



OPTIONS BOOKLET

2023 - 2025



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Message from the Principal

A broad and balanced curriculum enables students to learn not only a wide range of subjects but equips them in later life with transferable skills in learning. Deciding options in year 9 allows students to begin to specialise in those areas they feel most passionate about. My advice for options is to always do what you will love, for then you will love what you do. When I decided to take GCSE History, I had no idea about a future career, I just knew I loved History. From there, I took other subjects that I enjoyed and therefore could be successful in. You do not need to decide today what you want to be when you leave the Academy, you just need to decide on subjects that you will grow to love.



Students will study the following compulsory subjects: English, Mathematics, Science, Physical Education and PSHE. Students will also receive regular careers guidance throughout the next two years.

The majority of subjects lead to a GCSE qualification. This options booklet has been compiled to give you some guidance as to the nature of the courses, the type of work involved and the general requirements of examinations.

It is not possible to guarantee your child's choice of subjects. Naturally, we will do our best, but factors such as staff availability and group sizes all need to be considered.

Excellent attendance and punctuality are both critically important at this stage; **a minimum of 97% attendance is crucial if your child is to achieve their target grades.** A student's attainment drops dramatically if their attendance falls below 97%.

I must emphasise that your child's happiness and academic success over the next two years will depend largely on their attitude, their effort, your interest and support. We in turn are committed to doing everything we can to support your child.

Mrs. N Whiles
Principal

How many option subjects will be studied?

In Years 10 and 11, students will study four option subjects alongside their compulsory curriculum of English, Maths and Science. By the end of the Options process, you need to have selected four options subjects you would like to study next year as well as one reserve. These should be ranked in order of preference.

All students should pick ONE option from Block A:

- History
- Geography

All students should pick THREE options from Block B and ONE reserve option:

- RE GCSE
- BTEC Health and Social Care
- Business GCSE
- BTEC Tech Award in Sport
- Creative iMedia Level 2
- Computing (Computer Science) GCSE
- Drama GCSE
- Level 1/2 Hospitality and Catering
- Art GCSE
- French GCSE
- Spanish GCSE

Students will eventually study four of their chosen Option subjects. We will try to ensure that everyone gets their top three choices but this is not always possible. For that reason, everyone needs to be happy with the prospect of studying all of the subjects they choose.

The deadline for choosing your Option subjects is Wednesday 15th February 2023.

What is the English Baccalaureate?

The English Baccalaureate, or EBacc, is a set of subjects that seeks to maximise young people's options for further study and future careers. In order to complete the EBacc, students need to study English, Maths, Science, a Language and a Humanities subject.

The subjects that count towards this include:

- English (Literature and Language)
- Maths
- Science (Core science, Separate sciences, Computer Science)
- Humanities (History, Geography)
- Languages (Spanish, French)

The EBacc is seen to have tangible benefits. A study by the UCL Institute of Education showed that studying subjects included in the EBacc provided students with greater opportunities in further education and increased the likelihood that a pupil would stay on in full-time education. Sutton Trust research also revealed that studying the EBacc can help improve a young person's performance in English and maths.

The EBacc also has implications for further study. If your ambition is to go to a top university, these universities have made it clear that they will be looking for high grade A Level passes in some of what they consider to be the most challenging subjects:

- Maths and Further Maths
- English Literature
- Physics, Chemistry, Biology
- History
- Geography
- Languages (Classical and Modern)
- Economics
- Computing

Therefore, if you think you might want to go on to do A-Levels in any of these subjects, then you should think very carefully about taking some of them at GCSE. Maths, English and Science are compulsory and will be well supported by other EBacc subjects.

Core Subjects

English Literature

Contact	Email	Exam Board	Course code:
Mrs. S King	sophieking@graceacademy.org.uk	AQA	601/4447/6

What will I study?

- The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde
- Romeo and Juliet
- Poetry Anthology: Power and Conflict
- An Inspector Calls and Unseen Poetry

How is this subject assessed?

- Exam only
- Paper 1: 19th Century Novel and Shakespeare (40%)
- Paper 2: Modern Drama & Poetry (60%).

Link to specification:

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-literature-8702/introduction>

English Language

Contact	Email	Exam Board	Course code:
Mrs. S King	sophieking@graceacademy.org.uk	AQA	601/4292/3

What will I study?

