

Pathways to Success

KS4 Options 2020



Core Subjects

Everyone will study for qualifications in the following:

- **English Language - GCSE**
- **English Literature - GCSE**
- **Maths - GCSE**
- **Combined Science - 2 GCSEs**

You will also have 1 lesson of Core PE and 1 lesson of MAP



Suite of 8!

- This will give you your essential 5 GCSEs that you will need for college, or whatever your next steps are, but there is an expectation that all pupils will work towards achieving 8 'good' GCSEs or equivalent.
- Remember that when you leave school you will be competing with pupils from across Rotherham and the whole country!



Options

- After your core you will need 4 more subjects to complete your curriculum.
- These will be your choice from a wide range of subjects offered by the school.
- You need to think very carefully about the combination of subjects and qualifications that you choose.





- **Play to your strengths!**

- where do you achieve the best results?
- what do you most enjoy doing?
- what subjects will you need for your future plans?



Quality not quantity!

- You will only study for 9 qualifications.
- Quality is more important than quantity, so choose subjects that you're confident you can manage to juggle.
- Don't forget that the workload for some subjects may be greater than others – requiring more coursework, for example – so try not to choose too many high-workload options. Your teachers should be able to comment on whether your proposed GCSE subjects would give you a manageable workload.





Examination Entries

The Cost - £250-£300 each pupil!

The Commitment

- Consistently high levels of attendance
- Full involvement in homework tasks
- Completing coursework by the deadlines set
- Achieving appropriate grades in ILEs / modular examinations
- Meeting your PIs and having a positive Attitude to Learning

The Communication

- Cause for concern
- Progress
- Successes

When final examination entries are being made, it may be necessary to consider individual cases and determine whether the effort and commitment that has been made justifies the entry being completed



Entry Requirements

GCSE & A levels

Language Requirements

Foundation Year

Applied Qualifications

Mature Students

Below are the GCSE and A level requirements for each programme. We also accept lots of other kinds of qualifications. Find out more about [equivalent qualifications here](#).

GCSE and A level

Programme	A level	GCSE
BSc Accounting and Finance	AAA including Mathematics (AS level Mathematics grade B is required where A level Mathematics is not offered)	English Language: B
BSc Accounting and Management	AAA including Mathematics (AS level Mathematics grade B required where A level Mathematics is not offered)	English Language: B
BSc Economics	AAA	Maths: A and English Language: B
BSc Economics and Management	AAA	Maths: A and English Language: B
BSc Business Economics	AAA	Maths: A and English Language: B
BSc Business and Financial Economics	AAA	Maths: A and English Language: B
BSc Economics with Transport Studies	AAB	Maths: A and English Language: B



How will you decide?

Guidance

- You will be provided with a list of subjects that we feel, based on your current grades, where you might best succeed

Form tutors

- Your form tutor will spend the next couple of weeks working with you, looking at your Go 4 Schools page to help you decide the best subjects for you.
- It is your choice but your tutor will help you to understand what things you should take into account.



How will you decide?

MAP

- You will spend one of your upcoming MAP lessons going through the options process

Tutor review day

- Miss Owen / Mrs Tank and your tutor will be available for discussions around options

Parents Evening

- You can make appointments with the teachers of subjects you are unsure about



Go 4 Schools

Look carefully at your Go 4 Schools page

- Where are you grades the highest?
- Where do you get the most good logs?
- Where are you closest to target?
- What is your attendance like? Is it better for some subjects?



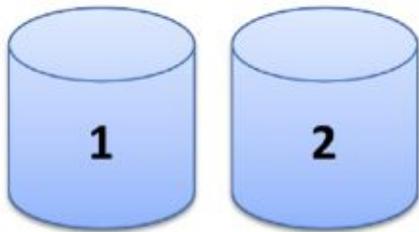
Still stuck?

- Look at the curriculum pages on the website, and the e-booklet which you will receive, there is information about every subject.
- Speak to your parents about their opinion before you choose.
- Speak to the subject teachers of the options you are considering.
- Speak to your Head of House.
- Speak to us!

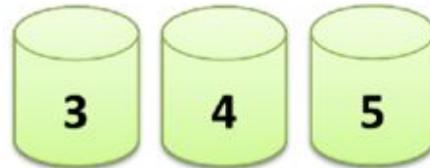


Attainment 8

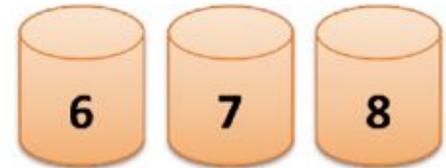
How your subjects add up



1. English
2. Mathematics



3. Science
4. Science
5. English
Baccalaureate Option



**Any other
three
subjects**





Select 1 Subject

English Baccalaureate

Choice One needs to be from the following:

- Computer Science - GCSE
- German - GCSE
- Geography – GCSE
- Spanish - GCSE
- History - GCSE
- Triple Science - GCSE



History

- History is quite a challenging subject that requires a good memory for dates and issues, and an analytical mind. You learn to question the reliability of sources, which makes it good for developing critical thinking skills that will be essential once you move on to college or university.



