



PEMBROKE
A PRIORY ACADEMY

Subject information for Key Stage 4 options, 2024



December 2023

Options expression of interest questionnaire

22nd February 2024

Introduction to Options. Option Booklets issued to students

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7th March 2024

Year 9 Parents' Evening and Options Evening

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September 2024

Begin studying your chosen GCSEs and Vocational subjects

Questions to ask yourself as you think about your options:

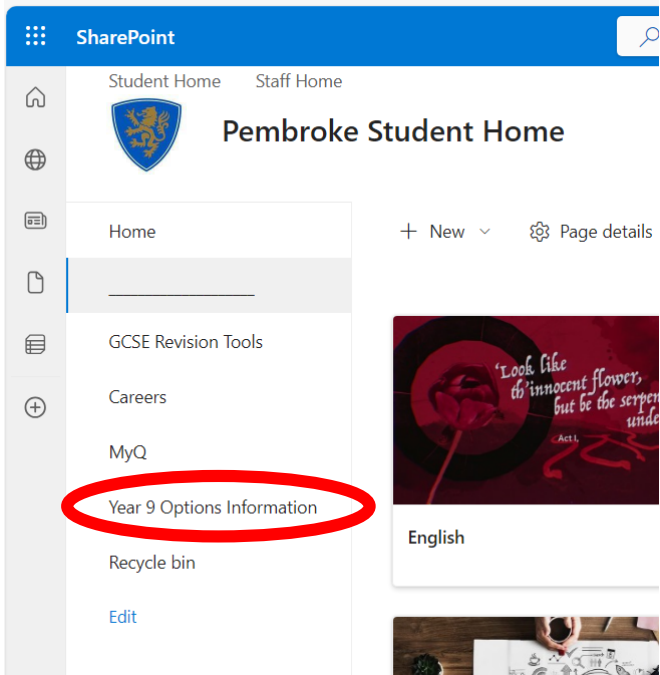
- What subjects are you passionate and curious about?
- What are you good at? Where are your strengths?
- Do you know what is involved in each subject?
- What career areas (if any) do you have in mind?
- Do the subjects you wish to study support your career idea?
- Have you kept your options open? Is your choice balanced?

Other points to consider:

- Do you want to study the English Baccalaureate? (GCSEs in English, Mathematics, 2 GCSE Science qualifications, Spanish and a humanities subject: either History or Geography.)
- Further Education providers and employers want to see students who have good qualifications in a range of subject areas.
- Talk to Miss Romain, and consider post-16 courses. Will the options you are considering help you to achieve a place on the course?



Other points to consider:



- Read the options book carefully
 - What will you be learning?
 - How will you be learning it?
 - How will you be assessed?
- A subject with project work will require you to work to strict deadlines.
- Don't assume a subject is 'practical'. All subjects contain theory work which must be completed to pass the course.

Other points to consider:

- Don't pick your options based on the choices of your friends, what they are good at might not be your strength.
- Don't pick your options based on the teachers in the subject.



What will the Year 10 timetable look like?

Subject	English				Maths				Science				PE	Life	Option 1		Option 2			Option 3			Option 4		
Number of lessons	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	1	1	2	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3



GCSE and Vocational Options for Key Stage 4

Year 9 is an exciting point in the educational journey of our young people, when we encourage them to focus on the subjects they are passionate about; investigate new subjects with curiosity and have the courage to challenge themselves to achieve.

"Options" are a vital set of decisions in a young person's academic life. Even though some of the curriculum at Key Stage 4 is prescribed, this is the first time that young people will have any degree of choice in which subjects they can study. When considering the information within the options booklet, we encourage students to think about their next steps after GCSE. Further Education providers and employers want to see students who have good qualifications in a range of subject areas. As a consequence, considerable time and thought should be applied to choosing wisely. Miss Romain, Pembroke Academy's Careers Leader, will be on hand to offer help and support throughout the process. There will also be an opportunity to discuss the courses your child is interested in during the Parents Evening and Options Evening on Thursday 7th March 2024.

At Priory Pembroke Academy every student has the opportunity to study a broad and balanced curriculum, including the English Baccalaureate combination of GCSEs in English, Mathematics, Science, Modern Foreign Languages and one of the humanities subjects; either History or Geography. Students will also have a wide range of other subjects available to them.

Regardless of whether they decide to pursue the EBacc route, all students will be expected to choose either History or Geography as one of their options. A student can opt for both subjects.

You can read more about each qualification by clicking the links below.

