



# Year 9 Options 2021

## Making the Right Choices

## Welcome to Year 9 Options

This is a very important time for Year 9 students as they decide which subjects to study in Year 10 and Year 11.

At Alperton Community School we place emphasis on advice, support and guidance so that the process can be as straightforward as possible and all students are able to choose subjects which are suitable and beneficial for them.

As parents and carers you have a very important part to play in the options process as your child enters the most important phase of their education to date. Please take time to sit together with your child and discuss suitable choices.

To aid your discussions please read the subject overviews along with the information below. Subject overviews, application forms and all other relevant documents regarding the Year 9 options process can be found on the school website on a dedicated page that your child has access to.

### [Year 9 Options Page](#)

Your child should also talk to their tutor, their subject teachers, the Teaching and Learning Leaders for each department, the Pastoral Manager for Year 9 and Senior Leaders for further guidance. There will also be an opportunity for students to experience Key Stage 4 'taster lessons' in the subjects which are not studied during Year 7, 8 and 9.

Whilst we endeavour to offer each student their first choice of subjects this may not always be possible so please ensure reserve subjects are also chosen as per the instruction on the application form which is included in this pack.

**The application must be completed online by Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2019.**

***Please note, it is highly unlikely that students who return their application late will gain a place in their first choice subjects.***

Final allocations will be communicated to you. In the meantime, if you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us via email at [office@alperton.brent.sch.uk](mailto:office@alperton.brent.sch.uk)

## Year 9 Options | 4 Week Timeline

w/c 22/02/21	<b>Week 1</b>	:	Start of Options - outline of options and timeline.
w/c 01/03/21	<b>Week 2</b>	:	Options Advice - via form tutors and website.
w/c 08/03/21	<b>Week 3</b>	:	Year 9 Careers Week.
w/c 15/03/21	<b>Week 4</b>	:	Decision week and complete options form online.

## Options - How do they work?

In Year 10 and Year 11 the timetable will consist of a combination of **compulsory\*** and **optional** subjects. All students will sit GCSEs in English Language, English Literature, Mathematics and Science. In addition all students will continue to have lessons in Core PE (Sport & Health).

At Alperton Community School we offer a range of courses leading to a set of 9 GCSEs within which there is also the option of achieving the English Baccalaureate, otherwise known as the EBacc. There is an expectation that students achieve grades 9-5 in these subjects. The subjects that make up the EBacc are:

English Language	A Language
Mathematics	History or Geography
Double or Triple Science	

If you achieve Grade 5 or above in these subjects you will be able to choose from a wide selection of A level subjects and apply to any University.

If you do not choose a Language AND either Geography or History, you will not achieve the EBacc, however, provided you achieve good GCSE grades you will still be able to study A levels.

## What are the options I can choose from?

- |                          |                       |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Art                   | 11. History           |
| 2. BTEC Business         | 12. BTEC Media        |
| 3. BTEC ICT              | 13. BTEC Music        |
| 4. Computer Science      | 14. BTEC PE           |
| 5. Drama                 | 15. Psychology        |
| 6. Food                  | 16. Religious Studies |
| 7. French                | 17. Triple Science    |
| 8. Geography             | 18. Sociology         |
| 9. Gujarati              | 19. Spanish           |
| 10. Health & Social Care | 20. Statistics        |
|                          | 21. Textiles          |

## What else will I study?

In addition to your options you will continue: English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science and Core PE (Sport & Health).

## Where can I get further information?

Speak to your subject teachers and form tutor as they know you best. They will be able to help you make the right choices.

Sign up for taster sessions.

Do some research - use the information on the Year 9 Options page.

Ask questions - send in your questions via the form on the Year 9 Options page.

Pastoral manager - they can point you in the right direction.

Read through the [Year 9 Options 2021 Guide](#) on the Year 9 Options page.



The image shows the cover of a guide titled 'Year 9 Options 2021'. At the top left is the Alperton Community School logo, which features a stylized green leaf and the text 'ALPERTON COMMUNITY SCHOOL'. The central graphic consists of three black speech bubbles containing the questions: 'What subjects should I choose?', 'How do I make a decision?', and 'What are my options?'. Below these bubbles are various black icons representing different subjects: a hand mixer, a globe, a pair of compasses, a chemistry flask, a laptop, a book, a microscope, a protractor, and a lightbulb. The title 'Year 9 Options 2021' is written in a large, bold, black font, and the subtitle 'You're guide to making the right choices' is in a smaller, blue font. At the bottom right, the school's motto 'Aspire Commit Succeed' is written in a green font. The entire cover is framed by a thin white border and a vertical green bar on the right side.

## Key Terms:

**Compulsory subjects** : subjects that you must continue to study

**Optional subjects** : subjects you can choose

## Important notes

### Oversubscribed Courses

Where this happens, places will be allocated according to the student's ability to cope, to complete work, to meet deadlines and to make a positive commitment.

### Undersubscribed Courses

If only a small number of students opt for a course, it may not be possible for it to run.

### Changing options after the start of term in September 2021

Groups are likely to be full, work will have been missed which has to be made up and this is likely to happen at the expense of other subjects being studied. Hence, changes will only be considered if there are exceptional circumstances and then only via a written request from parents and with the permission of the Teaching and Learning Leader (TLL) of that subject.

**No changes will be made after the Autumn Half Term, as this is likely to affect exam results markedly.**