



DELIVERING A  
CORE EDUCATION



# **Year 9 Guided Choices 23-24 Virtual Options Evening**



# What happens next?

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2024

- Y9 Virtual Options Evening

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2024

- KS4 Options Form shared

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024

- Y9 Parents Evening 4-7pm / Options Fair
- Recommended KS4 Options Form Submission

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2024

- Deadline to submit KS4 Options Form

March/April

- Follow-up advice and guidance interview for some students

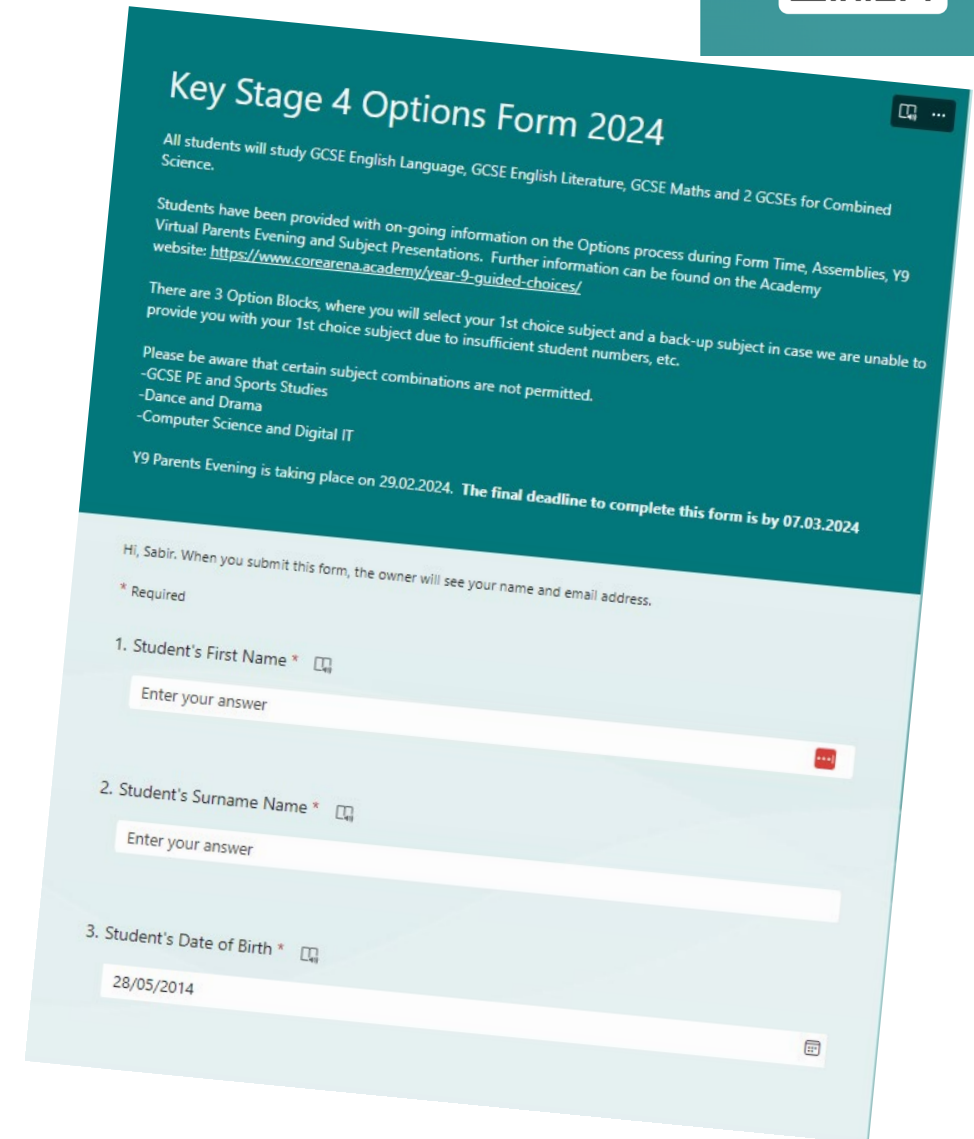
June/July

- Confirmation of option choices selected
- 2024-25 student timetables published

# How Do I Make My Choices?



- Complete the MS Form using the QR code or link:  
<https://forms.office.com/e/QbH9XHX4Wx>
- You can change your choice of subjects by submitting another MS form.
- The deadline to submit your **final** MS form is: Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2024



**Key Stage 4 Options Form 2024**

All students will study GCSE English Language, GCSE English Literature, GCSE Maths and 2 GCSEs for Combined Science.

Students have been provided with on-going information on the Options process during Form Time, Assemblies, Y9 Virtual Parents Evening and Subject Presentations. Further information can be found on the Academy website: <https://www.corearena.academy/year-9-guided-choices/>

There are 3 Option Blocks, where you will select your 1st choice subject and a back-up subject in case we are unable to provide you with your 1st choice subject due to insufficient student numbers, etc.

Please be aware that certain subject combinations are not permitted.