Compulsory Qualifications: All students will study the subjects below	
English Language	English Literature
Mathematics	Combined Science

Option Block 1 Qualifications: Students must choose one of the following qualifications.		
Btec Music Tech	Citizenship	Statistics
Religious Studies		

Students must choose either GCSE History or GCSE Geography. They can study both.		
Geography	History	

Students must then choose two of the following subjects		
Art and Design	Computer Science	
D & T Timber	Drama	Hospitality and Catering
Media Studies	Photography	Spanish
Sports Science	Triple Science	

PEMBROKE PLEDGE

THE PEMBROKE CURRICULUM - SUBJECTS

GCSE AND VOCATIONAL OPTIONS FOR KEY STAGE 4

PRIORY SIXTH FORM 2024

PEMBROKE CAREERS PROGRAMME

PEMBROKE CAPITALS

Edexcel GCSE History

Why should I study GCSE History?
This is a challenging, engaging and useful subject. It will help you to understand the world around you and the people who have shaped it. It will also help you to develop your critical thinking skills and your ability to analyse and evaluate evidence. History is a subject that is highly regarded by employers and universities.

What will I study?
You will study three topics: The British Empire, The First World War, and The Cold War. You will also study the history of the British Isles from the Romans to the present day.

How will I be assessed?
You will be assessed by two exams: a written exam and a coursework project. The written exam will test your knowledge and understanding of the topics, and the coursework project will test your ability to analyse and evaluate evidence.

What skills will I develop?
You will develop a range of skills, including: critical thinking, problem-solving, communication, and teamwork.

How can I use the subject in my future career?
History is a subject that is highly valued by employers and universities. It can help you to develop the skills and knowledge that are needed for a wide range of careers, including: law, journalism, teaching, and public administration.



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Key Stage 4 Subject Information

2023

AQA GCSE Religious Studies

Why should I study Religious Studies?
This is a challenging and useful subject. It will help you to understand the world around you and the people who have shaped it. It will also help you to develop your critical thinking skills and your ability to analyse and evaluate evidence. Religious Studies is a subject that is highly regarded by employers and universities.

What will I study?
You will study three topics: The Bible, The Quran, and The Bhagavad Gita. You will also study the history of the world from the beginning of time to the present day.

How will I be assessed?
You will be assessed by two exams: a written exam and a coursework project. The written exam will test your knowledge and understanding of the topics, and the coursework project will test your ability to analyse and evaluate evidence.

What skills will I develop?
You will develop a range of skills, including: critical thinking, problem-solving, communication, and teamwork.

How can I use the subject in my future career?
Religious Studies is a subject that is highly valued by employers and universities. It can help you to develop the skills and knowledge that are needed for a wide range of careers, including: law, journalism, teaching, and public administration.

BTEC Business First Certificate

Why should I study BTEC Business?
This is a challenging and useful subject. It will help you to understand the world around you and the people who have shaped it. It will also help you to develop your critical thinking skills and your ability to analyse and evaluate evidence. BTEC Business is a subject that is highly regarded by employers and universities.

What will I study?
You will study three topics: The Business Environment, The Business Function, and The Business Process. You will also study the history of the world from the beginning of time to the present day.

How will I be assessed?
You will be assessed by two exams: a written exam and a coursework project. The written exam will test your knowledge and understanding of the topics, and the coursework project will test your ability to analyse and evaluate evidence.

What skills will I develop?
You will develop a range of skills, including: critical thinking, problem-solving, communication, and teamwork.

How can I use the subject in my future career?
BTEC Business is a subject that is highly valued by employers and universities. It can help you to develop the skills and knowledge that are needed for a wide range of careers, including: law, journalism, teaching, and public administration.

Edexcel GCSE Design and Technology Timber

Why should I study Edexcel GCSE Design and Technology Timber?
This is a challenging and useful subject. It will help you to understand the world around you and the people who have shaped it. It will also help you to develop your critical thinking skills and your ability to analyse and evaluate evidence. Edexcel GCSE Design and Technology Timber is a subject that is highly regarded by employers and universities.

What will I study?
You will study three topics: The Design Process, The Design Solution, and The Design Project. You will also study the history of the world from the beginning of time to the present day.

How will I be assessed?
You will be assessed by two exams: a written exam and a coursework project. The written exam will test your knowledge and understanding of the topics, and the coursework project will test your ability to analyse and evaluate evidence.

What skills will I develop?
You will develop a range of skills, including: critical thinking, problem-solving, communication, and teamwork.

How can I use the subject in my future career?
Edexcel GCSE Design and Technology Timber is a subject that is highly valued by employers and universities. It can help you to develop the skills and knowledge that are needed for a wide range of careers, including: law, journalism, teaching, and public administration.

Completing your option form

Option restrictions

- All students must choose History or Geography (you can choose both)
- Any student who is taking the English Baccalaureate path must also choose Spanish



Completing your option form

When choosing subjects please bear in mind the following points:-

- Ensure you put **reserve choices**, leaving a blank does not mean you will automatically get your first choice.
- We reserve the right to alter subjects offered at any time, but will only do so in exceptional circumstances.
- We also reserve the right not to run courses for which insufficient pupils opt.



Completing your option form

- Option choices will be completed through an online form.
- The link to the options form will be sent to your school email after Parents' Evening on 7th March 2024.
- You should complete the form together with your parents/carers
- Paper forms will not be accepted



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