



Your Future Starts Here

The Year 9 Options Process

Making Choices That Work for You

- ▶ This is about you
- ▶ There is no single “right” choice
- ▶ Choose subjects that help you succeed and enjoy learning

Choose subjects that help with your future pathways

- ▶ What do I want to be?:









What options Do I Have?

- ▶ GCSE
- ▶ Vocational Courses, eg BTEC (School based)
- ▶ NVQ (Partly school/college based)

Subjects Everyone Studies

- All pupils continue with:
 - English
 - Maths
 - Science
 - Welsh / Welsh Second Language
 - Physical Education
 - Skills Challenge Certificate
 - RVE and Equality and Diversity
- These subjects:

Keep future pathways open

Are important for college, apprenticeships, and jobs

Why study the Skills Challenge Certificate?



The Individual Project gave me the opportunity to be independent and to research and explore a topic that I find really interesting, and that I haven't learnt about in my other subjects.



BY STUDENTS

I enjoyed the Enterprise Challenge as it enabled me to have a choice in the outcome and also the interaction with the team and customers who bought our product.

Working as part of a team allowed us to develop vital leadership skills that will help us as we move on to Sixth Form.

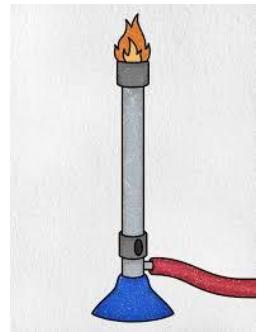


I have developed skills that have enabled me to meet deadlines which will be important in the Sixth Form, University and also in the workplace.



What about Science ?

- ▶ Everyone has to follow a course in science
- ▶ Most follow a science course that leads to **TWO GCSEs**. This is perfectly adequate to go on and study A Level
- ▶ Some pupils will be able to follow a **TRIPLE** award science course, with separate Biology, Chemistry and Physics.
- ▶ **This will count as one of your three option choices**



Grades Awarded

ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE (Double Award)	MATHEMATICS & NUMERACY (Double Award)	THE SCIENCES (Double Award)
A*A*	A*A*	A*A*
AA	AA	AA
BB	BB	BB
CC	CC	CC
DD	DD	DD
EE	EE	EE
FF	FF	FF
GG	GG	GG
U	U	U

Your Option Subjects

You will choose 3 subjects from areas like:

- Humanities (e.g. History, Geography)
- Languages
- Expressive Arts (Art, Drama, Music)
- Technology & Computing
- Vocational subjects

☞ This is your chance to personalise your timetable

	AMon	ATue	AWed	AThu	AFri
1	Science MSH C8	English LBL B17	Design Tec SJ A3	English IBA C15	Geography OM B26
2	Pe Male SSH SPH	Design Tec SJ A3	Support MV	L@KES PAB A10	Drama CP B20
3	Geography OM B26	Support MV	Science MSH C8	Music ST A11	Accel Reader PCO LIB
4	Computing MR B6	Maths KN B9	Maths KN B9	Maths KN B9	Science MSH C7
5	Art TR A8	Pe Male SSH SPH	English PB B17	Support MV	Maths KN B9
6					

GCSEs

- History
- Geography
- Music
- Physical Education
- French
- Spanish
- Art & Design
- Drama
- Religious Studies
- Computer Science
- Health & Social Care & Child Care
- Separate Sciences (Biology, Chemistry & Physics)

What are Vocational Courses?

- ▶ An alternative to GCSE
- ▶ Courses related to a job or type of employment
- ▶ Learn the basic knowledge and skills for the job
- ▶ NVQ and BTEC
- ▶ Assessment is ongoing with fewer exams
- ▶ Taught and awarded at Level 1 (Grade D to G) and level 2 (Grade A*-C)
- ▶ Some are worth more than 1 GCSE

What Vocational Courses are on Offer?

- ▶ BTEC Hospitality and Catering (Level 2)
- ▶ Engineering (Level 2)
- ▶ Tourism (Level 1/2)
- ▶ BTEC Preparation for Public Services
- ▶ Hair & Beauty (VTCT Level 2)
- ▶ NVQ Vehicle Component Fitting (Level 2)
- ▶ IT User Skills in Open Systems & Enterprise (Level 2 Certificate)
- ▶ BTEC Business
- ▶ BTEC IT (Information & Creative Technology)
- ▶ BTEC Personal Growth & Wellbeing (Level 2)

Why These Choices Matter

Your options can:

- Help you enjoy school more
- Build confidence in what you're good at
- Prepare you for post-16 choices
- Show future colleges/employers your strengths



How to Choose Well

Ask yourself:

- ✓ Do I enjoy this subject?
- ✓ Am I good at it or improving?
- ✓ Am I willing to work hard at it?
- ✓ Does it balance my other choices?

💡 The best choice = **interest + effort**

What NOT to Base Choices On

∅ Choosing just because:

- Your friends picked it
- You think it's "easy"
- You like/dislike a teacher
- Someone else chose it for you



☞ This is your future, not anyone else's.

