

Our Lady's Catholic High School

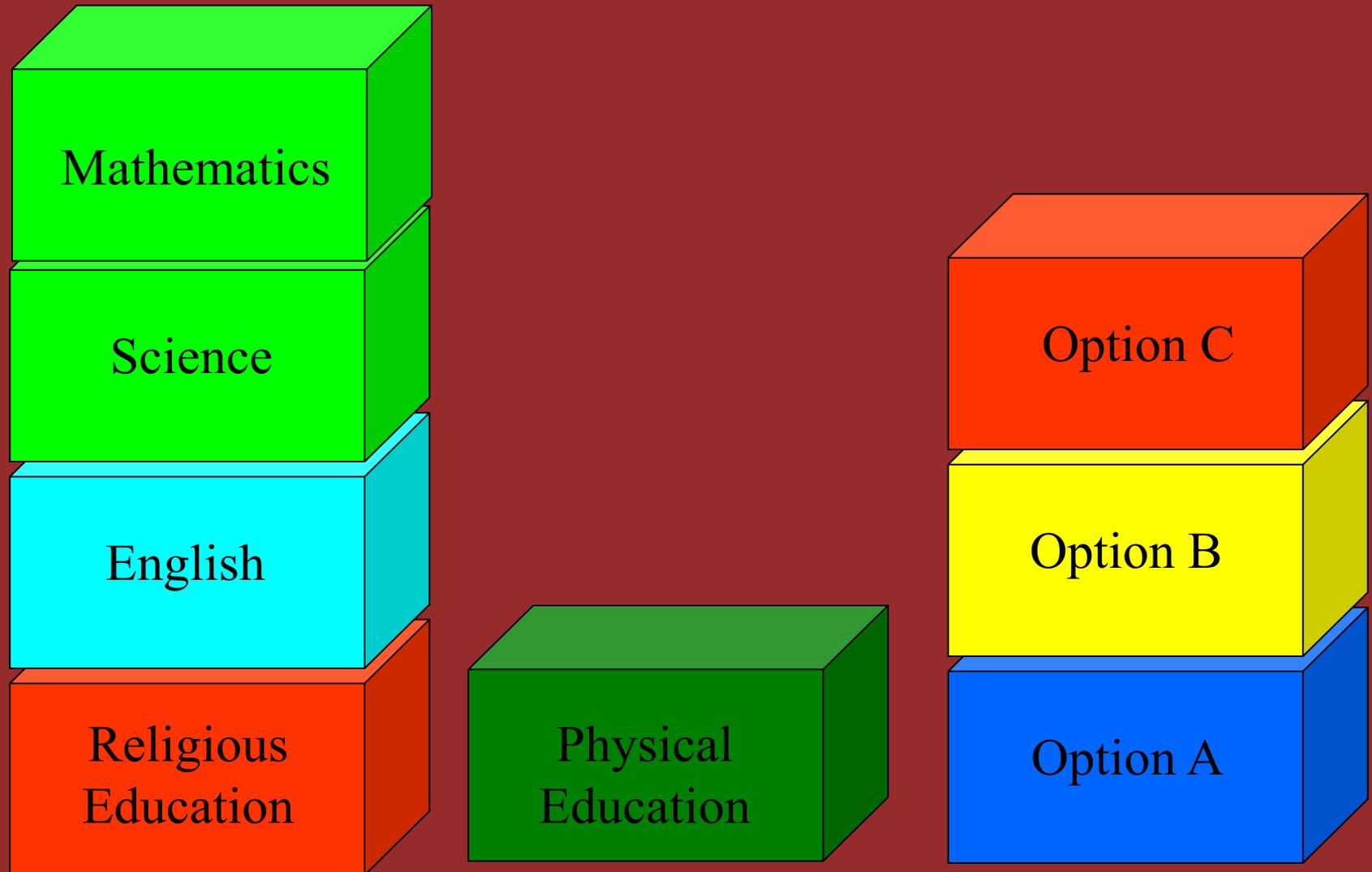


**Key Stage 4
Information Evening**

Our KS4 Curriculum

- Ambitious
- Broad
- Balanced
- Relevant
- Personalised
- Enriched
- Future Orientated

