

# Possibilities

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## Year 9 Options Information Evening

We will begin the meeting at 6:00pm

# Understanding GCSE Grades

The grade your daughter receives for her subject will depend on the type of course she is taking

Old grades	New grades
A*	9
A	8
B	7
C	6 5 STRONG PASS 4 STANDARD PASS
D	3
E	2
F	1
G	1
U	U

Level / Qualification Grade	Grade Equivalent
Level 2 / Distinction*	8.5
Level 2 / Distinction	7
Level 2 / Merit	5.5
Level 2 / Pass	4
Level 1 / Distinction	3
Level 1 / Merit	2
Level 1 / Pass	1.25

BTEC Numbers are rounded up

# DSTC Pathways



## Triple Science

Students would study English, Maths and separate Sciences

They would continue their language

They would pick Geog/History

## EBACC

Students would study English, Maths and Science

They would continue their language

They would pick Geog/History

They would have one other choice of subject

## Open

Students would study English, Maths and Science

They could then pick three subjects from all of the option subjects we offer

## ASDAN

Students would study English, Maths and Science

They would study ASDAN

They would study at least one other subject

They would receive additional support

# Combined Science vs Triple Science

## Combined Science = Trilogy

- 2 GCSE grades that are **linked on a scale of 0-0 to 9-9**
- 6 Exams - 2 in each Science **1hr 15 minutes each**
- Content is divided equally amongst the 3 disciplines

## Triple Science

- 3 separate GCSEs in Science that are **separately graded 1-9**
- 6 Exams - 2 in each Science - **1hr 45 minutes each**
- Content is divided equally amongst the 3 disciplines

Both courses are tiered

**Combined Science is two thirds of the content of triple science**

BIOLOGY, CHEMISTRY, PHYSICS	COMBINED SCIENCE
9	9-9
	9-8
8	8-8
	8-7
7	7-7
	7-6
6	6-6
	6-5
5	5-5
	5-4
4	4-4
	4-3
3	3-3
	3-2
2	2-2
	2-1
1	1-1
U	U

# Key Terms You May Hear

## **Attainment 8 / Progress 8**

These are school measures and they are used to compare performance of the school against the data of students for KS2

The Government does not use these to measure an individual student's performance



- **Attainment** - the actual grades your daughter is performing at
- **Progress** - how well your daughter is performing against her target grades
- **Grade Point Average** - the average grade across all your daughter's subjects

# Skills not Careers

We have moved away from thinking about the fixed skills needed for one job and more about the transferable skills needed to keep adapting to the workplace

## Many of today's most **in-demand jobs...**

social media manager

drone operator

app developer

data scientist

sustainability manager

Didn't exist when most  
of the people currently  
doing these jobs were in  
still school

# What is the EBacc?

A group of subjects that when studied together make up the Government definition of the English Baccalaureate

Subjects are:

- English and Maths
- A language (French/Spanish)
- Geography/History
- 2 Sciences (or Triple Science)

There is no separate certification or guarantee of success by fulfilling the EBacc

*Research suggests that studying these subjects can increase the opportunities available in further education*





# Evidence to Support the EBacc

University College London, Institute Of Education - found that that students studying subjects that make up the EBacc had greater opportunities at KS5 and beyond in terms of subject choice at A-Level and were more likely to stay on in full time education.

Sutton Trust - evidence found that studying subjects in the EBacc can also improve student performance in GCSE English and GCSE Maths

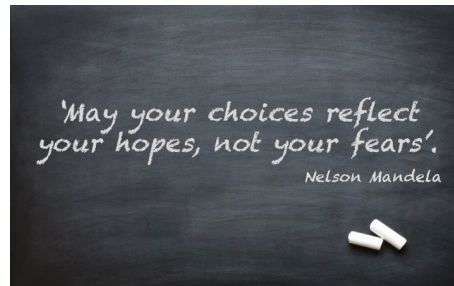
Past students at DSTC who have studied subjects that make up the EBACC are more likely to be accepted on to university courses and more likely to achieve a 2:1 or a 1st in their degree



# How Should I Make My Choice?

## Most Successful Reasons:

- Enjoy the subject
- Interested in the subject
- Feel you can succeed
- Links to ideas about future career pathways



## Less Successful Reasons:

- Don't know what else to do
- Based on the current teacher
- My friends have picked it
- Personal opinion about how 'easy' or 'difficult' the subject is
- Feeling of superiority

# The Process



Date	Activity	Notes
19 Feb	Options Assembly	This will launch the process with students
20 Feb	Options Information Evening ( <b>6pm - 7:30pm</b> )	To inform parents/carers about options and the process as well as careers information.
20 Feb	Options booklet released	With details of each of the subjects studied at KS4
27 Feb - 7 March	Subject Videos in Tutor Time	During this week students will watch videos about each of the option subjects during Form Time
29 Feb	Virtual Parents Evening ( <b>4:30pm - 7pm</b> )	Appointments with subject teachers to discuss student progress and suitability for next steps
7-8 March	Option Block Consultation	Students complete an initial form with subject combinations to inform which subjects are in each block
11 March	Options Letters are given out	Letter will have the the final options blocks to choose from
18 March - 22 March	Options Taster Week	Students will have the chance to experience taster lessons in all the subjects available
19/20 March	Options Fair	Students in Year 10/11 host stalls for Year 9 students to discuss about each subject (lunchtime/tutor time)
Monday 25th March	Deadline for all Options Forms	To be given to Mr Archer

# Can I Change My Choices?

- Your option choices are not fixed in until you have completed the form and handed it in.
- Once you have given your form in your choices are fixed. Your choices may be changed by us if there are too many students that want to study a particular subject and we don't have space.
- Changes after your timetable has been finalised will only be possible when there are very extenuating circumstances.



Subject locations for this evening:

**Main Hall**

**French**

**Geography**

**History**

**Maths**

**Science**

**Spanish**

**Dining Hall**

**Art**

**Business**

**Computer Science**

**Design Engineering**

**Film Studies**

**Health and Social Care**

**Hospitality and Catering**

**Media Studies**

**Music**

**Performing Arts**

**Sport Science**

**Textiles Art**