Skills covered:

- Comprehension, language analysis, structure analysis, evaluation, creative writing, synthesis, comparison, writing for an audience and with a desired purpose.
- English Language will ensure that students can read fluently and write effectively.
- Students will be able to demonstrate a confident control of Standard English and write grammatically correct sentences, deploying figurative language and analysing texts.
- Students will also deliver a researched and prepared presentation to class on a topic of their choice (guided by the teacher). This will receive a Pass, Merit or Distinction grade, separate to their Language GCSE.

How is this subject assessed?

- Exam only
- Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing (50%)
- Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives (50%)

Link to specification:

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-language-8700/introduction>

Maths

Contact	Email	Exam Board	Course code:
Miss J. Patel	jaynapatel@graceacademy.org.uk	AQA	601/4608/4

What will I study?

The course consists of 6 main units:

- Number
- Algebra
- Ratio, proportion and rates of change
- Geometry and measures
- Probability
- Statistics

How is this subject assessed?

- Exam only
- Paper 1: non-calculator (33%)
- Paper 2: calculator (33%)
- Paper 3: calculator (33%)

Link to specification:

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/mathematics/gcse/mathematics-8300>

Science

Contact	Email	Exam Board	Course code:
Miss K. Clayton	kayclayton@graceacademy.org.uk	AQA	601/8758/X

What will I study?

Biology:

- Cell biology, Organisation, Infection and Response, Bioenergetics, Homeostasis and Response, Inheritance, Variation, Evolution, Ecology

Chemistry:

- Atomic structure and the periodic table, Bonding, Structure and the properties of matter, Quantitative chemistry, Chemical changes, Energy changes, The rate and extent of chemical change, Organic chemistry, Chemical Analysis, Chemistry of the atmosphere, Using resources

Physics:

- Energy, Electricity, Particle model of matter, Atomic structure, Forces, Waves, Magnetism and Electromagnetism

How is this subject assessed?

- Exam only
- Biology Paper 1, Chemistry Paper 1, Physics Paper 1, Biology Paper 2, Chemistry Paper 2, Physics Paper 2
- All papers are worth 16.6% of the GCSE grade and are added together to produce two GCSE grades
- Two grade 7's would be presented as 7/7 (this is two GCSE grades)

Link to specification:

<https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/science/specifications/AQA-8464-SP-2016.PDF>

Option Subjects

GCSE (9-1) in Business

Contact	Email	Exam Board	Course code:
Mrs. S Bassi	setabassi@graceacademy.org.uk	Pearson Edexcel	1BS0

What will I study?

Theme 1:

- Topic 1.1: Enterprise and entrepreneurship
- Topic 1.2: Spotting a business opportunity
- Topic 1.3: Putting a business idea into practice
- Topic 1.4: Making the business effective
- Topic 1.5: Understanding external influences on business

Theme 2:

- Topic 2.1: Growing the business
- Topic 2.2: Making marketing decisions
- Topic 2.3: Making product decisions
- Topic 2.4: Making financial decisions
- Topic 2.5: Making human resource decisions

How is this subject assessed?

- Exam only
- Theme 1: Investigating Small Business (50%)
- Theme 2: Building a Business (50%)

Link to specification:

[https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/GCSE/Business/2017/specification-and-sample-assessments/GCSE Business Spec 2017.pdf](https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/GCSE/Business/2017/specification-and-sample-assessments/GCSE_Business_Spec_2017.pdf)

GCSE Art and Design

Contact	Email	Exam Board	Course code:
Miss T. Carter	tanishacarter@graceacademy.org.uk	OCR	J170

What will I study?

Students will develop knowledge, skills, and understanding to enable them to express their creativity and imagination through responses to visual and written stimuli.

Component 1:

- In component one, students in Art and design will create a portfolio in appropriate formats for the specification title they are following and chosen area of study, including sketchbooks, mounted sheets, scale models or illustrated written work.

Component 2:

- Students respond to one of five themes
- Students research, plan and develop ideas for their response to the option they have chosen, which they must then realise within the ten-hour supervised time period.

How is this subject assessed?