- GCSE PE and Sports Studies
- Dance and Drama
- Computer Science and Digital IT

Y9 Parents Evening is taking place on 29.02.2024. **The final deadline to complete this form is by 07.03.2024**

Hi, Sabir. When you submit this form, the owner will see your name and email address.

\* Required

1. Student's First Name \*

Enter your answer

2. Student's Surname Name \*

Enter your answer

3. Student's Date of Birth \*

28/05/2014

# Head of Department Contacts

- English – Miss Khatun – [mkhattun@corearena.academy](mailto:mkhattun@corearena.academy)
- Maths – Mrs Blackwood – [kblackwood@corearena.academy](mailto:kblackwood@corearena.academy)
- Science – Mr Levy – [clevy@corearena.academy](mailto:clevy@corearena.academy)
- Geography – Miss Laurent – [jlaurent@corearena.academy](mailto:jlaurent@corearena.academy)
- History – Mr Hart – [dhart@corearena.academy](mailto:dhart@corearena.academy)
- MFL – Dr Savage – [dsavage@corearena.academy](mailto:dsavage@corearena.academy)
- IT & Business – Mrs Sandhu – [dsandhu@corearena.academy](mailto:dsandhu@corearena.academy)
- P.E & Health – Miss Allen – [shallen@corearena.academy](mailto:shallen@corearena.academy)
- Creative Arts & D.T - Mrs Freeman – [lfreeman@corearena.academy](mailto:lfreeman@corearena.academy)

# At the top of the stairs are three doors:



# Which subjects are best for YOU?

How to make the right  
decision

**DO** research what subjects you  
need for certain careers

**DO** choose subjects you enjoy  
doing

**DO** find out about subjects that  
are new to you – e.g sociology,  
psychology, business

# Which subjects are best for YOU?



How to make the right decision



**DO NOT** choose a subject because  
your friend is doing it



**DO NOT** choose a subject that you  
have no interest in



**DO NOT** choose a subject that you know  
you do not have any skills in at all

Everyone's  
timetable will  
contain



English (Language & Literature): 5 periods a week



Mathematics: 4 periods a week



Science: 5 periods a week



1 hour of Personal Development



1 hour of PE



All students  
have to choose  
3 option  
subjects in Key  
Stage 4  
(Y10 & 11)

<b>Option 1</b>	<b>3 hours</b>	<b>History or Geography</b>
<b>Option 2</b>	<b>3 hours</b>	<b>Various Subjects</b>
<b>Option 3</b>	<b>3 hours</b>	<b>Various Subjects</b>

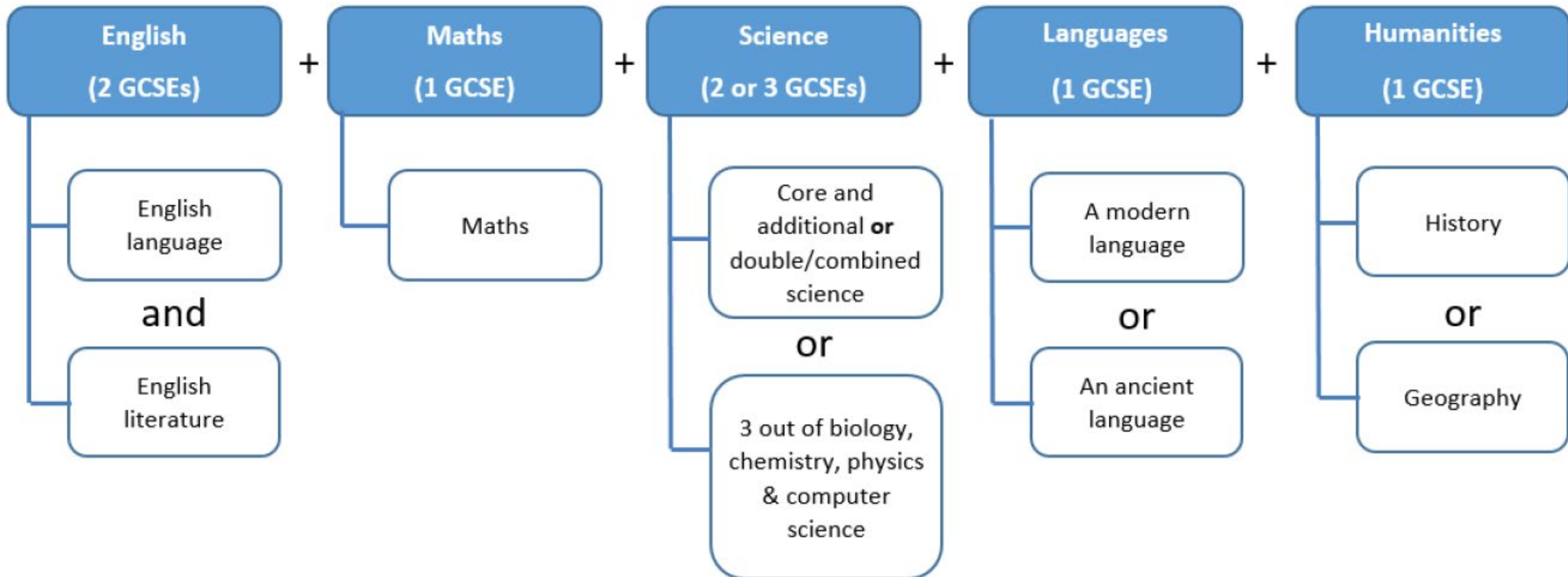
# What is the 'English Baccalaureate' (Ebacc)?