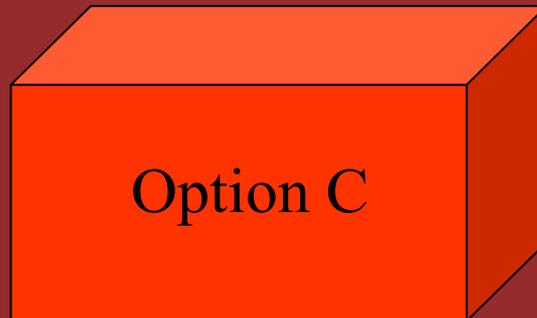
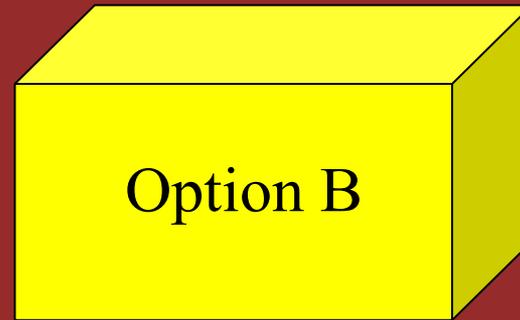
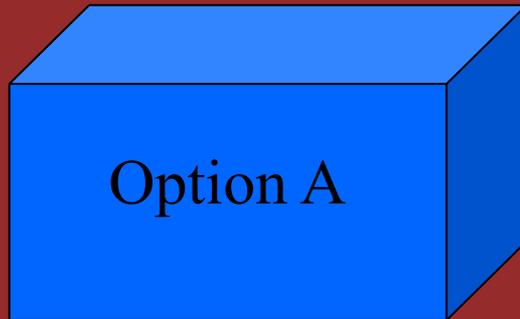
The Key Stage 4 Curriculum



Why have we changed to the three option model?

- Increasing numbers of pupils saying they feel stressed and unable to cope.
- Very large number of exams being sat in a very short period (for most pupils this was about 50 hours across 4 weeks).
- No real benefit to the pupils as they generally need 5 GCSE passes for college.
- More time given to the subjects they must do.

Options A, B, and C



Art	History
Computer Science	Cam National ICT
Construction (voc)	Music
Drama	Motor Vehicle (voc)
Food Prep and Nutrition	GCSE PE/Cam Nat PE
French	D&T Resistant Materials
Geography	Separate Sciences
D&T Graphics	Sociology
Hair and Beauty (voc)	Spanish
D&T Textiles	

GCSE Grades

- Majority of our courses are GCSE
- Changes in the content to courses
- GCSE grades are scored from 9 to 1 with 9 being the highest
- 7 = A, 4 = C
- Roughly 1% nationally receive a grade 9, although here that % is higher
- Colleges usually ask for good passes (5's)
- All subjects apart from BTEC/Cam Nat/vocational now use these grades

New grading structure	Current grading structure
9	
8	A*
7	A
6	B
5	C
4	
3	D
2	E
1	F
	G
U	U

Tier entries – our advice

- Students predicted a grade 4 or 5 should generally be entered for foundation tier
- Only students with a **realistic** target of a grade 6 should be entered for higher tier
- Otherwise a student who has an 'off-day' could receive an ungraded result and miss out on a grade (two grades for combined science)

Mathematics National GCSE

Entries 2017 v 2025

	2017	2025
FOUNDATION	24%	58%
HIGHER	76%	42%

X and Y Bands

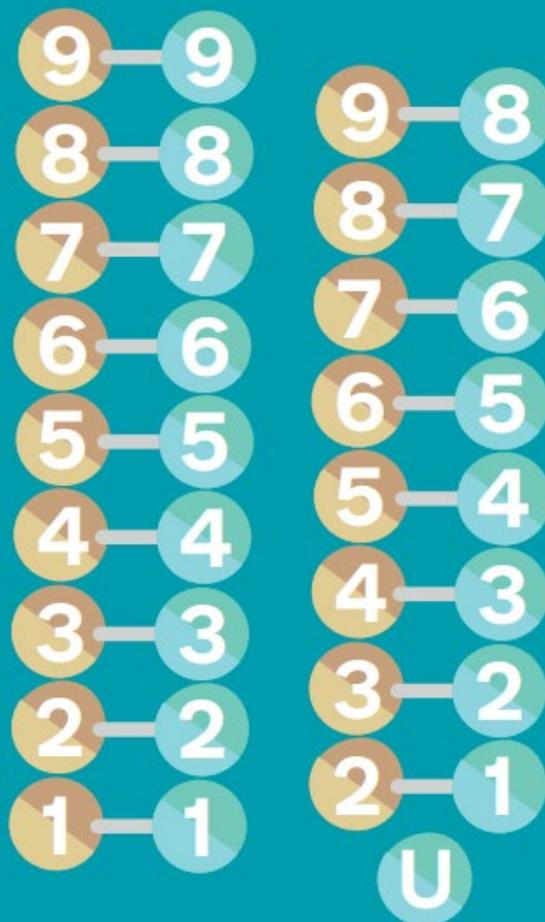
- The KS3 model changes
- More movement to accommodate
- No limitations

