

Year 8 Course Options 2021/22

Please use the information below to support any questions which parents may ask in preparation for the options process.

Frequently Asked Questions...

How many options can a student choose?

All students will study core subjects (English, Mathematics, Combined Science, ICT, PE and RE) plus three additional options, one of which may include a choice from a suite of EBacc qualifications (Geography, History, Spanish). Careful consideration will be given to each student's KS2 prior attainment and current academic performance.

Are there option blocks to choose from?

Option choices will be used to produce a 'best fit' for option blocks. This will give the majority of Year 9 students their preferred choices (last year 97% of girls got 3 of their top 5 choices).

Will all courses run?

Some courses may not run if the demand is small, eg. less than 10 students on the course.

Will I definitely get my three choices?

Some subject combinations might not fit with the final structure and so everyone needs to reserve two choices just in case.

Why has the GCSE start date moved from Sept 2021 to Jan 2021?

This has been agreed in consultation with Governors and staff due to the global pandemic, loss of learning, school closures and the statutory requirement that all students must cover the KS3 National Curriculum, which gives all students a firm foundation of knowledge that supports the study of GCSE courses.

Who would study Triple Science?

Some students may be recommended to study Triple Science. This will be limited to

class only. This qualification is for students intending to pursue a career in medicine, dentistry, veterinary science or similar.

Which options should I choose?

Choose subjects which you have an interest in, you are good at and which are relevant to your career aspirations. Think about your strengths and skills needed for that subject. For example, is the subject practical? Does it involve extended writing or short, precise answers which require a large amount of knowledge? DO NOT choose subjects because you like the teacher, your friends have picked it or your older siblings/parents studied it.

Who can I ask for help?

You should ask your subject tutor or curriculum leader, plus your form tutor, Mrs Mason (Year 8 Progress Leader) or Mrs Rooney (Head of Lower School). Mrs Mannings, our school CIAG (Careers, Information, Advice and Guidance) will meet individually with each student to discuss aspirations, strengths and weaknesses and provide direction.

Can I arrange a meeting? Yes, and this is actively encouraged to make sure the right decisions are made throughout the process.

Research! Please continue to use the Careers Connect app to find out as much information about entry requirements for university and qualification required for certain employment sectors.

Deadline for submission of option forms:
Friday 20 March 2021

Email:

options@stjulies.org.uk

Careers information:

<http://careers.stjulies.org.uk/>

Curriculum information:

<https://www.stjulies.org.uk/curriculum.html>