



Your Choice



Your Future

OPTIONS BOOKLET - 2024

INTRODUCTION

Year 9 is a crossroads for you at The Stable School. It is a time for you to reflect on what you have achieved so far, as well as a time for looking forward. You are looking ahead to what subjects you would like to study at GCSE or other accredited qualifications, as well as what subjects will positively impact your life and career in the future.

During Key Stage 3, you have been introduced to a wide range of subjects. Some subjects are, of course, compulsory but you do have important choices to make. You will need to take the advice of teaching staff in considering which choices will give you the greatest opportunities to progress in Key Stage 4, as well as listening to your family and considering what you enjoy.

This booklet has been carefully put together to give you the information that you need to make those decisions. Read it thoroughly and think carefully before you make up your mind. Your teachers and your tutor will give you help. Discuss your ideas with your parents and carers to decide upon the most appropriate subjects that fit your interests and with staff at the options evening on Monday 25th March.

Remember that the courses will require hard work, resilience and dedication. You are expected to take more responsibility for your learning and to work independently outside lessons, going the extra mile to achieve your very best. It is important to start Year 10 in a positive frame of mind, ready to commit yourself to hard work. All the staff here at The Stable School are completely committed to supporting you to achieve. Make sure you choose wisely to give yourself the best chance to succeed.



CAREERS GUIDANCE

A good careers education is a mixture of finding out about the opportunities available to you and developing the skills necessary for sound decision-making, career well-being and employability.

It is important that you use this time wisely so that you choose the options that will maximise your success both now and in the future.

During Year 10, you will follow a careers guidance programme that builds on the development of both your personal and employability skills.

In Year 11, you will explore and identify the post-16 opportunities open to you in work, education and training as you prepare to embark on your final stage in compulsory education. You will learn how to prepare a CV and learn vital interview skills.



QUALIFICATIONS

Your Choice 2024 is your full guide to all of the subjects we offer in Key Stage 4. It is very important to read it carefully so that you understand what is expected of you in each subject. All of our courses will lead to a formal qualification at the end.

GCSEs

These are the most common qualifications for 16-year-olds. They are academic courses, which cover Level 1 and 2 of the Qualifications Credit Framework. Grades 1-3 are at Level 1 / Foundation Level and Grades 4-9 are at Level 2. Success at Level 1 can lead to a Level 2 course post-16 and success at Level 2 can lead to Level 3 courses such as A Levels and BTEC National qualifications. For the purpose of comparison, a Grade 4 is equivalent to a grade C on the old GCSEs and a Grade 7 is equivalent to an A.

Vocational Qualifications

AIM courses are designed to enable learners to access vocational qualifications from Entry Level 3 through to Level 1 and Level 2. They can also complete varying sizes of qualification at each level from Award to Certificate depending on credits earned. The courses are all assessed throughout with no exam at the end. The course teachers assess the work which is then verified by an external assessor.

The emphasis is on the development of practical skills and includes visits to local workplaces. There is an element of theory work in all of the courses and the students need to produce evidence to show how they reach each of the Standards for the Units. The students are supported to complete their evidence with the use of photos and videos along with any written work which is adapted to meet their needs. The students have feedback throughout each Unit so know how well they are doing and are clear on what they need to do to achieve the Standard.

BTEC Qualifications

Designed to provide practical skills and real-world insights, BTEC offers a unique pathway for students seeking a more vocational approach to education. From Science to Sport, the diverse range of BTEC options allows you to tailor your studies to your interests and future career aspirations.

Expect a blend of coursework, projects, and practical assessments, allowing you to showcase your abilities and build a portfolio of tangible achievements. BTEC courses emphasize not just academic knowledge but also the practical application of skills, ensuring you're well-prepared for both further education and the world of work.

Which subjects must I study?

Everyone will study the following subjects: -

- English
- Mathematics and Science
- Physical Education
- Personal, Social, Health & Citizenship Education (PSHE) (including Careers Education)

What you can choose:

We are asking you to choose your top 5 subjects in order of preference. We endeavour to be able to timetable your top 4 choices. However, you must be prepared to study your 5th choice if we are unable to accommodate your preferred subjects.