Science

- Combined Science is worth 2 GCSEs
- They study Biology, Chemistry and Physics in equal proportion and their performances are totalled to give one overall score
- The best outcomes would be a 9-9, then a 9-8 followed by 8-8, 8-7, 7-7 down to a 1-1
- Separate Science is worth 3 GCSEs
- They will receive a separate GCSE in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. These grades are not linked.
- Separate Science requires an option choice
- Maths needs to be good (grade 6 or above)

GCSE COMBINED SCIENCE

DOUBLE AWARD GRADE COMBINATIONS



PE

- All pupils study Core PE. This is not a qualification, although they will be assessed by school
- Taking GCSE PE or Cam National Sports Studies requires an option choice (equivalent courses with different assessment)
- The teachers will assist with the course that is right for your child

The English Baccalaureate

- GCSE Mathematics
- GCSE English Language
- GCSE Science
- GCSE History or Geography
- GCSE French or Spanish

How important is showing evidence of an ability to learn languages?

Very important; if you don't get on with language work, you are unlikely to enjoy a significant part of our degree programmes. We'd like to see at least a strong GCSE result in a modern language on your record.

Manchester University

BTEC/OCR National

- We offer the following nationally recognised 'GCSE equivalent' courses

- OCR National in Information Technology

- OCR National in Sports Studies

- Level 1 D, M, P - GCSE Grade 1-3

- Level 2 D*, D, M, P - GCSE Grade 4-9

Vocational Courses

- Hair and Beauty at Preston College
- Motor Vehicle at Preston College
- Construction at Preston Vocational Centre
- Pupils who are selected will attend Preston College each Wednesday afternoon from 1.30 to 4.00 p.m
- Behaviour and attendance are key issues
- Level 1 courses (GCSE grade 3 maximum)
- Limited places reserved for pupils who require additional pathways

Option Blocks

- Pupils give us preferences, not demands
- All Option A subjects are taught at the same time
- Some combinations will not be possible
- In 2025 over 96% studied three of their first five preferences
- Benefit the collective, not the individual

Limited Places

- There is a limit to the number of places available for each subject
- Resistant Materials – 20
- Food Prep and Nutrition – 20
- Textiles – 20
- Graphics - 20
- Music – 16
- Vocational Courses - 8

The importance of Plan B

- Preferences 4 and 5 are **very** important
- Around a third of Year 10 will follow a course they have put down as preference 4 or 5
- Do not just pick 4 and 5 without careful thought
- Pupils are not guaranteed their preferences

An Example for a pupil in B1/B2/C1/C2

Core Curriculum

Mathematics

Science

English

**Religious
Education**

**Physical
Education**

Options

**French /
Spanish**

**Separate
Sciences**

**History/
Geography**

An Example for a pupil in B1/B2/C1/C2

Core Curriculum

Mathematics

Science

English

**Religious
Education**

**Physical
Education**

Options

**French /
Spanish**

**History /
Geography**

**Art/Drama/
Music**

An Example for a pupil in T1/T2/M1

Core Curriculum

Mathematics

Science

English

**Religious
Education**

**Physical
Education**

Options

**Hair & Beauty
/ Construction**

**Art / Music /
Drama / PE**

**Sociology /
Geography**

Guidance

Gmail Images



Mr



Account



Gmail



Drive



Classroom



Docs



Sheets



Slides



Calendar



Sites

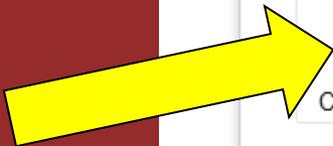


Contacts



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More



Log onto Google Classroom
Click the plus sign in the top right corner
Select join class
Type in this code

kdlmszt

Press classwork

Read all of the information about each subject before you decide upon what you are going to choose

Options
Key Stage 4 Options
Mr Diggles



7m2b
20 students



10Y2C
16 students



Stream

Classwork

People

 View your work

 Google Calendar

 Class Drive folder

Guidance



Help with your options

Posted Nov 8, 2018 (Edited 11:20 AM)



The Timetable

Posted Nov 8, 2018 (Edited 11:21 AM)

Compulsory Subjects



GCSE English Language

Posted Nov 6, 2018 (Edited Nov 6, 2018)



GCSE English Literature

Posted Nov 6, 2018 (Edited Jan 15)



GCSE Mathematics

Posted Nov 6, 2018 (Edited Jan 21)



GCSE Religious Studies

Posted Nov 6, 2018



GCSE/BTEC Science

Posted Nov 6, 2018

GCSE Optional Subjects



View more



Design and Technology (Resistant Materials)

Posted Dec 21, 2018

Course description

Why choose Art and Design?

