

CHASE HIGH

A



Be Aspirational

C



Build Character

E



Pursue Excellence

“I have the Aspiration to achieve,
the Character to succeed and the
commitment to pursue Excellence”

GCSE Options Process 2025

Mr Brodigan- Asst. Headteacher –Exams and Timetable
Ms. Warne-Head of Year 9



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Making choices

Here are some things you need to know, do and think about...

- The law says you must stay in learning until the age of 18.
- Learning includes sixth form, college, training, or full time work as long as it includes some part time learning e.g. an apprenticeship.
- You pick GCSE options in Year 9.
- You usually pick your next step in Year 11.

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Curriculum in Year 10 & 11

Core	En = 9	Ma = 8	Sc = 10	27	
Options	A = 5	B = 5	C = 5	D = 5	20
Life	PE = 2	Citizenship = 1	3		
			TOTAL	50	



The Choices



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Guided Choices

We are ambitious for you to have the same chances as students in all other schools, so the EBacc is core to our curriculum offer:

- ✓ **All students MUST choose either History or Geography.**
- ✓ **The majority of students are EXPECTED to choose a language.**



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EBacc Humanities

Geography
History

EBacc MFL

French
German

Optional Curriculum

Art and Design

Business

Computer Science

Creative Media

Design and Technology

Food Preparation and Nutrition

Health and Social Care

Information Technology

Music

Performing Arts

Photography

Psychology

Religious Studies

Sociology

Sport

When choosing it is important to note that some options subjects cannot be studied together- this is because they are considered variations of the same qualification.

These subjects have been highlighted: Art and Design & Photography.



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Triple Science or Double Science?

- 3% of schools with a similar cohort to our school have all students take Triple Science.
- 13% of schools with a similar cohort do not allow any students to take Triple Science.
- Of the remainder it is split roughly 50:50 as to whether the students or school decides who takes Triple Science.
- **All students will start Triple Science and differentiate in Term 2 of Yr 10.**



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The ‘new style’ GCSEs

- More rigorous - harder
- Bigger – more content
- Tiers only when necessary
- Linear with terminal exam – little chance to resit (except English and Maths post 16)
- No coursework except in a few subjects (The Arts, Design Technology, Food etc.)
- **And... a new (ish!) grading system**

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Grading the New GCSEs

Ofqual

NEW GCSE GRADING STRUCTURE									
9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	U
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Broadly the same proportion of students will achieve a grade 4 and above as currently achieve a grade C and above.■ Broadly the same proportion of students will achieve a grade 7 and above as achieve an A and above.■ The bottom of grade 1 will be aligned with the bottom of grade G.									

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Thursday 9th January 2025



Email sent to
students



Student and parent
receive unique code



Sign in to SIMS Options

Visit SIMS Options
Online

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An email from noreply@sims.co.uk will be sent to your school email address to invite you to register for SIMS Options.

Follow the step by step guide Pages 5-10 of the options booklet to activate and register your account

Hi Jack,

Simply accept this invitation and register within 90 days.

Accept Invitation

If the button above doesn't work, copy and paste the following link into your browser.

<https://registration.sims.co.uk>

Should you need to enter it, your personal invite code is: **QT8HRDXHKD**

Sent on behalf of,

Chase High School

Click where it says “Accept Invitation”

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Once registered, you will need to go to the SIMS Options website and login to access the Options page. Type <https://www.sims-options.co.uk> in your web browser and the following page will open:

Microsoft
Sign in
jack.black@chasehigh.org
No account? [Create one!](#)
Can't access your account?
Back Next

Sign in to SIMS Options

Click on the Microsoft icon

ESS | SIMS
ESS: Check Service Status
Secured by SIMS ID

You will then be asked to Sign in.



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You can then make your choices by clicking on the course items from the screen displayed. You will have sections for guided choices and free choices

Art and Design GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Business GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Computer Science GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve
German GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Design & Technology GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Food Preparation & Nutrition GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve
French GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Health & Social BTEC Award Level 1 & 2	Reserve	Information Technology Cambridge Nationals Certificate Level 1 & 2	Reserve
Creative Media BTEC Award Level 2	Reserve	Music GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Performing Arts BTEC Award Level 2	Reserve
Psychology GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Photography GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Religious Studies GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve
Sociology GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Sport BTEC Award Level 2	Reserve		

When choosing 'free choices' remember to do this in order of preference and choose 2 reserves which will go orange.

Art and Design GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Business GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Computer Science GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Choice	Reserve
German GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Choice	Design & Technology GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Food Preparation & Nutrition GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Choice	Reserve
French GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Health & Social BTEC Award Level 1 & 2	Reserve	Information Technology Cambridge Nationals Certificate Level 1 & 2	Reserve	
Creative Media BTEC Award Level 2	Reserve	Music GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Choice	Performing Arts BTEC Award Level 2	Choice	Reserve
Psychology GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Photography GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Religious Studies GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	
Sociology GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Sport BTEC Award Level 2	Reserve			

My Choices in Order of Preference (Total Choices: 4)

To change your order of preference select a choice and click the position in the list you would like to move it to.

- German GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course Options
- Geography GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course Humanities
- Computer Science GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course Options
- Food Preparation & Nutrition GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course Options

My Reserves in Order of Preference (Total Reserves: 2)

To change your order of preference select a reserve and click the position in the list you would like to move it to.

- Music GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course Options
- Performing Arts BTEC Award Level 2 Options



Selecting Options

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What **SHOULD** influence choice

- Enjoyment
- Talent
- Career
- Balance
- Recommendation

You SHOULD NOT be influenced by:

1. Friends
2. Liking a teacher
3. Thinking that any course is easy... they are all **demanding**



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What happens next?

- Ensure that your child selects their option subjects in the order of preference, so that they have a greater chance of receiving their top choices.
- We will endeavour to allocate your child their choices, but cannot guarantee all choices.
- Your child will find out their choices in June when the timetable has been finalised.



Who can your child ask for help?

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- Form Tutors;
- Subject Teachers;
- Ms. Warne, Head of Year 9:
caitlan.warne@chasehigh.org
- Miss Lucas, Deputy Head of Year 9:
karen.lucas@chasehigh.org
- Mr. Brodigan, Assistant Headteacher – Exams and Timetable
colin.brodigan@chasehigh.org
- Mrs. Ringrose – SENCO - SEND and Access Arrangements for exams
daisy.ringrose@chasehigh.org

More detailed information about the content of the examination courses offered can be found on the “Subjects” page of the Chase High School website:

<https://www.chasehigh.org/curriculum/subjects>



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Role of the parent/carer

- Support
- Guidance – who to talk to
- Informed – understand the process and implications
- Work with us
- Ensure that online form is completed by **Friday 31st January 2025**

