

Bullers Wood School for Girls & Sixth Form



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Headteacher: Mr Simon Hardwick

30th January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers of Year 9 students

Year 9 Options Process for Key Stage 4 courses 2023-2025

We would like to warmly welcome you to the Year 9 Options process, where students choose their courses for Years 10 and 11. Your child has attended an assembly today outlining the process, and there will be a further assembly on Thursday 9th March introducing the new subjects that they have not encountered before in Key Stage 3.

An outline of our Key Stage 4 curriculum can be found on the following page of this letter, and full information about all the subjects available can be found [HERE](#). **We build our timetable around the subjects that our students choose from those available, so our students do not have to pick subjects from different option blocks.**

The Year 9 Options Information Evening will be held on **Thursday 9th March**, and we would like to invite you and your child to attend. During the evening we will explain the core curriculum and the option choices available. The evening will commence at 6.30pm when there will be an opportunity for students and parents/carers to visit the subjects they are interested in. This will be followed by a presentation in the Main Hall at 7.30pm and the evening will finish at 8.00pm.

The timescale is as follows:

Monday 30 th January	Introduction to Options assembly Introductory letter to Parents/Carers including subject information and FAQs Science Letter (either Combined or Triple Science)
Tuesday 21 st February	Year 9 Parents and Carers Evening (separate letter to follow)
Thursday 9 th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ New Subject assembly○ Year 9 Options Information Evening for students, parents and carers○ Options letter to Parents/Carers with link to online Options form
Friday 17th March	Deadline for submission of Options Form

We aim to support students and parents/carers throughout this process. We have created a Frequently Asked Questions document which you can find [HERE](#). You will also have the opportunity to ask questions at both the Information Evening and the Parents' and Carers' evenings.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Lile
Deputy Headteacher

q u o d p o t e s t e n t a

Key Stage 4 Curriculum 2023-2025

All students follow our core curriculum consisting of:

GCSE	Non-GCSE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English Language • English Literature • Mathematics • Combined Science (2 GCSEs) or Triple Science – separate Biology, Chemistry and Physics (3 GCSEs) • History or Geography (selected by the student) • Religious Studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical Education Core – with the possibility of studying Sports Leadership • Character Development (Community, Communication, Careers, Citizenship, Celebrate and Care)

In addition, the majority of students will be encouraged to follow the English Baccalaureate which includes a GCSE in a Modern Foreign Language (French, German, or Spanish).

We recognise that the EBacc route may not be a suitable pathway for some students and these students will not be expected to study a language, although they can choose this option.

If you have any queries please contact Mrs Lile at school (office@bwsgirls.org).

The subjects on offer in addition to our core curriculum are shown below:

EBacc students
GCSE Humanities (History or Geography) – students must select one
GCSE MFL (French, German or Spanish) – students are encouraged to select one
Two other options from the list below

- GCSE Art and Design
- GCSE Business Studies
- GCSE Computer Science
- GCSE Design and Technology
- GCSE Drama
- GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition or WJEC Level 1/2 award in Hospitality and Catering
- GCSE French
- GCSE Geography
- GCSE German
- BTEC Health and Social Care
- GCSE History
- GCSE Media Studies
- GCSE Music
- GCSE PE
- GCSE Spanish
- GCSE Triple Science *

* Please see letter sent today regarding Combined / Triple Science