<u>EBacc Subjects</u>	
English	Mathematics
Geography	History
Science	French

- The EBacc is made up of the subjects which are considered essential to many degrees and open up lots of doors.
- UCL Institute of Education research shows that **studying subjects included in the Ebacc provides students with greater opportunities in further education and increases the likelihood that a student will stay on in full-time education.**
- Sutton Trust research reveals that **studying the Ebacc can help improve a student performance in English and Maths.**
- The government's ambition is to see 90% of students studying the Ebacc subject combination at GCSE by 2025.

# How do you qualify for the 'English Baccalaureate' (Ebacc)?

- Studying the EBacc subjects is not compulsory, but it is highly recommended.



# All Students should be aiming for a minimum Grade 5 / L2 Merit

New GCSE Grading		Old GCSE Grading	Level / Qualification Grade	GCSE Grade Equivalent
9	Grade 9 is a high A*.	A*	Level 2 / Distinction* (L2D*)	8.5
8	Grade 8 is low A* or high A.		Level 2 / Distinction (L2D)	7
7	Grade 7 is a low or mid A.	A	Level 2 / Merit (L2M)	5.5
6	Grade 6 is a high B.		Level 2 / Pass (L2P)	4
5	Grade 5 is a low B or high C. This is the minimum grade for a 'good pass'.	B	Level 1 / Distinction (L1D)	3
4	Grade 4 is a low or mid C.	C	Level 1 / Merit (L1M)	2
3	Grade 3 is a D or high E.	D	Level 1 / Pass (L1P)	1.25
2	Grade 2 is a low E or high F.	E		
1	Grade 1 is a low F or G.	F, G		

# Reasons to choose an option subject

## Good Reasons

My teachers have told me that I would excel in this subject at KS4

I enjoy studying this subject

I have researched this subject at KS4 and know I would enjoy it

I have not studied this subject before, but I have researched it and spoken to the KS4 teacher

## Bad Reasons

My friend is choosing this subject

I like the teacher who currently teaches me this subject

My parents want me to do this subject even though I do not enjoy studying it

My older brother studied this subject

This subject is new so it must be good

# Subjects you can choose

## Option Blocks

1	2	3
<p>History</p> <p><b>Geography</b></p>	<p>Triple Science</p> <p>French</p> <p>Computer Science</p> <p>Business Studies</p> <p>Art</p> <p>Music</p> <p>Drama</p> <p>Food Studies</p> <p>Psychology</p> <p>Sociology</p> <p>Religious Education</p> <p>DT</p> <p>Digital IT</p> <p>Health &amp; Social Care</p> <p>Sports Studies</p> <p><b>GCSE PE</b></p> <p>Photography</p> <p>Dance</p>	<p>Triple Science</p> <p>French</p> <p>Computer Science</p> <p>Business Studies</p> <p>Art</p> <p>Music</p> <p>Drama</p> <p>Food Studies</p> <p>Psychology</p> <p>Sociology</p> <p>Religious Education</p> <p>DT</p> <p>Digital IT</p> <p><del>Health &amp; Social Care</del></p> <p><del><b>Sports Studies</b></del></p> <p><del>GCSE PE</del></p> <p>Photography</p> <p>Dance</p>

# Some subject combinations are not permitted

NB: Subjects not permitted:

- GCSE Art, Craft & Design **and** GCSE Art & Design Textiles
- GCSE Business **and** Enterprise & Marketing Cambridge Nationals.
- GCSE PE **and** Sports Studies Cambridge Nationals.
- GCSE Drama **and** Dance (Performing Arts) BTEC.
- GCSE Computer Science **and** Digital Information Technology BTEC

# Subjects you can choose

## Option Blocks

1	2	3
<p style="text-align: center;">History  <span style="border: 1px solid red; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px;">Geography</span></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Triple Science            French            Computer Science            Business Studies            Art            Music            Drama            Food Studies            Psychology            Sociology            Religious Education  <del>DT</del>  <span style="border: 1px solid red; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px;">Digital IT</span>  <del>Health &amp; Social Care</del>            Sports Studies            GCSE PE            Photography            Dance</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Triple Science            French  <span style="border: 1px solid red; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px;">Computer Science</span>            Business Studies            Art            Music            Drama            Food Studies            Psychology            Sociology            Religious Education            DT            Digital IT            Health &amp; Social Care            Sports Studies            GCSE PE            Photography            Dance</p>



# Subjects you can choose

## Option Blocks

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Only possible if enough students select a subject

