



Rutlish School Options 2025

Key individuals for support

- Tutor
- Head of Year & Deputy
- Subject teachers & Heads of Department
- SENDCo, Deputy SENDCos
- Key workers and mentors

When choosing subjects, students should consider

- Which subjects they enjoy
- Which subjects they are likely to succeed in
- Which subjects will enable them to progress with their education and training post-16

What is the process?

- Start of February – Options booklets and forms distributed to students and parents
- 13th Feb – Options Evening
- 13th March – Deadline to submit options forms. The slip must be signed by parents and returned to tutors
- WE CANNOT GUARANTEE YOUR OPTION CHOICE IF YOUR FORM IS RETURNED AFTER THIS DATE
- July – Options confirmed
- If there are any issues surrounding options, we will contact you prior to this date. *Please note that confirmation of final options is sometimes dependent on Government announcements. In the past this has led to slight delays in the process which is beyond our control.*

Different qualifications

- GCSE
- BTEC
- OCR National (iMedia only)

What are your options?

Level
4 - 6

Higher Education Qualification (University level)
e.g. Bachelors Degree, Foundation Degree, Degree Apprenticeships

Level
3

Traditional Learning
e.g. A Levels

Vocational Learning
e.g. BTECs, T Levels

**Advanced
Apprenticeship**

Level
2

Achieve 5 GCSEs grade 9-4
including English & maths

**Intermediate
Apprenticeship**

Take a level 1 or 2 course at
college and re-take English and
maths



English and Maths GCSE

- If students do not achieve a grade 4 or higher in these subjects they will need to continue studying them at college or sixth form.

Compulsory subjects

- English Language and Literature
- Maths
- Science – your teachers will decide which courses in Y10
- RE
- PSHE & Core PE (not examined)

GCSE and BTEC Grading

Current GCSE Grade	BTEC Grade	Old GCSE Grade
9		
(8.5)	L2 Distinction *	A*
8		
7	L2 Distinction	A
6		
(5.5)	L2 Merit	B
5		
4	L2 Pass	C
3	L1 Distinction	D
2	L1 Merit	E
1	L1 Pass	G

Government Measures

- **Progress 8** – Average progress across 8 subjects
- **Attainment 8** – Average grade across 8 subjects

Performance of boys nationally is an issue

	Girls	Boys
Progress 8	0.09	-0.15
Attainment 8	48.2	43.7

What is the EBACC pathway?

- The EBACC pathway is a group of subjects that some universities consider particularly helpful.
- Geography OR History
- French OR German OR Spanish

Rutlish Recommendation

- The school strongly recommends that students predicted to achieve a grade 3+ or higher in English and MFL at the end of Y9 should consider following the EBACC pathway
- Please do not assume that non-EBACC subjects are easier

OPTION A	✓	OPTION B	✓	OPTION C	✓	OPTION D	✓
Computer Science GCSE (EBACC)		Art GCSE		Art GCSE		Computer Science GCSE (EBACC)	
French GCSE (EBACC)		DT GCSE <u>Graphics</u> Pathway		Computer Science GCSE (EBACC)		Drama GCSE	
Geography GCSE (EBACC)		DT GCSE <u>Resistant Materials</u> Pathway		DT GCSE <u>Graphics</u> Pathway		DT GCSE <u>Graphics</u> Pathway	
German GCSE (EBACC)		Enterprise BTEC Vocational		Food Preparation and Nutrition GCSE		DT GCSE <u>Resistant Materials</u> Pathway	
History GCSE (EBACC)		Geography GCSE (EBACC)		Economics GCSE		Economics GCSE	
Spanish GCSE (EBACC)		History GCSE (EBACC)		Geography GCSE (EBACC)		Enterprise BTEC Vocational	
		Media Studies BTEC Vocational		IT – iMedia Cambridge National		History GCSE (EBACC)	
		Media Studies GCSE		Media Studies GCSE		Performing Arts BTEC Vocational	
		Sport BTEC Vocational		Music GCSE		Physical Education GCSE	
				Physical Education GCSE			

Design and Technology

DT GCSE

- Graphics pathway
- Resistant materials pathway

- These are the **same course/ qualification.**
- The only difference is the focus of the coursework.

If a subject is full...

Criteria for selection

- Aptitude and ability for the subject
- Potential for benefiting from the course
- Overall choice of options

Rutlish Recommendations

- We strongly suggest that students choosing Computer Science are predicted a string grade 3 in Maths
- It is highly beneficial for students opting for music to be able to play an instrument
- Students opting for a language should have studied that language at KS3 or will be asked to take a test to check their ability
- It is highly beneficial for students selecting GCSE PE to be able to perform at a high standard in more than one sport.

Restrictions

Students cannot select the following combinations:

- OCR National iMedia and GCSE Computer Science
- GCSE Economics and Enterprise
- GCSE PE and BTEC Sport
- GCSE Media and BTEC Media
- BTEC Media and OCR National iMedia

Making informed decisions

- Talk to students currently taking the course
- Talk to class teachers
- Research the subjects needed for different career pathways and post-16 opportunities
- Discuss with tutors
- Discuss with other key staff (e.g. SENDCo, key worker)

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[YEAR 9 OPTIONS](#)

Year 9 Options

Students in Year 9 decide what options they wish to take in Year 10 and 11 in addition to the compulsory subjects.

Information is given to parents at Subjects Evening and can be found in the Options booklet, which is emailed to parents and carers in February.

[OPTIONS 2025 - FAQs](#)

[OPTIONS BOOKLET](#)

[OPTIONS FORM](#)

[OPTIONS PRESENTATION - TO FOLLOW SHORTLY](#)

Important Dates

Key dates	
February	Year 9 Options Booklet emailed to parents
February	Year 9 Subject Evening
13 March 2025	Final date for the Options form to be submitted to tutors
June	Options confirmed with students

Will my child be at an advantage if I return the form early?

- No
- All options forms will be processed from the **13th March**

Summary

- Choose subjects that will give your son the opportunity of being successful
- Choose subjects that he enjoys
- Consider the balance of the options. It is unwise to do lots of subjects that have a significant amount of coursework
- This stage in your son's education must be looked at as a 5-year plan. What do they need to progress?