Details of each of the courses are contained within this booklet and you should read them all carefully before you make any decisions.

- It is very important that you think about the way in which you learn best before making any decisions.
- Some people prefer to read about the subject, to make notes and take examinations to show their knowledge and understanding.
- Others prefer to show their knowledge through coursework.
- Others enjoy learning by doing – either by practical activities or project work.
- By reading carefully through the course information and thinking carefully you should be able to make sensible decisions that will lead to success.

Making a choice

Think carefully about the following things before choosing your subject...

- What qualifications do I need and why?
- Which subject will you do well in?
- Which subject will you enjoy?
- Which subject is suitable for how you learn?
- Which subjects will make a good combination when put together?

Most importantly, choose subjects that keep your options open for the future



Think carefully...do not choose subjects...

- just because your friends are doing it
- you think are easy
- without researching them first
- because you like your current teacher

What happens next?

Read the course information on the following pages.



Discuss your choices carefully with your parents and carers.



Discuss your choices carefully with your subject teachers/tutor.



Subject option responses by Friday 19th April 2024



Hand in your Options form by Friday 19th April.



SUBJECT INDEX

CORE SUBJECTS

- **English**
- **Mathematics and Science**
- **Physical Education**
- **Personal, Social, Health & Citizenship Education (PSHE) (including Careers Education)**

Options

You are to choose 4 options along with a reserve subject. The vocational qualifications are assessed throughout the course and you will be working towards either an Entry 3, Level 1 or Level 2 qualification. The GCSE courses are assessed through an exam at the end of the course; more information on assessment of the courses is on each subject's page.

Optional Subjects

GCSE Citizenship

GCSE Media

GCSE Business

BTEC Sport

Construction

Catering

Creative Design

Duke of Edinburgh

Core Subjects

Empower Your Voice, Master

English

What is in the course, GCSE & Functional Skills?

GCSE - The AQA GCSE English specification is designed to develop students' skills in reading, writing, and spoken language. Divided into two components, the course covers a range of literary and non-literary texts, fostering analytical thinking and effective communication. Key components include understanding language, exploring texts, and creative writing. Assessment involves exams and non-exam assessments, providing a holistic evaluation of students' abilities. The course aims to enhance critical thinking, literacy, and communication skills, preparing students for further academic pursuits and real-world applications.

Functional Skills - The Pearson Functional Skills English specification focuses on practical language skills essential for everyday life and employment. Divided into three components - reading, writing, and speaking, listening, and communicating - the course aims to develop proficiency in understanding and using English effectively. Assessment includes practical tasks and real-world scenarios, emphasizing the application of language skills. The Functional Skills English qualification is designed to enhance employability and provide a solid foundation for various contexts, ensuring students are well-equipped for the demands of the modern world.

Hi we're
Hannah, Becky
& Claire and
we teach
English



"I have enjoyed creating my own stories and reading well know text"

What will you gain?

A GCSE in English Language
or a Functional Skills Level
1/2

What's the next step?

Explore further education
or employment
opportunities leveraging
enhanced language skills.

You could be a...

Pursue careers in
journalism, teaching,
marketing, and a variety of
professions by leveraging
strong language skills or.

KS4 Math Mastery Starts Here!

Maths

What is in the course?

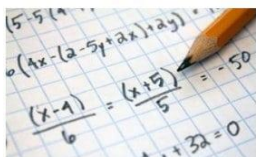
GCSE - Embark on an exciting mathematical journey with the AQA GCSE Maths specification designed for Key Stage 4 students. Covering core topics like Number, Algebra, Geometry, and Statistics, this curriculum ensures a solid foundation for real-world problem-solving. Expect a diverse assessment approach with non-calculator and calculator papers, plus a dedicated problem-solving exam. Each component hones your skills and prepares you for the challenges that lie ahead.

