



WELCOME TO IDSALL SCHOOL

Y9 OPTIONS PRESENTATION

This presentation will be available on the school website

Option Choice

- Thank you for joining us this evening
- Very important time in your child's development.....but not a time to worry!
- No right or wrong choice if thought through properly.

“Blended choice”

- We want students to be able to choose freely between a wide range of subjects on offer.
- However, we also want to be able to guide students onto the most appropriate pathways that best match their skills, aptitudes and future career aspirations.

Moving on

- Seven year journey..... education or training to 18
- Post 16 / University provision...
- Wide variety of courses on offer.
- Robust core to support options.

Which way now ?

Informed choices - 2021

Changing exam landscape

- Exams are no longer graded from A* - G
- All subjects will have changed and students will work towards a 9-1 grade in 2023. (9 is the highest grade)
- All GCSE examinations will test 2 years worth of work and the requirement to complete controlled assessments or coursework has been reduced or removed from many courses.
- BTEC courses will still retain some elements of controlled assessment, but all have an examination element too.

Changing exam landscape

- Pre-COVID-19, national evidence indicated that exams are becoming more difficult.
- Whatever future route you take, **success in English and Maths are essential**
- - more time for 'core' subjects
- - more time for 'Option' subjects
 - An increase from 2hrs per week to 2½ hrs per week (on average)
 - Introduce a two-week timetable

What students will study...

4 x OPTION SUBJECTS	10 hrs
MATHS	4 hrs
ENGLISH LANGUAGE	2.5 hrs
ENGLISH LITERATURE	2.5 hrs
COMBINED SCIENCE (Double Award)	5 hrs
I.D.	standalone
P.E.	1 hr

Option Process

- Option /careers work last half term in I.D. lessons
- Option talk with students – Mr Crichton – December
- Careers and Options talk – Mrs Kendall – last Monday
- Options Information talk – tonight
- Students begin to research information about subjects
- “Virtual” Parents Evening – Thursday 4th February
- Option choices completed by **Friday 26th February**
- All option choices reviewed in school

How do you make your choices ?

- What do you enjoy ?
- What do you generally do better at ?
- How is the course made up ?
 - coursework / exams / practical assessments / skills
- Think about what you like / how you learn and what's best for you – we're all different.
- Ask lots of questions ?

How do you make your choices ?

- Year 9 students will have to stay in education or training until they are 18 –this can take many forms...
- Think about what you may want to do beyond Y11.
- We do not always know our futures or what our future careers will be !

Do not choose courses because :

- Your friends are doing them
- You like your current teacher
- You think it sounds good

The gateway to success

- Do well in your GCSEs / BTEC and you can progress onto nearly all post-16 courses.
- We have a wide range of post-16 courses for all range of abilities at Idsall's Sixth Form and have extended our offer this year.

6th Form Courses

- French
 - Mathematics
 - Mathematics (Further)
 - Art & Design
 - Geography
 - Film Studies
 - Biology
 - German
 - Physics
 - Business Studies
 - History
 - Chemistry
 - Philosophy & Ethics
 - Economics
 - Information & Control Technology
 - English Language
 - English Literature
 - Psychology
 - Sociology
 - **APPLIED SCIENCE** - Extended Certificate
 - **BUSINESS** - Extended Certificate
 - **HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE** - Extended Certificate
 - **ICT** - Extended Certificate
 - **SPORT** - Extended Certificate
 - **SPORT** - Diploma
- Skills Centre courses**
- Construction

Facilitating subjects (EBacc)

- Recognised by top universities
- These subjects are:

French or German

History or Geography

English

Maths

Science*

(*Combined Science (Double Award) or Separate Sciences or Computing)

Science

- We highly recommend that all students considering an A-level science should opt for separate sciences . This will give three separate GCSEs in Physics, Chemistry and Biology.
- Students could do an A-level science with a good grade (9-6) in Combined Science, but it does not give the same preparation/depth of study as the single science courses.

