

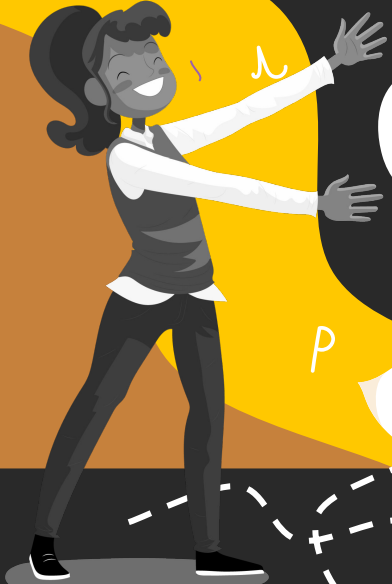
ABC

17TH JANUARY 2024

YEAR 9

# OPTIONS ASSEMBLY

Here is where your journey begins



NORTHUMBERLAND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY TRUST



# OPTIONS – THE NEXT STEP IN YOUR CAREER

- In Key Stage 4, when you start Year 10, the next stage of your education begins with you studying GCSE and/or Vocational Qualifications.
- In order to prepare for this, in Year 9, you begin the process of choosing some of your subjects, within that decision making process you have to make sure of two things:
  - a. You pick subjects that you are interested in
  - b. You pick subjects that match your aspirations
- During this process we will be here to guide you. Sometimes the aspirations of some students don't quite match what you are capable of. We will make sure that the subjects you start in year 10 give you the best chance of gaining as many qualifications as possible.

# YOUR CURRICULUM FROM YEAR 10

We at Duke's Secondary School provide a broad and balanced curriculum to meet the needs and aspirations of you, our pupils. Our curriculum is built around a group of core academic subjects, which give the foundation for building a more personalised curriculum of creative and vocational subjects on



# YOUR CURRICULUM FROM YEAR 10

Our options blocks give the opportunity for all pupils to achieve the English Baccalaureate (EBacc) should they wish to do so, but we recognise that this is not the most appropriate model for all children. Our curriculum is fundamentally designed to ensure that all pupils achieve a rounded education that prepares them as fully as possible for the next step in their education beyond Year 11



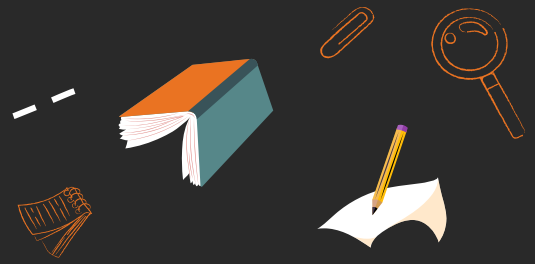
# WHAT IS THE EBACC?

The EBacc was introduced into schools in England by the government in the expectation that the majority of children will work towards GCSEs in five core academic subjects

This gives the widest range of future further study and career opportunities

The EBacc is:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- History or Geography
- Language (French)



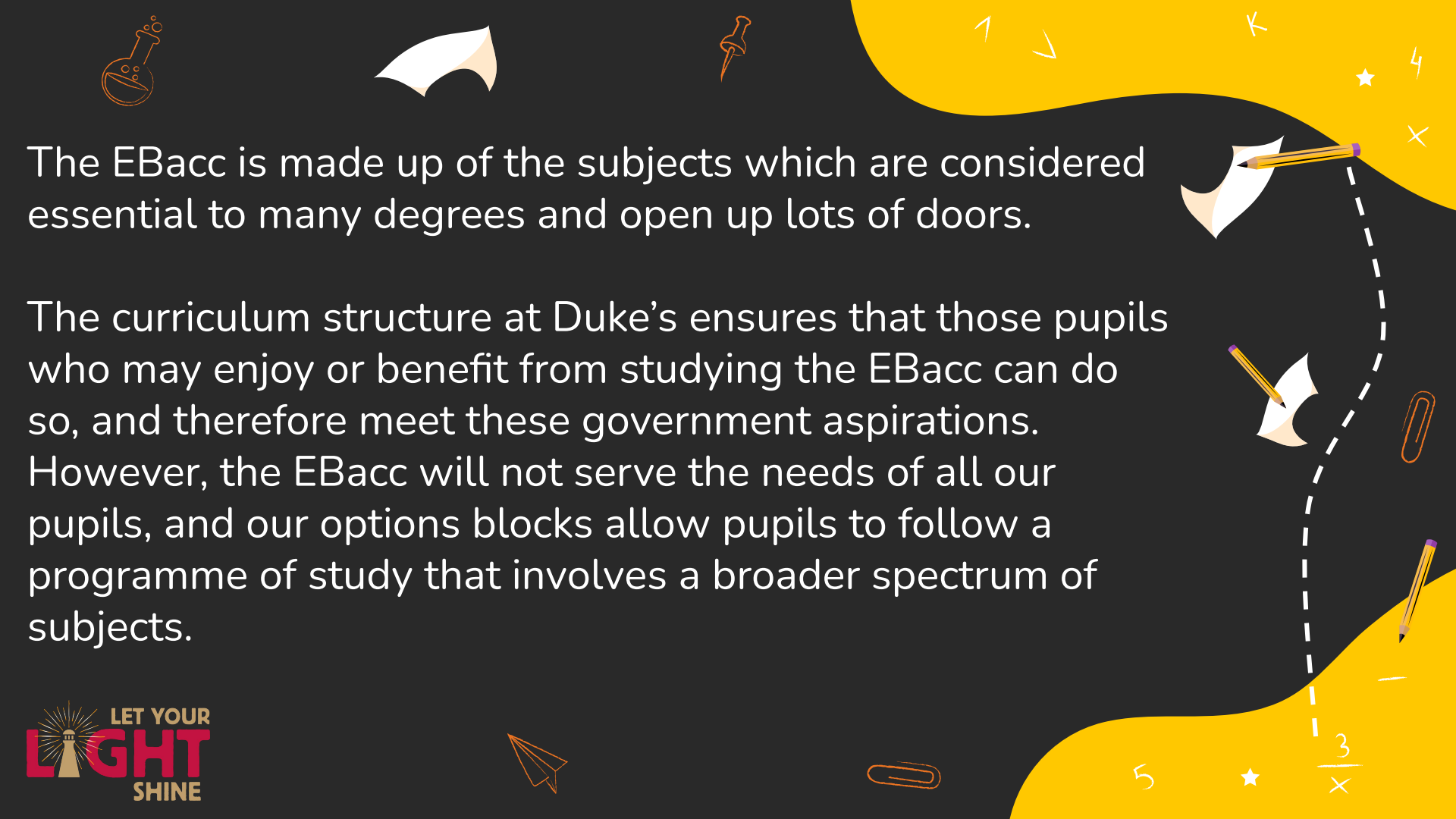
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The EBacc is made up of the subjects which are considered essential to many degrees and open up lots of doors.