Gain invaluable skills in critical thinking and reasoning, enhancing your problem-solving abilities. AQA GCSE Maths is not just about exams; it's a gateway to future studies in various fields. Accessible resources, supportive teachers, and a focus on key skills make this journey both enriching and rewarding. Embrace the adventure, unlock your potential, and let AQA GCSE Maths be your key to success!

Functional Skills - Get ready to explore the practical side of mathematics with Functional Skills Maths at KS4! This specification is tailored to equip you with essential numeracy skills applicable to real-life situations. From budgeting and problem-solving to understanding data, you'll delve into topics that make mathematics relevant and meaningful.

Expect a hands-on approach, focusing on how to use mathematical concepts in everyday scenarios. Whether it's calculating expenses, interpreting graphs, or solving practical problems, Functional Skills Maths prepares you for the challenges of the real world.

The assessment is designed to showcase your ability to apply mathematical skills in various contexts, ensuring that what you learn goes beyond the classroom. Dive into the world of Functional Skills Maths, where math becomes a powerful tool for navigating the complexities of daily life!



Hi, we're Dave,
Claire and
Becky and we
teach Maths
School.

"Problem-solving feels like cracking exciting
Puzzles"

What will you gain?

General Certificate of
Secondary Education (GCSE)
qualification in
Mathematics/Functional skills
Entry Level - Level 2

What's the next step?

You can progress to A-
levels, vocational courses,
or apprenticeships,
unlocking diverse academic
and career pathways.

You could be a...

You can explore positions
such as administrative
roles, retail jobs, data
entry positions, and
customer service roles that
need numeracy skills.

Enjoy living things? You'll like

...Biology GCSE

What is in the course?

Students studying the Biology GCSE will learn about the variety found in living organisms as well as the structures and functions of living creatures. The course covers ecology, the environment, reproduction and the structure of living organisms to give a broad knowledge of biological systems.



Transferable Skills:

Problem solving
Creativity
Technical skills
Computer literacy
Organisation

Hi I'm Carrie
and I will be
your new
Biology
teacher!



"I love Biology because it helps me

Understand the world around me." VG Yr 10

What will you gain?

You will be working towards achieving a GCSE assessed by exams.

What's the next step?

You could go on to study A-Level Biology at College or a Sixth Form.

You could be....

Marine Biologist
Microbiologist
Nature Conservationist
Outdoor Ranger
Zoologist
Secondary Teacher

Empower, Thrive, Learn: PSHE Excellence

What you learn in PSHE?

Embark on a vital journey with Key Stage 4 PSHE, designed to equip you with essential life skills for the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. Explore diverse topics such as mental health, relationships, financial literacy, and personal well-being, fostering a deeper understanding of yourself and the world around you. Engage in interactive discussions, real-world scenarios, and activities that encourage critical thinking, empathy, and effective communication.

PSHE is more than just a lesson - it's your guide to personal growth, resilience, and making informed decisions. Whether it's developing emotional intelligence, understanding healthy relationships, or gaining financial literacy, this curriculum prepares you for a successful and fulfilling life beyond the classroom. Embrace the journey, empower yourself, and let KS4 PSHE be your compass to navigate the complexities of life with confidence!



Personal, Social, Health and Economic education

What will you gain?

It will equip you with crucial life skills such as effective communication, critical thinking, empathy, and decision-making.

What's the next step?

You can apply the acquired life skills in navigating personal and professional challenges, fostering well-being, and making informed decisions as you go further in education or the workforce

How PSHE helps.

PSHE equips students for diverse roles in counselling, social work, education, and human resources by fostering essential life skills.

PSHE

Transferable Skills:

Communication
Empathy
Critical Thinking
Self-Awareness

“PSHE empowers me; real-world

make

learning

OPTIONAL SUBJECTS

Enjoy activity & leisure? You'll like...

What is in the course?

The BTEC Sport course at Level 1 & 2 offers a comprehensive introduction to the world of sport and physical activity for students aged 14 to 16. This course encompasses core units covering fitness, anatomy, and practical sports performance. Additionally, students can choose specialist units tailored to their interests, such as sports coaching or leadership in sport.