You Don't Need All the Answers Yet

Important to know:

- Most jobs do not require specific GCSE options
- English, Maths & Science matter most overall
- You can change direction later
- Success comes from **doing well**, not just what you choose

What Changes at Key Stage 4?

- Fewer subjects
- A chance to choose some aspects of your curriculum
- Thinking about the future
- Seeking (and accepting) advice

KEY STAGE 4

GCSEs and others

KEY STAGE 5

18+

A levels & vocational courses in Sixth Form

A levels & vocational courses at Further Education College

Degree at University or FE college

T Levels at Further Education College

Traineeship or study programme

Options
18+

Employment

Foundation courses

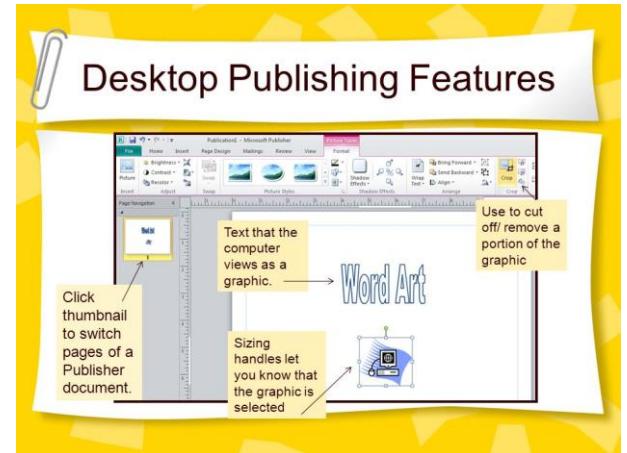
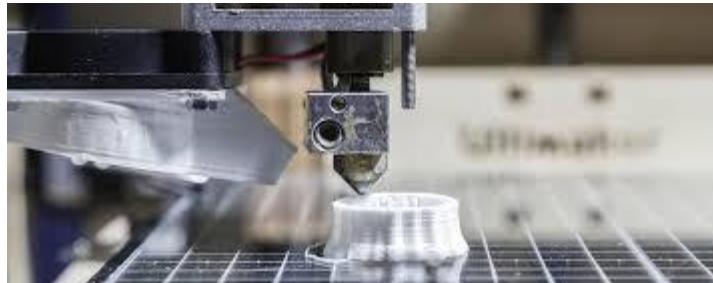
Intermediate Apprenticeship

Advanced Apprenticeship

Degree or Higher level apprenticeship

Job or volunteering (minimum 20 hours per week) with recognised training

IT User Skills in Open Systems & Enterprise



NVQ Level 2 courses

- These are VOCATIONAL, or work related courses
- You study out of school for two hours each week
- Available in:
 - Hairdressing
 - Vehicle Component Fitting

Personalisation of options for maximum achievement

Subject	Pupil Global Grade / Curriculum Grade Range				
	A*-B	A-C	B-C	C-D	C-E
Triple Science					
Computer Science					
Geography					
History					
Business					
French					
Spanish					
Art					
BTEC IT					
Health and Social Care & Child Care					
Drama					
Music					
Physical Education					
NVQ Engineering					
BTEC Hospitality & Catering					
NVQ Vehicle Component Fitting					
NVQ Hair & Beauty					
Tourism					
BTEC Preparation for Public Services					
Religious Studies					
IT User Skills in Open Systems & Enterprise					
BTEC Personal Growth & Wellbeing					

Important Points to note

- ▶ Not all subjects will run – dependent on numbers
- ▶ Some subjects limited by numbers (some practical subjects prioritised to good attendees)
- ▶ Some subjects will be prioritised to global grades
- ▶ Option block clashes will make some combinations impossible – you must PRIORITY!
- ▶ Reserve choices are important

What will my timetable look like?

English
Language &
Literature
7

Mathematics
&
Numeracy
8

Science
9

Welsh
5

SCC (2)
RVE (2)
PE (2)
6

Option
A
5

Option
B
5

Option
C
5

Support at QEH

You are not on your own. You'll have:

- Taster lessons
- Assemblies and guidance lessons
- Tutor support
- Teachers to ask questions
- Careers information when needed

 **Ask questions – it shows maturity, not weakness**

What Happens Next?

- Read the options booklet carefully
- Talk to:
 - Teachers
 - Tutors
 - Parents/carers
- Think about **what suits you**
- Submit your choices by the deadline

⚠️ Some subjects depend on numbers, so flexibility matters.

A Message to You

- ★ Choose subjects you can be proud of
- ★ Believe in your ability to succeed
- ★ Work hard – effort beats talent every time
- ★ This is the start of your next chapter

Your choices. Your journey. Your future.

Final Thought

- ▶ You don't need to be perfect.
- ▶ You just need to be thoughtful, positive, and ambitious.
- ▶ We believe in you – now believe in yourself.