Languages

- We highly recommend that all students in top sets for languages should seriously consider continuing to study French or German at GCSE level.
- WHY? The government have an ambition for 75% of students to study a language at GCSE. We think, at this time, that universities may take this into account when looking at applications for 'top universities'.
- **Languages are optional** for the current Year 9 cohort

I.C.T. and Computer Science

- Students are currently study “Computing” – a combination of Computer Science and ICT.
- ICT and Computer Science can now be chosen as two separate options.
- Computer Science is considered as the “4th Science” and as difficult as physics, chemistry or biology, so students must find out more and decide carefully.

BTEC/CNAT

- All courses are designed in different ways to meet different learning needs / styles.
- Some courses are more coursework based and some are more exam based ?
- BTEC/CNAT are often more hands on , vocationally based and geared towards the workplace.
- Assessment will be **25% final exam** and 75% internally assessed assignments.
- **Equally hard as GCSE, but assessed differently.**

Skills Centre courses

- Construction
- Designed to support our less academic students with a pathway to success.
- 1 day per week (4hrs)
 - Take up TWO option blocks
- Very practical in nature and often lead to students taking further courses when they get to 16
- Approximately 7 places per course
- Selection process is managed by Mr. Northall.

Information, Advice and Guidance

- **Questions relating to progress or suitability for a course:**
 - Please arrange to speak with your child's class teacher at the Parents Evening on 4th February
- **Questions relating to a subject specific:**
 - Please encourage your child to “drop-in” to subject specific Q&A sessions – every lunchtime from Monday (appointments have been sent to all students via Microsoft Teams)

BEFORE you decide...

- Students - Think carefully about what YOU want to do! Ask lots of questions and find out as much as you can about the qualifications you need for future jobs or courses.

Option Blocks

OPTION BLOCKS 2021 - 2023

A	B	C	D
			French
			German
Geography	Geography	Geography	Geography
History	History	History	History
Separate Science	Separate Science		Separate Science
Computer Science	Computer Science		
Construction (BTEC)			
		Art (Art & Craft)	Art (Art & Craft)
		Art (Graphics)	
	Business Studies (GCSE) (CNAT)	Business Studies (GCSE) (CNAT)	
Drama			
	D&T: Product Design		D&T: Product Design
	D&T: Textiles		
		Food & Nutrition	Food & Nutrition
Health & Social Care (BTEC)	Health & Social Care (BTEC)	Health & Social Care (BTEC)	
		ICT (BTEC)	
		Music	
PE & Sport (GCSE) (BTEC)			PE & Sport (GCSE) (BTEC)
Religious Studies	Religious Studies		

You **MUST** choose one subject from each column (block) A, B, C and D

At least one of your four choices **MUST** be from the top, shaded section of any block.

You can choose **D&T: Product Design** or **D&T: Textiles** – but NOT both.

Construction requires two blocks (A and B).

Business Studies and **PE & Sport** have two possible pathways, GCSE or BTEC/CNAT.

Final decisions regarding the best route for students will be made following further discussion and guidance given to each student.

NOTE: We reserve the right to withdraw an option if insufficient students choose to study it and we reserve the right to reassign students to other blocks or subject if the subject option is over-subscribed.

Idsall School Website - links

www.idsallschool.org



Follow the **Curriculum** link to
Year 9 Options

Ipsall School website - links

[- Year 9 Options Booklet -](#)

[- Year 9 Options Form -](#)

[- Year 9 Options Website -](#)

Virtual Careers Fair



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		Art (Graphics)	
	Business Studies (GCSE) (CNAT)	Business Studies (GCSE) (CNAT)	
Drama			
	D&T: Product Design		D&T: Product Design
	D&T: Textiles		
		Food & Nutrition	Food & Nutrition
Health & Social Care (BTEC)	Health & Social Care (BTEC)	Health & Social Care (BTEC)	
		ICT (BTEC)	
		Music	
PE & Sport (GCSE) (BTEC)			PE & Sport (GCSE) (BTEC)
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