# Subjects you can choose

## Option Blocks

1	2	3
<p data-bbox="435 872 779 976">History Geography</p>	<p data-bbox="1029 465 1373 1389">Triple Science French Computer Science Business Studies Art Music Drama Food Studies Psychology Sociology Religious Education DT Digital IT Health &amp; Social Care Sports Studies GCSE PE Photography Dance</p>	<p data-bbox="1651 458 2040 1389">Triple Science French Computer Science Business Studies Art Music Drama Food Studies Psychology Sociology Religious Education DT Digital IT Health &amp; Social Care Sports Studies GCSE PE Photography Dance</p>

# Make the right choice for you



esRollano.com

# What subjects have students already selected?

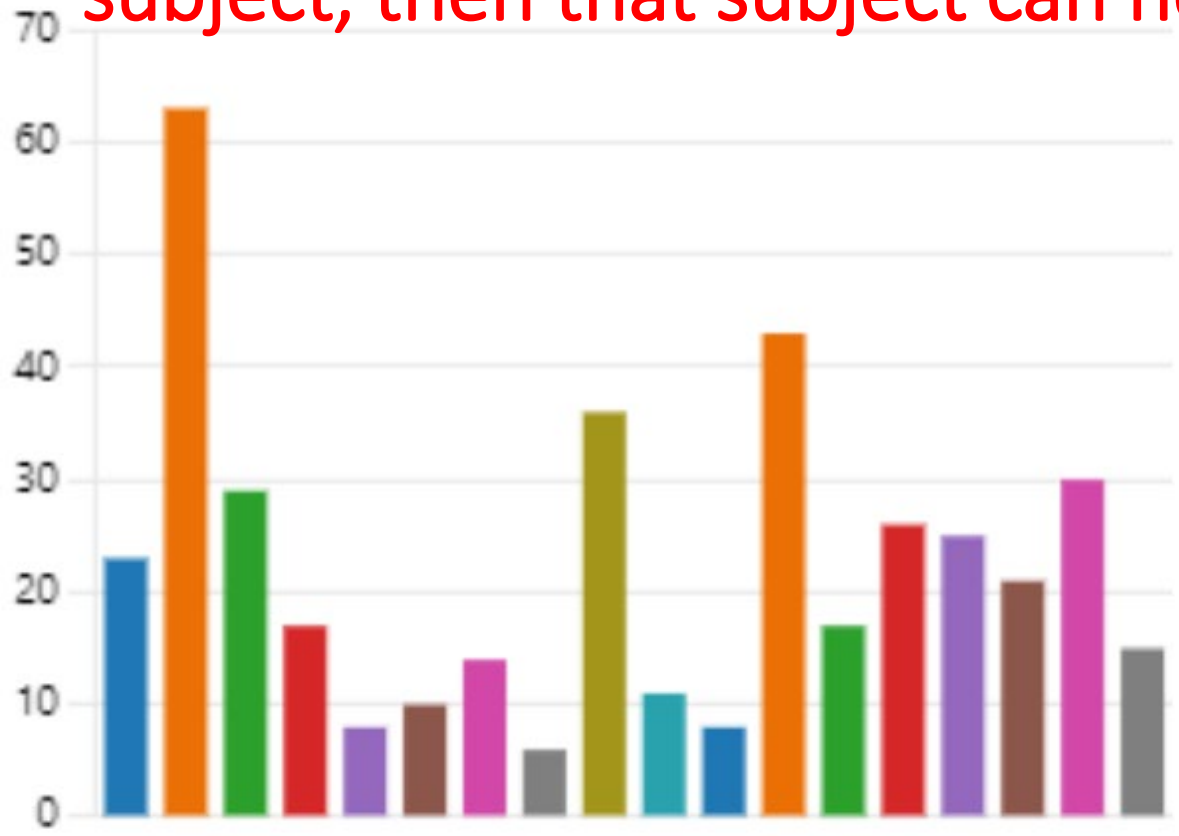
Please select 3 additional courses that you are most likely to choose:

[More Details](#)



23  
63  
29  
17  
8  
10  
14  
6  
36  
11  
8  
43  
17  
26  
25  
21  
30  
15

If there are insufficient numbers for a specific subject, then that subject can not be offered.



# Geography or History

At this stage which of these subjects are you more likely going to choose?

[More Details](#)



55

85





arena academy



Images

Maps

Videos

Reviews

News

Term dates

Staff list

Uniform

Past pa

About 418,000,000 results (0.54 seconds)



Arena Academy

<https://www.corearena.academy> ⋮

## Arena Academy ✓

At **Arena Academy**, we believe in the power of education to inspire, to enable, and to enrich every life.

### Term Dates and Inset Days ✓

Annual Term Dates and Inset Days at the Academy.

### Contact ✓

General enquiries · Option 1: Student attendance and ...

### Our Academy ✓

Arena Academy is a school of opportunity, where students ...