Where to find all the information



www.qehs.carms.sch.uk



TEULU QEH FAMILY
CARING LEARNING LEADING





- Revision Guidance
- School Council
- Year 7
- Year 8
- Year 9
- Year 10
- More Able and Talented
- Year 11
- Digital Competency
- Literacy and Numeracy
- Assessment Overview 2021
- DofE
- Extra Curricular Activities
- Canteen Menu
- ECO Club

ULU QEH FAMILY
LEARNING LEADING





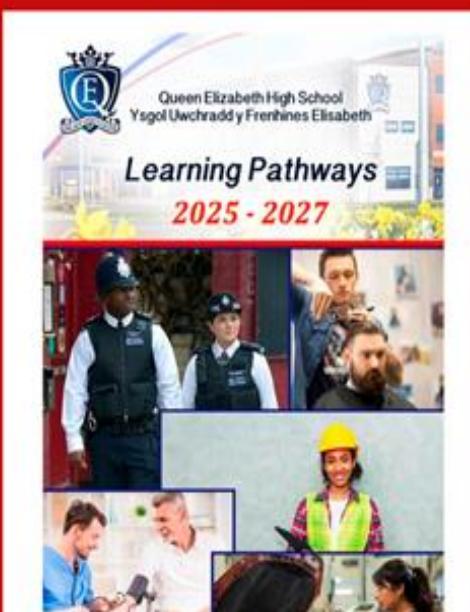
Welcome

Please see information for Year 9 students.

Year 9 Options Information

Click the button below to access the Year 9 Options information and resources.

[Click here](#)





Year 9 Options

Please watch all the video presentations and read the Options Booklet.

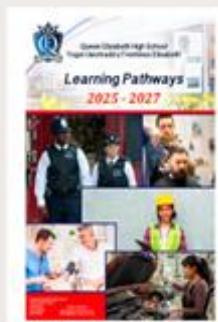
A form will be sent to Parents/Carers following the Year 9 Parents/Carers Evening on January 23rd.

Please complete the form with your chosen subjects in order of preference along with a Reserve option by January 31st.



Year 9 Options Talk 2025
Presentation Slides

[Click here](#)



Year 9 Options Booklet - January
2025

[Click here](#)



Gyra Cymru
Careers Wales

Resources from Careers Wales

[Click for info](#)

Older Video Presentations

[Click here](#)



Old Video Presentations

Please click to view the video presentations used during Covid-19. Some of this information may be out of date.



Decisions, Decisions, Decisions!

The Year 9 Options Process

Year 9 Options Presentation

[Click for video](#)



Changes to the Welsh Baccalaureate
- YouTube

[Click for video](#)



Subjects within Technology Area of
Learning

[Click for video](#)

WJEC Tourism

Tourism Presentation

[Click for video](#)



Personal Growth & Wellbeing
presentation

[Click for video](#)



Computer Science Presentation

[Click for video](#)

What Next?

- ▶ Select choices – A messenger form will be sent out after the Parents’ Evening on January 22nd to be completed by Friday 30th January.
- ▶ W/C January 12th Subject Presentations
- ▶ January 13th Pupil Options Presentation Lesson 2 (Parents 6pm)
- ▶ Parents’ Evening January 22nd
- ▶ Individual interviews and discussions
- ▶ Amendments and changes
- ▶ Confirmation of choices – Summer Term 2026
- ▶ Begin Courses –Sept 2026 (Taster courses for college in Summer Term)

Dear Example Student,

Please find below the link to complete the Year 9 Options, we ask that you complete this form by the initial options deadline of 31st of January 2025.

For any parents/carers that missed the Options Presentation Evening on January 14th, all the information, including the presentation slides is available on our Students Year 9 section on the school website.

[Open Form](#)

Kind Regards,



Assistant Head
Curriculum, Assessment & Examinations



Form from: Queen Elizabeth High School

Queen Elizabeth High School

Year 9 Options 2026

Dear Example and Example Student,

You will be asked to choose some of the subjects you will study in years 10 and 11.

Please note that you have to take the following subjects:

**English Language & Literature, Science, Religion,
Values & Ethics, Skills Challenge
Certificate, Mathematics & Numeracy, Welsh
Physical Education**

In the box below, please indicate the three subjects that you would most like to follow, in order of preference. Then select a reserve choice in case any of your first three choices are not possible. Think carefully about your reserve because you may end up having to take it.

Please make sure you fill in the details below and have it signed by your parent / carer.

Remember:

- You may not be able to take the exact three subjects you have chosen
- Some subjects may not eventually run if numbers choosing them are too low
- Read the options booklet carefully and do some of your own research on the subjects offered
- Please note that some options can only be taken by pupils at particular global grades

First Choice?

* -- please select --

Second Choice?

* -- please select --

Third Choice?

* -- please select --

Reserve Option:

* -- please select --

Please sign below



please use your mouse or finger to sign above

Submit

A Few Notes

- ▶ Please make sure you choose your subjects **in order of importance** – including a reserve (4th) choice
- ▶ It is likely that you will not be able to have the exact combination of subjects you want
- ▶ Some subjects are limited by group size/global grade
- ▶ Any changes to choices after the first stage will be allowed subject to group sizes
- ▶ **No changes allowed from first week in September**

Help and Advice

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