Assessment methods include a mix of written assignments, practical demonstrations, and observation of sports performance, fostering a holistic evaluation of both theoretical understanding and practical skills. The course emphasizes real-world application through engagement in sports activities, work placements, or community projects.



BTEC Sport

Hi I'm Karl,
and I teach PE
& BTEC Sport
at The Stable
School.

"I enjoy sport leadership, it improves my

"confidence and social skills" - RD, Year 11

What will you gain?

BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First
Award in Sport

What's the next step?

Completion of the BTEC
Sport course at these levels
serves as a pathway to
further education or entry-
level positions in the sports
industry.

You could be a...

Potential careers in
sports/leisure-related
fields.
Sports coach
Leisure Assistant
Travel Agent

Entrepreneurial? You'll like...

What is in the course?

GCSE Business Studies is perfect for students looking to learn a wide range of skills essential to running a business. Such as managing money, advertising, and employing staff. Students will use their knowledge and understanding to research different businesses from small enterprises to large multinational corporations in local, national and global contexts.



...Business Studies GCSE

Transferable

Skills:

Communication
Decision Making
Analysis
Presentation Skills
Project Management

Hi I'm Andy, I teach Business at The Stable School.

"Business Studies is one of the most popular subjects in the world."

What will you gain?

You will be working towards achieving a GCSE assessed by exams.

What's the next step?

You could go on to study A-Level Business Studies at college. Or work towards starting your own business.

You could be...

Self-employed in any industry
Entrepreneur
Start-up developer

Enjoy cooking? You'll like...

...Catering

What is in the course?

We will be learning all about food and nutrition, health and hygiene, basic and complex dishes. This is in addition to key skills such as knife work and cooking a range of basic savoury and sweet dishes. During the course we will complete around 50% practical work and 50% theory. The assessment will be ongoing during the course with no exam. This course is for anyone who may be interested in a career in catering but also for those who enjoy cooking and wish to gain some essential life skills. The students benefit from using a professional kitchen at Flavours School of cookery where they work with industry Chefs.

Hi I'm Vickie, I plan and oversee Catering at The Stable



"Catering is fun and productive.

It relieves stress." - James, Year 10

What will you gain?

An accredited AIMVOC qualification at Entry Level 3 and Level 1 (AIM do not offer this course at a L2).

What's the next step?

You could progress to a catering course at college or apply for an apprenticeship in the catering industry.

You could be a...

Chef
Events Manager
Restaurant employee
Private caterer
Cake maker and more!

Empowering Voices, Shaping Informed Changemakers

What is in the course?

Embark on a transformative journey with the AQA Citizenship GCSE, designed to empower you as an informed and active member of society. Delve into topics like rights and responsibilities, democracy, and social justice, gaining a deep understanding of the world around you. Expect engaging discussions, real-world case studies, and interactive projects that will develop your critical thinking and communication skills.

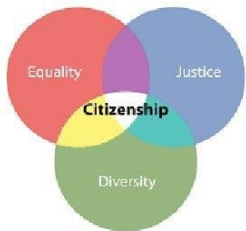
Explore the dynamic landscape of global and local issues, from human rights to environmental sustainability, as you become equipped with the knowledge and tools to effect positive change. The AQA Citizenship GCSE isn't just a course; it's an opportunity to shape your perspective, contribute to your community, and become a proactive force in the world. Embrace the journey, amplify your voice, and let AQA Citizenship GCSE be your guide to active citizenship!

Citizenship

Transferable Skills:

Communication
Research
Analytic

Hi I'm Claire, I teach Citizenship at The Stable School.



"The AQA Citizenship GCSE has expanded my knowledge of social issues."

What will you gain?

AQA Citizenship GCSE, students attain a General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE) in Citizenship

What's the next step?

You can pursue studies in subjects like law, politics, or sociology, or engage in volunteering opportunities

You could be a...

You can explore entry-roles in public service, community outreach or local governance.

Good at building? You'll like...

...Construction

What is in the course?