Languages

- Languages are invariably a good thing to have on your CV – employers love them – so taking one at GCSE is strongly advised.
- Languages are not compulsory but it's well worth taking one anyway, because languages open many doors.



Geography

- This interesting subject covers earth processes and human interactions with the planet.
- It will involve field trips, so if you're not one for donning a waterproof and wellies it might not be the right subject for you!



Computer Science

- Understanding the principles of Computer Science will give you the knowledge required for many other subjects in science and engineering.
- Computer scientists theorise, design, develop, and apply the software and hardware for the programmes we use day in day out. Almost every aspect of society, from family-owned businesses needing digital protection to homeless shelters needing a way to streamline their volunteer base, relies on the innovations of the computer science industry





Select Another 3 Subjects GCSE

You will then have a free choice of three more subjects:

- Fine Art – GCSE
- Graphic Communication – GCSE
- Textile Design – GCSE
- Three Dimensional Design - GCSE
- Computer Science - GCSE
- Design Technology - GCSE
- Drama - GCSE
- Engineering - BTEC
- Film Studies - GCSE
- Food Preparation and Nutrition - GCSE
- French - GCSE
- Geography - GCSE
- Spanish - GCSE
- Health and Social Care - BTEC
- History - GCSE
- Music - GCSE
- Rock School - BTEC
- P.E. - GCSE
- R.S. - GCSE
- Sport - BTEC
- Triple Science – GCSE
- Media Studies - GCSE



Final choices

- You will be offered groups of subjects that you can choose from. Choose your top two subjects from each group!
- If too few people choose a subject we will not be able to run it.
- If too many people choose a subject you might not get your first choice.
- Read the option page on the website for each subject carefully.
- Consider the guidance we have provided!



Y8 Options 2020/21

Name: _____ Form _____

Every pupil will study for qualifications in the following Core subjects:

Subject	Qualification
English Language	GCSE
English Literature	GCSE
Maths	GCSE
Combined Science	2 GCSEs

You must also ensure you include **at least one subject** from the **Option 1** list below in your choices:

Subject	Qualification
Computer Science	GCSE
Geography	GCSE
German	GCSE
Spanish	GCSE
History	GCSE
Triple Science	GCSE

Option 2, 3 and 4: choose a set of subjects from the combinations listed below that includes your **Option 1** choice.

Please choose 1 subject from each block.

List 2 reserve* choices in order of preference.

*We require reserves because, although we will endeavour to give every pupil their first choices, we can't always guarantee this.

Options 2, 3 & 4 Choices

Block A	Block B	Block C	Block D
Computer Science	Drama/Rock School	Design Technology	Design Technology
Film Studies [^]	Film Studies	Science	Spanish
Fine Art [*]	Fine Art [*]	Computer Science	Engineering
Geography	Geography	Drama	Film Studies [^]
German	Graphics [*]	Engineering	Food
Graphics [*]	Health & Social Care	Film Studies [^]	Geography
History	Spanish	Food	German
Health & Social Care	Sport/GCSE PE	German	History
Media [^]	Textiles [*]	Health & Social Care	Health & Social Care
Science		Media [^]	Religious Studies
Sport		Music	Science
Textiles [*]		Religious Studies	

(Only choose one subject marked with an ^{*} or [^])



GCSE or BTEC

- BTEC is not an easy option
 - Remember it will involve a lot of coursework that will be ongoing throughout the course and will still have exams to sit
- You need to do at least one GCSE but you should think carefully before choosing more than one BTEC as the workload will be high
- How will your choice impact on your future plans? If you are undecided about what you want to do, which combination will keep your options open?



New Subjects

- Subjects you have never studied before may sound very attractive but make sure you find out what is involved before you choose one!
- All of the qualifications are new ones so find out for yourself what they are about, don't just listen to others – look at the options website and speak to the teachers of the subject!



Application Deadline

Return your option form to your tutor no later than:

Wednesday 1st April



Time Line

- Options Assembly and Assessment 2 reports are sent out – Friday 13th March.
- Monday 16th March – launch of options with guidance starting
- Week beginning 16th March – Options are the focus of MAP lessons.
- 25th March – TRD, parental discussion on Options.
- 31st March – Parents evening, final consultation.
- 1st April – Options closed.



Remember it is you who will study these subjects for the next **three years** and taking an exam at the end – it needs to be a personal choice that you are happy and confident with!

