



Welcome to Year 8 Choices Evening

Choosing your optional subjects

Year 8 Choices Information Evening

year8choices@fullbrook.surrey.sch.uk

2020-23

Introduction

- The Structure of the Year 9 curriculum
- The Choices Process
- Support available to students

Personalising your curriculum

Fullbrook offers:

- A wide choice of GCSEs and Vocational courses.
- Setting in all core subjects to suit ability and learning styles.
- Excellent information, advice and guidance.
- An extensive variety of enrichment activities & learning opportunities outside of the classroom.



November
Activities in tutor time began to help you develop the skills you will need to choose your optional subjects.

Thursday 27 February
Year 8 Choices Information Evening
Students and parents/carers will attend a short presentation about the choices process.

March
Activities in tutor time
Tutors will work with students giving guidance and advice on personalising their subject choices for Year 9

Thursday 26 March
Choices subject Fair
Students will be able to attend talks from different subject areas and have the opportunity to find out in more detail what each course offers.

Friday April 24th
Choices forms deadline
Completed forms must be returned to Tutors who will check them.

You will receive **confirmation** of the courses you will study in July.

The Choices Timeline



Your 5-year education plan

- The Government say that everyone should be in education until they are 18.
- You should make considered choices about your future.
- A broad and balanced curriculum will give you more choice later on.
- Think about the type of qualifications that GCSEs and vocational courses will allow you to take in the future.
- Keep your future options open.

Learning Pathways

- Every student has been assigned a learning Pathway to help them select the most suitable subjects for them; Purple or Red.
- We have carefully selected the appropriate Pathway for each student individually giving them the best opportunity to succeed and learn in ways which suit them.
- Because each student has a bespoke learning Pathway, the Choices form is individual to each student.

If the form is lost a new one should be collected from your Tutor.

What are the **Red** and **Purple** pathway?

- Students on the **Red** pathway are recommended to choose from the more traditional GCSE subjects.
- Students on the **Purple** pathway are encouraged to take a combination of the more traditional GCSE subjects and the vocational subjects offered.
- **Red** pathway students are able to choose/show interest from the vocational subjects too, but students on the **purple** pathway will be given priority.
- The Vocational subjects are shown with a **purple** heading in the Choices booklet and are equivalent qualifications to GCSEs (all level 2 qualifications)

What is the Core curriculum?

- All students will study the core curriculum

The core subjects are:

- Citizenship & PSHE (non-qualification subject; includes careers, sex and relationships education, key skills development and academic progress support)
- English GCSE
- Mathematics GCSE
- Physical Education ('Core PE' is a non-qualification subject)
- Religious Studies GCSE
- Science GCSE

Compulsory Subjects

- In Year 9 all students will continue to study the key stage 3 National Curriculum Subjects:
 - History
 - Geography
 - A Modern Foreign Language (except Learners on the Purple pathway)
 - A Creative Subject (Technology, Art, Drama)

What is the English Baccalaureate ('EBacc')?

EBacc subjects:

- **English Language and Literature**
- **Mathematics**
- either **Geography** or **History**
- **two Sciences**
- a **modern foreign language**

- The **English Baccalaureate** or '**EBacc**' is not actually a qualification.
- It is a way of identifying students who have passed specific GCSE subjects.
- To get the EBacc you need to achieve 7 EBacc subjects.

EBacc: Why these subjects?

- It is important to study a broad and balanced curriculum.
- The EBacc subjects allow progression to **‘facilitating A Level subjects’** for those hoping to go to university to study higher level academic qualifications.

- Biology
- Chemistry
- English literature
- Geography

- History
- Physics
- Modern and classical languages
- Maths & further maths

What choices do I need to make?

- You will need to pick at **one creative subject** from the creative subject list as well as a **reserve creative choice**.
- You will then need to decide on **two more subjects from the ‘Free Choice Subject List’**.
- You must also pick 2 reserve subjects from the ‘Free Choice Subject List’.
- Students recommended on the Purple pathway will not study a language but will study the Level 2 iAchieve award instead.

The Creative Choice subjects

Design Technology- Materials

Art and Design

Design Technology- Resistant Materials

Drama

Graphics with Art

Textiles with Art

The Free Choice Subjects

(Business)- Enterprise and Marketing

Certificate in sport

Family and Social Studies

Hairdressing and Beauty

Hospitality and Catering

iMedia

Computer Science (by invitation only)

Drama

Food Preparation and Nutrition

French (dual linguists currently studying Spanish only)

Media Studies

Music

Physical Education

Psychology

Sociology

Spanish (dual linguists currently studying French only)

Your Choices:

- A Creative Subject
 - Two free choices
 - A reserve creative subject
 - Two free choice reserve subjects
-
- Reserve subjects are very important so you must choose these carefully and put them in the order of preference.
 - Where too many students opt for the same subject and Fullbrook cannot staff enough classes, a ballot may be held to select the students.

Things to keep in mind when choosing

Think about

- ✓ The subjects that you enjoy.
- ✓ Your strengths.
- ✓ The qualifications that you may need for a career or courses in higher education that interest you.
- ✓ The content and style of learning to ensure that they will interest you.
- ✓ The balance between coursework/examination subjects.

Do not choose a subject because

- ✗ You like the teacher – they may not be teaching you next year!
- ✗ Your friends are choosing it/want you to choose it – you may end up in a different class to your friends.

How long have we got to decide?

- During the next 4 weeks, tutors will support students to help them make their decisions.
- The Choices subject Fair is on 26th March 2020
- You must return your Choices Form to your tutor by the end of **Thursday 24th April 2020.**

Who can I ask for help?

- Your tutor, subject teachers or Ms Taylor, Ms Williams or Mr Thomson
- Email year8choices@fullbrook.surrey.sch.uk

Any Questions?

- Please email

Year8choices@Fullbrook.surrey.sch.uk