LANGUAGE ▾



CO

OUR ACADEMY ▾

CURRICULUM ▾

ADMISSIONS ▾

CURRICULUM

ASSESSMENTS

YEAR 11 EXAMINATIONS

YEAR 10 EXAMINATIONS

YEAR 9 EXAMINATIONS

YEAR 8 EXAMINATIONS

YEAR 7 EXAMINATIONS

EXAMINATION SKILLS

GCSEPOD

HOMEWORK

KEY STAGE 4 PATHWAYS

YEAR 9 GUIDED CHOICES

READING

CAREERS

CORE HELLO

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# GUIDED CHOICES

Year 9 is an extremely important year for students as it is when they make their Guided Choices. They are deciding which subjects they would like to carry on studying at GCSE. This is an information page for year 9 students – and parents of those students – who are about to decide on their next stages at Arena Academy.



Deciding on which subjects to choose to study at Key Stage 4 is never easy, so we have put together a number of guides on how to choose those subjects, including presentations from the different option subjects to help you decide.

Mathematics, English and Science are compulsory for all students. Students must then choose one of either History or Geography. The remaining subjects are their options. Below are the presentations that were shown to year 9 students during the Autumn term to help to guide their choices:

↓ **HISTORY - GUIDED CHOICES**

↓ **COMPUTING DIT BUSINESS - GUIDED CHOICES**

↓ **FRENCH - GUIDED CHOICES**

↓ **DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY -**



↓ **HISTORY - GUIDED CHOICES**

↓ **COMPUTING DIT BUSINESS - GUIDED CHOICES**

↓ **FRENCH - GUIDED CHOICES**

↓ **DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY - GUIDED CHOICES**

↓ **ART & DESIGN - GUIDED CHOICES**

↓ **PHOTOGRAPHY - GUIDED CHOICES**

↓ **HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE - GUIDED CHOICES**

↓ **PE - GUIDED CHOICES**

↓ **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - GUIDED CHOICES**

↓ **SOCIOLOGY - GUIDED CHOICES**

↓ **GEOGRAPHY - GUIDED CHOICES**

↓ **PSYCHOLOGY GUIDED CHOICES**

↓ **HISTORY - GUIDED CHOICES**

↓ **COMPUTING DIT BUSINESS - GUIDED CHOICES**

↓ **FRENCH - GUIDED CHOICES**

↓ **DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY - GUIDED CHOICES**

↓ **ART & DESIGN - GUIDED CHOICES**

↓ **PHOTOGRAPHY - GUIDED CHOICES**

↓ **HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE - GUIDED CHOICES**

↓ **PE - GUIDED CHOICES**

↓ **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - GUIDED CHOICES**

↓ **SOCIOLOGY - GUIDED CHOICES**

↓ **GEOGRAPHY - GUIDED CHOICES**

↓ **PSYCHOLOGY GUIDED CHOICES**



### Theme 1

Family and friends

Technology

Free-time

Customs and festivals

### Theme 2

Home, town and region

Social issues

Global issues

Travel and tourism

### Theme 3

My studies

Life at school

Education post-16

Jobs and careers



### Paper 1

Listening exam

35 min (F) / 45 min (H)

Questions in English

and in TL (Target

Language, e.g. French)

### Paper 2

Speaking exam

7-9 mins (F) / 10-12 mins (H)

Role-play (2 mins F & H)

Photo card (2 mins F / 3  
mins H)

General conversation (3-5  
mins F / 5-7 mins H)

### Paper 3

Reading exam

45 mins (F) / 60 mins (H)

Questions in English

Questions in TL

Translation into English

### Paper 4

Writing exam

60 mins (F) / 75 mins (H)

Photo task (F)

40 words task (F)

90 words task (F & H)

150 words task (H)

Translation into TL (F & H)



# Why choose French?



- A language is included in the Ebaac (a list of subjects recommended by the Department of Education) and sought after by prestigious universities.



- A language gives you a competitive edge in the workplace whatever your level.

## Careers Advice:

There are many resources available that provide careers information. We have signposted a few websites that are a good place to start.

→ **NATIONAL CAREERS SERVICE**

→ **SCOPE**

→ **START**

→ **ICOULD**

→ **CAREER PILOT**

→ **PROSPECTS**

→ **UCAS CAREERS ADVICE**



Career ideas and information for your future

## Explore

Take a closer look at selected subjects and issues, with a selection of videos, guides and advice.

[Featured](#)[Job type](#)[Subject](#)[Theme](#)[Advice and guides](#)

### Featured stories



What is networking and how can it help with my



Internal Communications Executive



Business Development Executive

Career ideas and information for your future



## Explore

Take a closer look at selected subjects and issues, with a selection of videos, guides and advice.