- Portfolio (60%): meeting the four assessment objectives. (internally assessed and externally moderated).
- External examination (40%): students will sit a 10-hour exam over two days. 80 marks (internally assessed and externally moderated).

Link to specification:

<https://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/220463-specification-accredited-gcse-art-and-design-j170-j176.pdf>

GCSE PE

Contact	Email	Exam Board	Course code:
Miss. L Donaghey	lauradonaghey@graceacademy.org.uk	AQA	8582

What will I study?

Paper 1:

- Applied anatomy and physiology
- Movement analysis
- Physical training
- Use of data

Paper 2:

- Sports psychology
- Socio-cultural influences
- Health, fitness and well-being
- Use of data

Non-exam assessment:

- Practical performance in three different physical activities in the role of player/performer (one in a team activity, one in an individual activity and a third in either a team or in an individual activity).
- Analysis and evaluation of performance to bring about improvement in one activity

How is this subject assessed?

- Paper 1: Written exam (30%)
- Paper 2: Written exam (30%)
- Practical performance (40%)

Link to specification:

<https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/pe/specifications/AQA-8582-SP-2016.PDF>

Geography

Contact	Email	Exam Board	Course code:
Mr. D Petrie	davidpetrie@graceacademy.org.uk	Edexcel	

What will I study?

Component 1:

- Global Geographical Issues: Hazardous earth, development dynamics and urbanising world.

Component 2:

- UK Geographical Issues: UK physical landscape, UK human landscape and field work.

Component 3:

- Geographical decisions: People and the biosphere, forests under threat and consuming energy resources.
- Students will attend fieldwork visiting a large UK city and a coastal environment.

How is this subject assessed?

- Exam only
- Component 1: Global Geographical Issues worth 37.5%
- Component 2: UK Geographical Issues worth 37.5%
- Component 3: People and Environment Issues – Making Geographical Decisions worth 25%

Link to specification:

https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/GCSE/Geography-B/2016/specification-and-sample-assessments/Specification_GCSE_L1-L2_Geography_B.pdf

History

Contact	Email	Exam Board	Course code:
Mr. D Petrie	davidpetrie@graceacademy.org.uk	Edexcel	

What will I study?

Paper 1- Surgery on the Western Front and Medicine Through time c1200-Present day.

- A breadth study, which considers the causes, preventions and treatments of diseases over time.

Paper 2 -The Reign of Queen Elizabeth.

- The course looks at Elizabethan England and the court. It also focusses on the religious challenges to Elizabeth and the threat to England from the Spanish Armada.

Paper 2 -Superpower relations and the Cold War, 1941–91:

- This is the study of the Cold War and the series of Political sanctions and key events, which changed the world.

Paper 3 -Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918–39:

- A modern depth study which looks at the inter war years in Germany and events in Germany in the aftermath of World War One.

How is this subject assessed?

- Exam only
- Paper 1 is worth 30%, Paper 2 is worth 40% , Paper 3 is worth 30%

Link to specification:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/GCSE/History/2016/specification-and-sample-assessments/gcse-9-1-history-specification.pdf>

Creative iMedia

Contact	Email	Exam Board	Course code:

What will I study?

Paper 1- Surgery on the Western Front and Medicine Through time c1200-Present day.

- A breadth study, which considers the causes, preventions and treatments of diseases over time.

Paper 2 -The Reign of Queen Elizabeth.

- The course looks at Elizabethan England and the court. It also focusses on the religious challenges to Elizabeth and the threat to England from the Spanish Armada.

Paper 2 -Superpower relations and the Cold War, 1941–91:

- This is the study of the Cold War and the series of Political sanctions and key events, which changed the world.

Paper 3 -Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918–39:

- A modern depth study which looks at the inter war years in Germany and events in Germany in the aftermath of World War One.

How is this subject assessed?

- Exam only
- Paper 1 is worth 30%, Paper 2 is worth 40% , Paper 3 is worth 30%

Link to specification:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/GCSE/History/2016/specification-and-sample-assessments/gcse-9-1-history-specification.pdf>

GCSE Drama

Contact	Email	Exam Board	Course code:
Miss I Dickinson	izzidickinson@graceacademy.org.uk	OCR	J316

What will I study?