We will be learning how to plan, design and make small building projects using different types of material such as wood, brick and many more! You will also learn how to use the tools needed in the various building trades with a focus on carpentry. We will be looking into the health and safety that is required to work in the construction industry. The course will be mostly practical with assessment ongoing.

Hi I'm Baz, I
teach
Construction at
The Stable
School.



"I really enjoy meeting people from different trades and learning new skills" - MR Year 10

What will you gain?

An accredited AIMVOC qualification at Entry Level, Level 1 or 2 (Level 2 is equivalent to grades 9-4 at GCSE).

What's the next step?

You could progress to a construction course at college or apply for an apprenticeship in the construction industry.

You could be a...

Carpenter/Joiner
Contracts Manager
Quantity Surveyor
Site Manager
Self-employed Builder

Adventure, Skills, Leadership: DofE Shapes Futures

Duke of Edinburgh

What is in the course?

Embark on a thrilling journey with the Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) qualification designed for Key Stage 4 students. This unique program challenges you to step outside your comfort zone, embracing the spirit of adventure, personal development, and community service. Through a series of exciting expeditions, skill development, physical activities, and volunteering opportunities, you'll not only build resilience and self-confidence but also foster a sense of responsibility and teamwork.

The DofE Award isn't just about earning a badge - it's a chance to discover your strengths, explore new passions, and make a positive impact in your community. Embrace the challenge, push your boundaries, and let the Duke of Edinburgh Award be your passport to self-discovery and a world of endless possibilities!

Transferable Skills:

Leadership
Teamwork
Resilience

Hi, I'm Dave, I lead Duke of Edinburgh at The Stable School.



“Duke of Edinburgh transformed me into a resilient and capable individual”

What will you gain?

Completing the Duke of Edinburgh Award offers a prestigious recognition for your achievements (Bronze, Silver & Gold)

What's the next step? You could be involved...

Completing the Duke of Edinburgh Award, you can leverage newfound skills, enhance college applications, bolster CVs, and confidently pursue future academic and career opportunities.

In Leadership roles, outdoor education, community development, or sectors valuing teamwork, resilience, and diverse skill sets.

Enjoy art? You'll like...

...Creative Design

What is in the course?

In this course there is the opportunity to cover a range of art and design skills including mixed media; also discovering art history, culture and more. You will have the chance to explore your own interests in art with focus on working with fabrics and textile design. There may also be the opportunity to look at other areas of the Arts including performing arts such as Drama.

Hi I'm Trudy, I teach Creative Design at The Stable School.



"I particularly enjoyed the lino printing and creating designs on fabric." DH Year 11

What will you gain?

An accredited AIMVOC qualification at Entry Level, Level 1 or 2 (Level 2 is equivalent to grades 9-4 at GCSE).

What's the next step?

You could progress to an art and design course at college or another creative pathway such as the performing arts.

You could work in...

Advertising and Marketing
Fashion and Design
Film and TV
Museums and Galleries
Education

Interested in film and TV? You'll like...

What is in the course?

Media Studies is an exciting, modern and interactive subject. Throughout your studies you will develop creative, analytical, research, and communication skills. We will be studying four main topics: media language, media representation, media audiences and media industries. You will need to sit two exams at the end of the course as well as having the chance to make your own media product. Throughout the course we will look at the following types of media product: television, film, radio, newspapers, magazines, advertising and marketing, online, social and participatory media, video games and music videos.



"I really love watching and talking about films and different media" - KP, Year 10

...Media GCSE

Hi I'm Hannah,
I teach Media
at The Stable
School.

Transferable Skills:

Communication
Research
Analytic

What will you gain?

You will be working towards achieving a GCSE assessed by exams.

What's the next step?

You could go on to study Media at College and progress to Higher Education.

You could be a...

Conservationist
Town or Transport
Planner
Surveyor
Environmental Planner

My Option Choices

Name: _____

<u>1st Choice</u>	<u>2nd Choice</u>	<u>3rd Choice</u>
<u>4th Choice</u>	<u>5th Choice</u>	

I approve that these have been gone through with the student and I agree with the choices made.

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent/carer/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____