Featured

Job type

Subject

Therapy

### Found 1 results for "dentist"

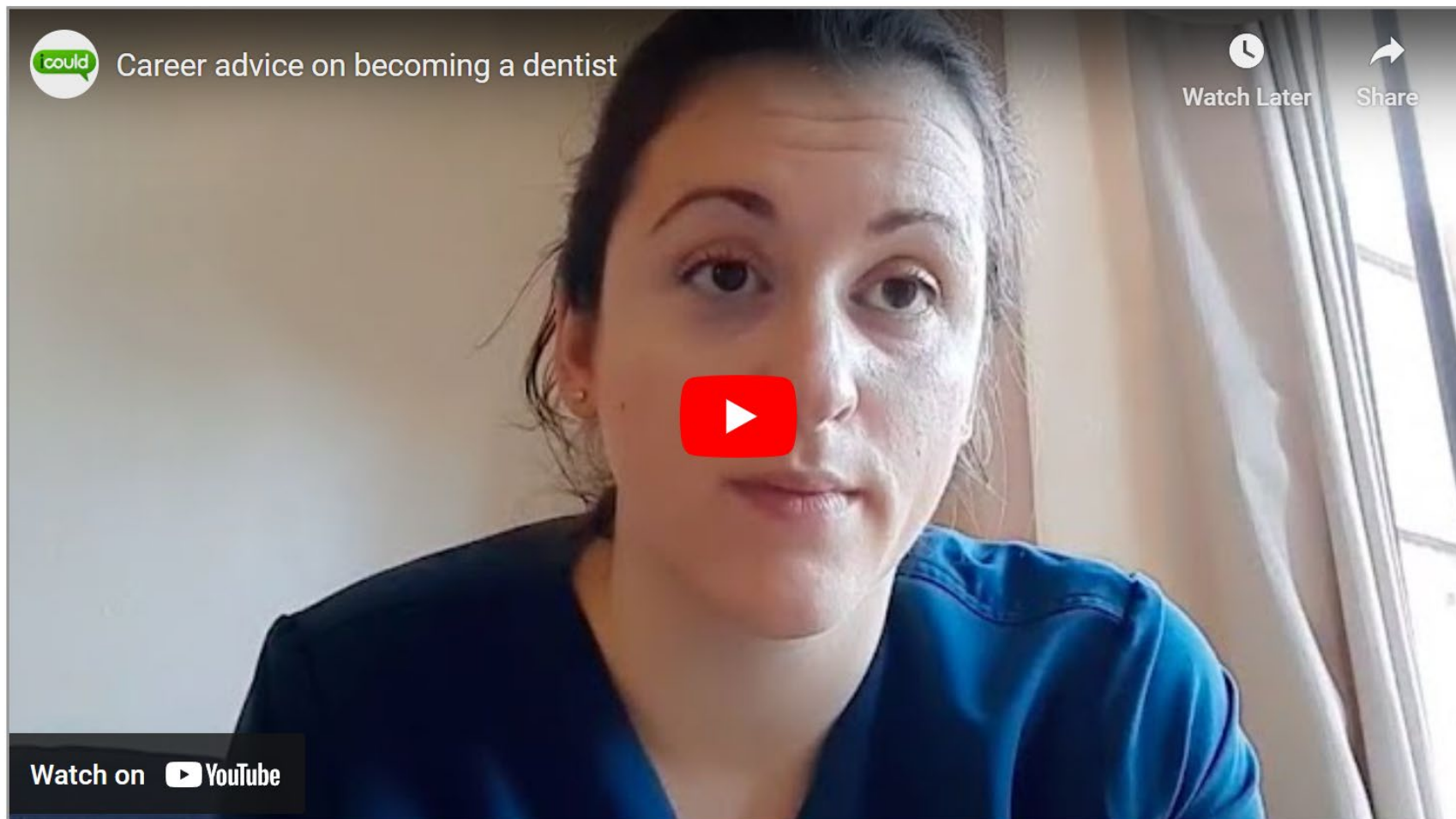


Dentist



# Dentist

## NHS England

[Share](#)[Pri](#)[Show transcript](#)[i Issues viewing the video?](#)[t Video accessibility options](#)

# At the top of the stairs are three doors:





What are the  
different options  
available to you  
after your  
GCSE's?

WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS?



# What are my options?

## Vocational pathway

- BTEC; CTEC; Applied General;  
T Levels
- Entry at various levels
- Lasts 1 or 2 years
- Focus on a sector
- Coursework focus
- Some exams
- Work experience