As an Artsmark Platinum School we provide our students with a wide range of creative, exciting and stimulating opportunities. They are able to explore their interests in art and design in ways that are personally relevant and truly developmental in nature. The Art staff at OLCHS provide a course that is exciting, demanding and varied. It aims to cater for the strength of individuals recognizing the enthusiasms and areas of expertise of our pupils. It puts into practice the skills, disciplines and techniques they learn in order to communicate ideas, feelings and meanings about art, craft and design.



An outline of the course

At OLCHS we follow the AQA Fine Art (8202) syllabus. The course is split into 2 components.

Component 1 (coursework) is **60%** of the total mark/grade.

Component 2, the final **40%** is an Externally Set Assignment (exam project), by the examination board.

Component 1 (coursework).

The course is delivered through a series of initially very structured projects, which will eventually allow for individualistic interpretation (requiring a considerable amount of one to one teaching). In addition to the timetabled classes we offer lunchtime and afterschool coursework/examination sessions, trips, and workshops with artists.

You will have to complete at least two projects showing competence in at least one of the following areas of study. The areas of study, in which you can demonstrate competence, include: drawing, painting, sculpture, installation, lens-/light-based media, photography and the moving image, printmaking, mixed media, land art.



Your projects will consist of preparatory studies in a sketchbook/workbook format leading to one or two final pieces, using a range of media. Your sketchbook work must be annotated (written explanations of your art work - the thought processes, media used and

Component 2 (externally set assignment).

The remaining 40% of the mark is the externally set assignment (examination).



The externally set assignment is an exam paper produced by AQA with a number of themes/questions, you choose the theme which best suits your artistic style and captures your imagination the most. You will be given these questions themes during January in Year 11. This allows time for you to interpret the theme and give an individualistic and personal response with a series of preparatory studies (usually presented in a sketchbook format).



[Careers Overview](#)

[Evaluating Impact](#)

[Governors](#)

[Parents](#)

[Students](#)

[Teachers](#)

[Termly Careers Events](#)

[Work With Us](#)

At Our Lady's Catholic High School we are committed to providing all of our students in Years 7 to 11 with a comprehensive programme of careers education, information, advice and guidance (CEIAG) and work related learning (WRL) that is underpinned by the firm belief that every young person needs high-quality career guidance to make informed decisions about their future.

Our programme is guided by the eight Gatsby Foundation benchmarks. Click on each descriptor below to learn how we:

- [Have an embedded programme of career education and guidance that is known and understood by pupils, parents, teachers and employers.](#)
- [Provide good-quality information about future study options and labour market opportunities.](#)
- [Offer different career guidance needs at different stages where opportunities for advice and support are tailored to the needs of each pupil.](#)
- [Link curriculum learning with careers for a wide range of future career paths.](#)
- [Facilitate opportunities to learn from employers about work, employment and the skills that are valued in the workplace.](#)
- [Provide first-hand experiences of the workplace to help their exploration of career opportunities.](#)
- [Ensure our pupils understand the full range of learning opportunities that are available to them. This includes both academic and vocational routes and learning in schools, colleges, universities and in the workplace.](#)
- [Provide guidance interviews with a trained careers adviser.](#)

General Advice

- Do indicate a preference for subjects that you are good at – look at your report
- Do indicate a preference for subjects that will help with your chosen career
- Do indicate a preference for a subject that you enjoy
- Do aim to keep open as many avenues as possible in the future

The Options Form

Choose Your Options



Click here to select your options.

Posted Nov 6, 2018 (Edited Nov 6, 2018)



Google Forms: Sign-in

<https://goo.gl/forms/ghQOQyT1VOZh9t6L2>

View Material

Optional Subjects

In the following boxes you are going to select the subjects you would most prefer to study in Years 10 and 11

Select your first preference from the drop down box below

Choose 

Select your second preference from the drop down box below

Choose 

Select your third preference from the drop down box below

Choose 

Select your fourth preference from the drop down box below

Choose 

Select your fifth preference from the drop down box below

Choose 

Select your sixth preference from the drop down box below

Next Steps

- Year 9 Parents' Evening on Thursday 26th February 2026
- Options Deadline Monday 2nd March 2026 (google classroom form)
- Paper copy in form for signing at home on Thursday 5th March 2026
- Options form signed & returned on Monday 9th March 2026
- A review of the preferences expressed by each pupil in Year 9
- Discussions with pupils and parents about individual programmes in June

- Y10 and Y11 Employer encounter
- Careers Fair
- Work Experience
- Careers guidance interviews
- College taster days
- Careers advice interviews
- College assemblies
- STEM and enterprise events
- College and employer drop in sessions
- Apprenticeship assemblies
- Careers PSHE programme
- College open events
- Mock interview preparations
- Mock Interviews
- College/apprenticeship applications support
- College/apprenticeship interviews
- Speed Networking Event

Golden Opportunity

- Ask questions
- mpo@olchs.lancs.sch.uk

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