ Doing projects ○ Doing tests
<p><u>MY OPTIONS</u></p> <p>Subjects I have to do?</p>	<p>Subjects I don't like and why:</p>
<p>Subjects I like and why:</p>	<p>New subjects I'd like to try and why:</p>
<p><u>MY FUTURE</u></p> <p>Careers ideas and interests:</p>	<p>Subjects I need to do to do this:</p>
<p>Subjects that will give me plenty of post-16 choices:</p>	<p><u>MY QUESTIONS</u></p> <p>Things I want to find out before I make my choices:</p>

Use these tips to help you decide...

- ∞ Research all your options before making a decision
- ∞ Don't think some classes are only for girls or only for boys
- ∞ If you have a firm career idea, choose subjects that you need for future opportunities that interest you or for further/higher education
- ∞ If you don't have a firm career idea, choose a broad spread of subjects that will give you plenty of choice after Year Eleven
- ∞ Speak to your family, friends, teachers, form tutors and the careers department to help you decide

<u>Do Choose A Course Because:</u>	<u>Don't Choose A Course Because:</u>
It fits your interests and abilities	Your friends have chosen it
You are good at it and think you will enjoy it	Someone else thinks it will be a good idea for you to do it
It links to a career idea	You think it will be easy
You think you might want to continue studying it after Year Eleven	You think it's a good course for a boy/girl to do
It will help you meet the entry requirements for the post-16 options which interest you	You don't have time to research your options properly or to get any information and advice
It will help you give you plenty of choice post-16	You like the teacher you have now

Deciding What to Do

Are you ready to start firming up your choices? Use the grids below to help you organise your ideas:

<u>Options That Interest Me</u>	<u>The Qualifications I Will Get:</u>	<u>What I Could Do Post-16</u>

Your Action Plan

Use this plan to finalise your option choices:

<p><u>WHERE AM I NOW?</u> (e.g. thinking about my options; speaking to family and teachers; almost ready to choose)</p>	<p><u>WHO CAN HELP ME AND HOW?</u> (e.g. parents or carers; teachers; options co-ordinator; careers adviser)</p>	
<p><u>What Do I Need To Do And When?</u> (e.g. read my school's options booklet; look at online prospectuses; talk to my parents/carers, teachers and careers adviser; go to option events; complete and return my options form)</p>		
<p><u>Actions</u></p>	<p><u>By What Date</u></p>	<p><u>Completed?</u></p>
<p><u>Checklist</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Look at the school's option information ○ Attend the option event ○ Study the option form ○ Ask people for advice ○ Make my choices 		