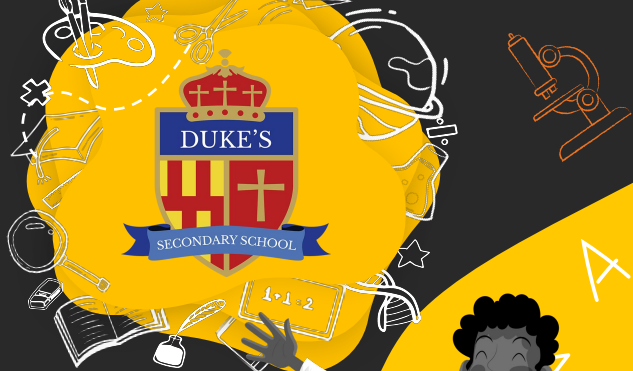


ABC

26TH MARCH 2025

YEAR 9 OPTIONS

Here is where the 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

Our options blocks give the opportunity for all pupils to achieve the English Baccalaureate (EBACC) balanced curriculum to meet the needs and aspirations of you, our pupils. Our curriculum is built around a core of core academic subjects which give the foundation for building a more personalised curriculum of creative and vocational subjects on

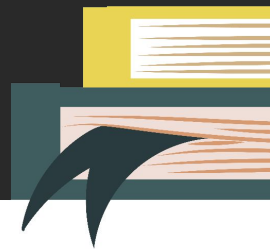
We at Duke's Secondary School provide a broad (and) balanced curriculum to meet the needs and aspirations of you, our pupils. Our curriculum is built around a core of core academic subjects which give the foundation for building a more personalised curriculum of creative and vocational subjects on

educational subjects beyond Year 11

A B C

e

$$E=mc^2$$



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 Geography	GCSE Geography	EBACC Choices
GCSE English Language		GCSE History	GCSE History	
GCSE Maths			GCSE French	
GCSE Triple or Dual Science	OCR Health and Social Care	GCSE Art	GCSE Art	Open Choices
CORE PE	BTEC Construction	BTEC Business Enterprise	GCSE Music	
CORE PSCH	WJEC Hospitality and Catering	BTEC Performing Arts	GCSE PE / Sport	
CORE RS or GCSE RS	BTEC Sport	BTEC Construction	BTEC Media Studies	
		Cambridge National ICT	BTEC Travel & Tourism	
		WJEC Hospitality and Catering	OCR Health and Social Care	
	14-16 Engineering Skills Academy			



$\sqrt{2}$

Z



A B C



x



1+2

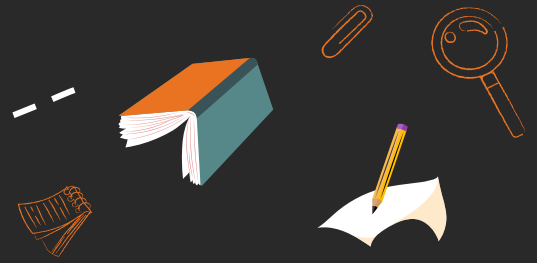
WHAT IS THE EBACC?

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)




+

e

★


2

u



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 HIGHLIGHT S

- 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



$$E=mc^2$$

THE HIGHLIGHT S

- For this year we have introduced a new **14-16 Engineering Skills Academy**
- This is a course run jointly with **Northumberland College**
- This course is totally different from the other GCSE pathways that we offer
- Students who take this course will spend 3 days in school receiving lessons on English, maths and science
- They will then spend two days in college taking an engineering qualification and being involved in a range of work experience in the engineering sector
- To be considered for this course you have to have the potential to gain a grade 5 or above in English, maths and science at GCSE



$$E=mc^2$$



14-16 Engineering Skills Academy



A joint venture between Duke's Secondary School and Northumberland College to provide an engineering pathway of excellence for students at Duke's.

The pathway will be delivered over two years and will provide the following:

- **A bespoke curriculum including a high quality GCSE qualification in Engineering as well as in English, Mathematics and Science**
- **Work experience and industry placements**
- **Industry masterclasses**
- **Visits and experience days**
- **Employer based projects**
- **Direct progression routes into further education, apprenticeship and employment**



14-16 Engineering Skills Academy




For 2025 we are excited to offer a combined engineering pathway delivered jointly by Duke's and Northumberland College

The course

Full details of the course are still to be confirmed at the time of writing this prospectus entry but the 14-16 Engineering Skills Academy programme will see Duke's students taught at school on an English, maths and science curriculum for 3 days per week and then at Northumberland College for the remaining 2 days where they will work on a high quality level 2 engineering qualification and will partake in a range of work related activities including:

- Work experience and industry placements
- Industry masterclasses
- Visits and experience days
- Employer based project learning

This is a flagship pathway and acceptance on the course will be on the basis of Y9 performance in English, maths and science which indicates that the student will, by the end of Year 11, be at least able to reach Grade 5 in each of those subjects.





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

$$E=mc^2$$

$$1+2$$

Z

m

K

L

1

$\frac{3}{x}$

K

27th Jan
2025

SUBJECT VIDEOS



Our subject leaders will produce videos about each course on offer

26th Mar
2025

OPEN EVENING



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

14th May
2025

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

10th Feb
2025



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

31 Mar
2025



OPTIONS DEADLINE

All forms will need to be handed in at this point

19th May
2025