- Students will be provided with opportunities to understand and create drama as a practical art form in which ideas and meaning are communicated to an audience through informed artistic choices.
- The main purpose of this qualification is to allow learners to study drama in an academic setting, interrogating this art form and applying their knowledge and understanding to the process of creating and developing drama and to their own performance work.

How is this subject assessed?

- Exam, coursework, performance
- Devising Drama (30%): Coursework, 40 marks written, 20 marks practical
- Presenting & Performing texts (30%): Practical Exam, 20 marks written, 40 marks practical
- Performance and Response (40%): Written exam, 80 marks

Link to specification:

<https://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/242630-specification-accredited-gcse-drama-j316.pdf>

Level 1/2 Hospitality and Catering

Contact	Email	Exam Board	Course code:
Miss T. Carter	tanishacarter@graceacademy.org.uk	WJEC	

What will I study?

Unit 1:

The Hospitality and Catering Industry

- 1.1 Hospitality and catering provision
- 1.2 How hospitality and catering providers operate
- 1.3 Health and safety in hospitality and catering
- 1.4 Food safety in hospitality and catering

Unit 2:

Hospitality and Catering in Action

- 2.1 The importance of nutrition
- 2.2 Menu planning
- 2.3 The skills and techniques of preparation, cooking and presentation of dishes
- 2.4 Evaluating cooking skills

How is this subject assessed?

- Exam and coursework
- Unit 1 (40%) paper examination
- Unit 2 (60%) piece of coursework combining written and practical work

Link to specification:

https://www.wjec.co.uk/media/ukvevv1a/wjec_l1-2-vocaward-hospitality-and-catering_spec-e-09-01-2023.pdf

Triple Science

Contact	Email	Exam Board	Course code:
Miss K. Clayton	kayclayton@graceacademy.org.uk	AQA	(Below)

What will I study?

Biology (601/8752/9):

- Cell biology, Organisation, Infection and Response, Bioenergetics, Homeostasis and Response, Inheritance, Variation, Evolution, Ecology

Chemistry (601/8757/8):

- Atomic structure and the periodic table, Bonding, Structure and the properties of matter, Quantitative chemistry, Chemical changes, Energy changes, The rate and extent of chemical change, Organic chemistry, Chemical Analysis, Chemistry of the atmosphere, Using resources

Physics (601/8751/7):

- Energy, Electricity, Particle model of matter, Atomic structure, Forces, Waves, Magnetism & Electromagnetism, Space Physics

How is this subject assessed?

- Exam only (6 papers in total)
- Students receive a GCSE in each Science (Biology, Chemistry and Physics)
- There are 2 papers per Science each worth 50% of the GCSE (Biology Papers 1 & 2, Chemistry Papers 1 & 2, Physics Papers 1 & 2)

Link to specification:

<i>Biology</i> https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/biology/specifications/AQA-8461-SP-2016.PDF	<i>Chemistry</i> https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/chemistry/specifications/AQA-8462-SP-2016.PDF	<i>Physics</i> https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/physics/specifications/AQA-8463-SP-2016.PDF
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MFL

Contact	Email	Exam Board	Course code:
Miss A. Fontaine	amandinefontaine@graceacademy.org.uk	AQA	(Below)

What will I study?

Theme 1: Identity and culture

- Topic 1: Me, my family and friends: Relationships with family and friends, Marriage/partnership
- Topic 2: Technology in everyday life: Social media, Mobile technology
- Topic 3: Free-time activities: Music, Cinema and TV, Food and eating out, Sport
- Topic 4: Customs and festivals in French-speaking countries/communities

Theme 2: Local, national, international and global areas of interest

- Topic 1: Home, town, neighbourhood and region
- Topic 2: Social issues: Charity/voluntary work, Healthy/unhealthy living
- Topic 3: Global issues: The environment, Poverty/homelessness
- Topic 4: Travel and tourism

Theme 3: Current and future study and employment

- Topic 1: My studies
- Topic 2: Life at school/college
- Topic 3: Education post-16
- Topic 4: Jobs, career choices and ambitions

How is this subject assessed?

