# **Choosing options at KS4 and Careers**



#### **Y9 Options at Oathall**

#### Careers Team

- Mrs Isley Careers Lead & Vocational Manager
- Mrs Ferros Careers Adviser

We are here to help you with everything careers related throughout your time at Oathall. Please contact us by email...

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#### Types of qualifications

GCSE and non-GCSE qualifications (BTEC/ WJEC/ Cambridge National Diploma)

Both types of qualifications carry the same equivalency and have the same recommended number of hours of study time. They can be taken alongside each other so students can do a mixture or GCSE and non-GCSE subjects.

Vocational subjects are assessed differently to GCSE qualifications with internally assessed coursework a factor when awarding the final grade.



## GCSEs (General Certificate of Secondary Education)

- These are the qualifications taken by the majority of students during years 10 and 11. They are graded on a scale from 1 to 9, with 9 being the highest grade.
- Almost all GCSE qualifications are assessed using only examinations at the end of Year 11, although a few of the subjects have a small amount of non-examination assessment.
- Some A level subjects require a certain grade in a specified GCSE subjects so it is worth checking the A level entry requirement with the specific post-16 college or school.



#### BTEC, WJEC & Cambridge National Qualifications

- These qualifications offer a more practical approach to learning than GCSEs without missing out on the important theory aspects of the subject.
- Assessment is based largely on evidence that the students produce to demonstrate they have acquired the required skills and knowledge.
- There is an examination in each subject, but these account for a much smaller proportion of the final grade than with GCSEs.
- They are recognised by colleges and employers as equivalent qualifications to GCSEs covering the same range of standards as GCSE grades 1 to 9, but reported using different grading systems.
- Students can choose a combination of BTECs, WJECs, Cambridge Nationals and GCSE subjects.
- These courses can help support progress onto vocational courses post-16 as well as A levels provided the specific entry requirements are met.



### Subjects relating to Careers

The following few slides will provide examples of careers linked to options and core subjects.















































































































































