## Academic pathway

- A Levels
- Five GCSEs 9\*-5
- 2 years
- Three to four subjects
- Exam focus

## Occupational pathways

### Traineeship

- 6 weeks to 6 months
- Entry level

### Apprenticeship

- 1 or 2 years
- A paid job with training
- Qualification achieved

Can sometimes be combined

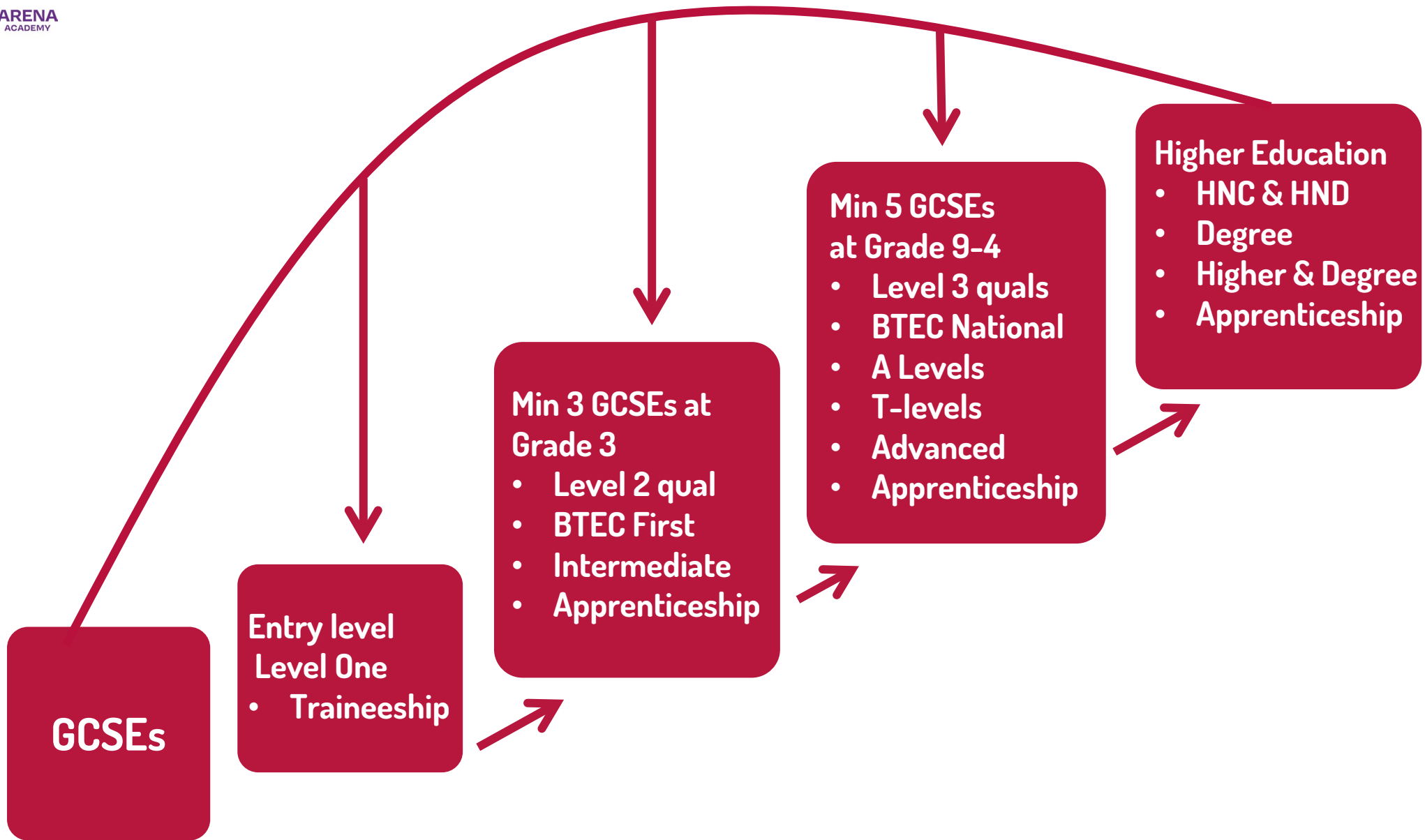
FE College

Sixth Form

Training  
provider

Employer

WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS?



WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS?

Keys to Success



# Vocational Pathways

WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS?



# BTECs

- Combine practical learning with subject and theory content
- Designed for young people interested in a particular sector or industry but who are not yet sure what job they would like to do.
- Can study a BTEC as a stand-alone course or alongside another academic qualifications e.g. A Levels
- Can study for a BTEC First (like GCSEs) or BTEC National at Level 3 (similar standard to A levels)
- There are over 2,000 BTEC qualifications across 16 sectors
- You will need to check with your local FE / Sixth Form College as to which ones they offer.

WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS?

# T-levels

- Equivalent to 3 A Levels
- Last 2 years and combines classroom learning with on-the-job experience
- Includes a work placement that lasts at least 45 days
- From Autumn 2022 T Levels will be available in;  
Healthcare; Accounting and Finance; Engineering; Management and Administration; Digital Business Services; Education Childcare; Digital Production; Onsite Construction
- You will need to check with your local FE College / Training Provider as to which ones they will be offering

WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS?



Keys to Success



# Academic Pathways

WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS?



# A-levels

- Study full time in Sixth Form or FE College
- Usually study 3 to 4 subjects
- Study for 2 years with exams at the end
- There are around 80 different subjects you can study BUT check with the school/college as to what they offer
- You will need at least 5 GCSE's grades 9 to 5 BUT again need to check with the school/college for entry criteria
- After A levels you can progress to University or to an Advanced, Higher or Degree Apprenticeship

WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS?

Keys to Success



# Occupational Pathways

WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS?