- Exam only: 3 exam papers + 1 oral exam (each worth 25%)

Link to specification:

Spanish (601/8160/6) <https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/spanish/specifications/AQA-8698-SP-2016.PDF>

French (601/8157/6) <https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/french/specifications/AQA-8658-SP-2016.PDF>

Health and Social Care

Contact	Email	Exam Board	Course code:
Mrs L. Moore	louisemoore@graceacademy.org.uk	Pearson	603/7047/6

What will I study?

Component 1: Human Lifespan Development

- Students explore how individuals develop physically, emotionally, socially and intellectually over time; investigate how various factors, events and choices affect individuals' growth and development; and discover how people adapt to life events and cope with making changes

Component 2: Health and Social Care Services and Values

- Students will learn which health and social care services are available; identify why people might need to use these services; discover who's involved in providing these services; explore what might stop people from accessing the services they need; and look at the care values the sector has to make sure people get the care and protection they need

Component 3: Health and Wellbeing

- Students will study the factors that affect health and wellbeing, learning about physiological and lifestyle indicators

How is this subject assessed?

- Component 1 (Set Assignment 30%):
- Component 2 (C Set Assignment 30%):
- Component 3 (External Exam 40%):

Link to specification:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/btec-tec-awards/health-and-social-care/2022/specification-and-sample-assessments/60370476-BTEC-Tech-Award-Health-and-Social-Care-2022-spec-PPD1-150721.pdf>

Religious Education

Contact	Email	Exam Board	Course code:
Miss M. Kaur	munjeevankaur@graceacademy.org.uk	AQA	8062

What will I study?

Paper 1:

- Christian Beliefs and Teachings
- Christian Practices
- Islam Beliefs and Teachings
- Islam Practices

Paper 2:

- Theme A - Relationships and Family
- Theme B – Religion and Life
- Theme D – Religion, Peace and Conflict
- Theme E – Religion, Crime and Punishment

How is this subject assessed?

- Exam only
- Component 1 (50%): Beliefs, Teachings and Practices of Christianity and Islam
- Component 2 (50%): Thematic Studies

Link to specification:

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/religious-studies/gcse/religious-studies-a-8062/specification-at-a-glance>

Options Form 2023-25

First name	
Surname	
Tutor Group	
Date	

All students will study:

English, English Literature, Maths, Science, PE and PSHE

You must select **either History or Geography**

If you would like your child to study both History and Geography please contact the school

Subjects	Tick 1
History GCSE	
Geography GCSE	

You must select a **back-up in each block** (this is in case you do not get your first choice) – please tick the ‘2’ box next to your second choice subject.

If you are selected to study separate science at GCSE level, this will take the place of one of the options selected below.

Subjects	1 st Choice (tick 1)	2 nd Choice (tick 1)	3 rd Choice (tick 1)	Reserve (tick 1)
RE GCSE				
BTEC Health and Social Care				
Business GCSE				
BTEC Tech Award in Sport				
Creative iMedia Level 2				
Computing (Computer Science) GCSE				
Drama GCSE				
Hospitality and Catering GCSE				
Art GCSE				
French GCSE				
Spanish GCSE				

Student Signature **Parent’s Signature.....**

Forms to be returned to the Reception office by Monday 14th February 2022

Options Form 2022-24

First name	Jane
Surname	Smith
Tutor Group	9ASH
Date	14.02.22

All students will study:

English, English Literature, Maths, Science, PE and PSHE

You must select **either History or Geography**

If you would like your child to study both History and Geography please contact the school

Subjects	Tick 1
History GCSE	✓
Geography GCSE	

You must select a **back-up in each block** (this is in case you do not get your first choice) – please tick the ‘2’ box next to your second choice subject.

If you are selected to study separate science at GCSE level, this will take the place of one of the options selected below.

Subjects	1st Choice (tick 1)	2nd Choice (tick 1)	3rd Choice (tick 1)	Reserve (tick 1)
RE GCSE	✓			
BTEC Health and Social Care				
Business GCSE				✓
BTEC Tech Award in Sport		✓		
Creative iMedia Level 2				
Computing (Computer Science) GCSE				
Drama GCSE				
Hospitality and Catering GCSE				
Art GCSE				
French GCSE			✓	
Spanish GCSE				

Student Signature *J. Smith*..... **Parent's Signature**..... *L. Smith*.....

Forms to be returned to the Reception office by Monday 14th February 2022