The curriculum structure at Duke's ensures that those pupils who may enjoy or benefit from studying the EBacc can do so, and therefore meet these government aspirations. However, the EBacc will not serve the needs of all our pupils, and our options blocks allow pupils to follow a programme of study that involves a broader spectrum of subjects.

# THE HIGHLIGHTS

- 8 GCSEs as per government guidance
- This includes Maths, English Language, English Literature and either Dual or Triple Science
- Dual Science Students = One option from each of the three option blocks
- Triple Science Students = One option from Option Block 2 and 3 only!
- All students will also complete core studies in Religious Studies, PE and PSHCE
- EBacc route? Choose either History or Geography and French as two of your choices
- You will also have a choice of taking GCSE Religious Studies instead of the core RS offer
- You can't take the same subject more than once
- A reserve choice must be selected and could be used if any of the courses become oversubscribed

$$E=mc^2$$



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All pupils will study the subjects in this column	Option Block 1 Open Option (Students should only make a choice from this option block if they have not been told to take Triple Science)	Option Block 2 Open Option (All students choose one subject from this column)	Option Block 3 Open Option (All students choose one subject from this column)	
GCSE English Literature		GCSE French	GCSE French	EBACC Choices
GCSE English Language		GCSE Geography	GCSE Geography	
GCSE Maths		GCSE History		
GCSE Triple or Dual Science	OCR Health and Social Care	GCSE Art	GCSE Art	Open Choices
CORE PE	BTEC Construction	BTEC Business Enterprise	GCSE Engineering	
CORE PSICHE	WJEC Hospitality and Catering	GCSE Design and Technology	GCSE PE	
CORE RS or GCSE RS	BTEC Sport	BTEC Construction	BTEC Media Studies	
		Cambridge National ICT	BTEC Travel & Tourism	
		WJEC Hospitality and Catering	BTEC Sport	
		BTEC Performing Arts	OCR Health and Social Care	
			GCSE Music	



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# TOP TIPS



## Do's

- Choose what you are interested in
- Talk to teachers
- Seek advice
- Know the course  
(Take time to review the outline)

## Don'ts

- Do not pick something because you like the teacher
- Do not follow your friends


$$E=mc^2$$

$$1+2$$

22nd Jan  
2024

## SUBJECT VIDEOS



Our subject leaders will produce videos about each course on offer

27th Mar  
2024

## OPEN EVENING



Find out more about the options available at Duke's and ask any questions about your career

15th/16th  
May 2024

## PARENTAL MEETINGS



A further opportunity for you and your parent to ask for further advice or discuss concerns you may have about your options choices

## OFFER LETTERS SENT HOME



## CAREER CONVERSATIONS

Our career advisor will have a chat with you about the best choices for you and your dream career

5th Feb  
2024



## STUDENT OPTIONS INTERVIEWS

A one to one style interview with one of the options team about your potential options and what you need to do to achieve your personal goals

15th Apr  
2024



## OPTIONS DEADLINE

All forms will need to be handed in at this point

24th May  
2024