# Traineeships

- A training programme with work experience
- Can last from 6 weeks to 6 months
- It is a training programme and not a job, so unpaid
- Receive training to prepare you for work, including CV writing and what to expect in the workplace
- Support to improve your English, Maths and Digital Skills if you need it
- Sector focused vocational learning to help prepare you for an apprenticeship or job

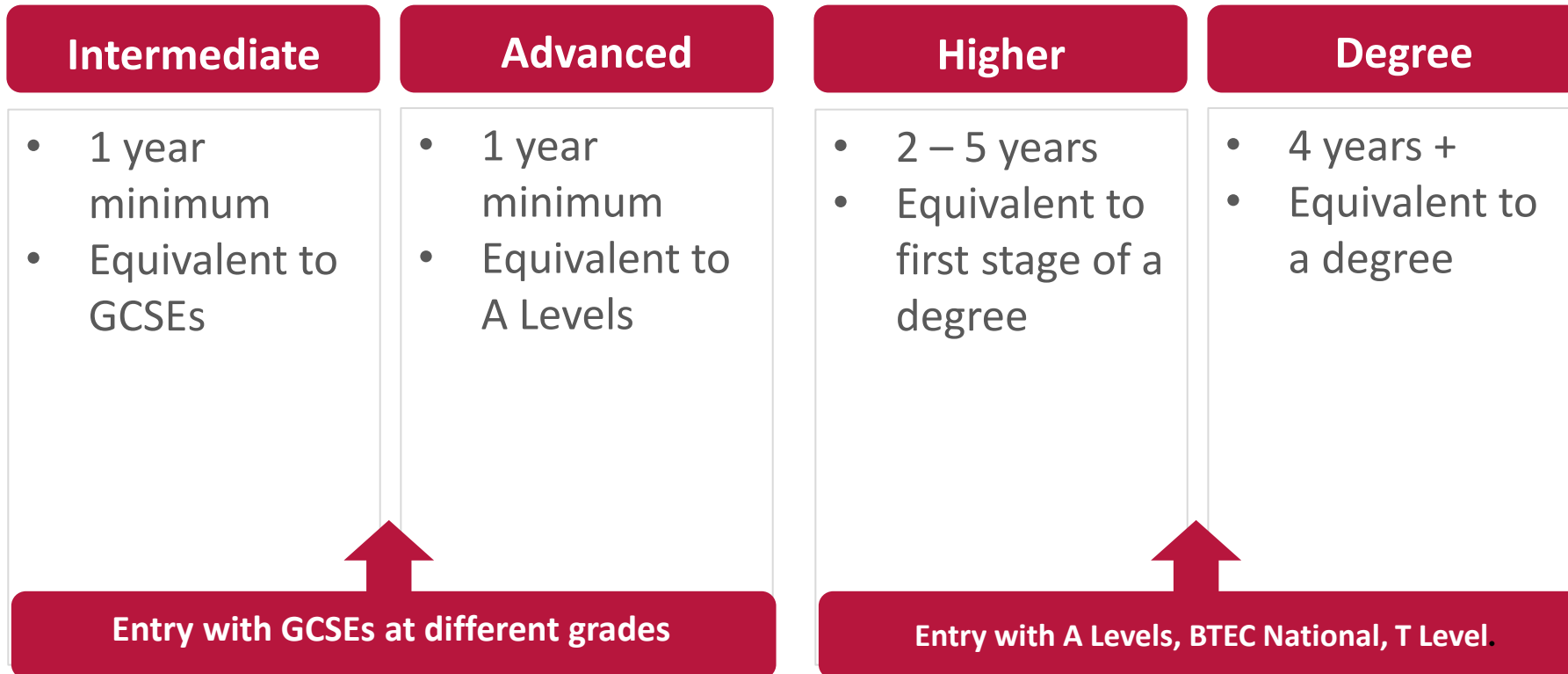
WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS?

# Apprenticeships

- A full time job
- Paid
- Training provided free of charge
- Spend 20% of your time away from your desk studying for a qualification and receiving training (i.e. one day a week)
- Different levels depending on what you achieve at GCSE
- Progression routes to higher levels
- Apply to the employer for an Apprenticeship

WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS?

# Apprenticeship Levels



WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS?

# What happens next?

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- Science – Mr Levy – [clevy@corearena.academy](mailto:clevy@corearena.academy)
- Geography – Miss Laurent – [jlaurent@corearena.academy](mailto:jlaurent@corearena.academy)
- History – Mr Hart – [dhart@corearena.academy](mailto:dhart@corearena.academy)
- MFL – Dr Savage – [dsavage@corearena.academy](mailto:dsavage@corearena.academy)
- IT & Business – Mrs Sandhu – [dsandhu@corearena.academy](mailto:dsandhu@corearena.academy)
- P.E & Health – Miss Allen – [shallen@corearena.academy](mailto:shallen@corearena.academy)
- Creative Arts & D.T - Mrs Freeman – [lfreeman@corearena.academy](mailto:lfreeman@corearena.academy)





*Year 9 leading the way...*