

CHENDERIT SCHOOL



arts colleges

A Visual Arts College

Year 9 into Year 10 Courses and Information 2014-2016

What will you choose?

**Your Guide to Courses Offered
at Chenderit School
2014-2016**

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The Decision Making Process

Dear Students and Parents/Carers

Welcome to the Course Options Guide 2014. This guidebook is aimed at supporting you at an important time in your educational life at Chenderit. Year 9 is a demanding time for students with the release of reports and start of GCSE courses in some subjects. To add to this you need to start making important decisions about your future. The thought of choosing your courses for Key Stage 4 can seem a daunting task. This guidebook is designed to help you and your parents state an informed preference and to prepare you for Years 10, 11 and beyond.

At the age of 14 we would not expect many of you to have a clear career path in mind. Indeed all the evidence is that careers in the future will be very flexible with a possible 13 changes of direction during a person's working life! At Chenderit we believe it is important to enable all students to follow a broad and balanced curriculum at this stage in your school career so you do not close any career paths early on.

Did you know the law has changed? Year 9 students will continue education and training until at least 18 and will continue to study English and Maths if they do not achieve a grade C or better in these subjects at GCSE. This means that students will need to think carefully about choices after Year 11. For example, at 16 students can choose to continue their learning at a sixth form (e.g. at Chenderit) or college, get an Apprenticeship or get a job with training.

This guidebook contains information about the courses on offer for your son/daughter during Key Stage 4 and you will be able to find out more information at the Year 9 into 10 Subject Fair on Wednesday 12th February at 6.30 p.m. Course descriptions are then listed in alphabetical order and should be read thoroughly. Finally, the Course Preference Sheet is for you to use to trial organising your preferred course choices. Another copy of the Course Preference Sheet will be completed during the interviews at the Year 9 into Year 10 evening and you will receive information about this in due course.

The Year 9 into Year 10 interviews will be held on 11th 13th 18th and 20th March and you and your parents/carers will receive an invitation to ONE of these evenings where you will meet with either your tutor or a senior member of staff for a pre-arranged appointment. Each meeting will last approximately 10 minutes where you, with the support of your parents/carers, will make your final preference choices for subjects.

I hope you and your parents/carers find this guidebook helpful but do not hesitate to ask further questions of your subject teachers if you need to.

I look forward to meeting you and your parents/carers at the Subject Fair and the Year 9 into Year 10 Evening.



Mrs R Rigby
Head of Learning for KS3

What do I do?

- ✓ Read this booklet carefully!
- ✓ Discuss your ideas at home and with your tutors and subject teachers.
- ✓ Listen attentively during your options assembly on Thursday 6th February.
- ✓ Encourage your parents/carers to come to the Year 9 Subject Fair on **Wednesday 12th February 2014, 6.30pm-8pm**.
- ✓ Come with your parents/carers to the Year 9 into Year 10 Course Interview. These will take place on 11th 13th 18th and 20th March 3.30pm -7pm, and you and your parents/carers will receive an invitation to ONE of these.
- ✓ Complete the Option Preference Form at the back of this booklet.
- ✓ Return your completed Option Preference Form by Thursday 20th March at the latest

If there is a problem then Mr Woodcock will contact you, otherwise assume that your options will go ahead.

Options Timeline

Year 9 Options Assembly – Thursday 6th February



**Year 9 Subject Fair – Wednesday 12th February
Lecture Theatre at school – 6.30pm-8pm**



**Year 9 into 10 Course Interviews
11th, 13th, 18th & 20th March – 3.30pm-7pm**
Each student will receive a letter home indicating an interview time.



**Option Preference Form handed in
Thursday 20th March at the latest**



**If there is a problem then Mr Woodcock
will contact you, otherwise assume that
your options will go ahead**

Who can help me?

Don't feel that you have to make all of the decisions by yourself! You can get as much help and advice as you need from all sorts of places. Here are some suggestions:-

People who know you well

It might help to talk through your ideas with someone who knows you really well. They might help you to sort out what you want to do in the future. This will make choosing your options much easier.

You might like to talk about your ideas with your:

- parents, carers or other close relatives or family friends
- subject teachers
- form tutor at school.

Other sources of help and advice

Sometimes it helps to talk things through with people who may not know you but who can offer professional help and advice. **Careers Advisers** are available to talk to you from 8am to 10pm every day. You can contact them by ringing **0800 100 900** or by links on the National Careers Service young people's webpages.

Other Useful websites and programs

- There's useful information on the National Curriculum at Key Stage 4 in GOV.UK's Guide to the National Curriculum
- Careers box is a free online library of careers related films, news and information. The case study films show real people doing real jobs to give you an idea of what a job is really like.
- I Could has over a thousand career videos as well as games and lots of information. In the career stories people talk about what they do, what it's like, how they got there and their hopes for the future.
- Plotr is a free website where you can explore career worlds, view employer profiles, browse opportunities in your local area, and find careers advice on all sorts of topics from choosing your GCSEs to what not to wear at a job interview.
- If you're stuck for career ideas you might like to try Kudos where you can answer questions about your interests to come up with some career suggestions. Just remember, Kudos isn't telling you what to do, it's there to help give you some ideas.

If you are aiming to go into Further Education (e.g. Chenderit Sixth Form or a college) and Higher Education (e.g. a university), it is a good idea to look at entry requirements. For universities in particular, explore the following website: <http://search.ucas.com/>. Some courses are very specific about which subjects and which grades are needed at GCSE in order to follow certain pathways. Do your research now!

Other useful careers websites

http://www.russellgroup.ac.uk/media/informed-choices/InformedChoices-latest.pdf	
http://icould.com/buzz/	www.apprenticeships.org.uk
www.careersbox.co.uk	www.autocity.org.uk
http://www.parentadviser.co.uk	www.bestcourse4me.com
www.icould.com	www.realgap.co.uk
http://university.which.co.uk	www.etrust.org.uk
www.premed.org.uk	www.studentfinance.direct.gov.uk
www.prelaw.org.uk	www.studential.com
www.e4s.co.uk/docs/internships	www.gapmedics.co.uk
www.totaljobs.com	www.gov.uk
www.notgoingtouni.co.uk	www.push.co.uk
www.lnat.ac.uk	www.unipodadvice.com
www.careersbox.co.uk/film/level7	www.nhscareers.nhs.uk

You will be seeking advice from a variety of people including other students. It is important to work out which is good advice and which is bad advice.

Get together with one or two others and decide which advice printed below is good or bad. Use a tick or cross or two different colours to shade your answers.

<p>Only take subjects you like because if you take subjects you dislike you may not enjoy school.</p>	<p>Take the same subjects as your friends. It is good to be together in lessons.</p>	<p>I don't know what I want to do when I leave school so I suppose I'd better do as many subjects as I can because I never know when I might need one.</p>
<p>Only take subjects you get good marks in because what is the point of studying a subject if you get a bad mark in it.</p>	<p>If you are thinking of taking a subject because you like the teacher, be careful because you might not get the same teacher next year.</p>	<p>Don't take that subject, I found it to be boring!</p>
<p>It is worth studying a subject you dislike if you get good marks in it. Getting good qualifications is more important than enjoying school.</p>	<p>If you don't need a subject for the job you want to do, there's no point in taking it.</p>	<p>If you don't enjoy subjects that involve a lot of writing, don't take them.</p>
<p>Only take subjects that you like and get good marks in.</p>	<p>Just because my brother or sister enjoyed a subject, it doesn't mean that I'll like it too.</p>	<p>If you don't like taking exams take subjects that have a lot of course work in them.</p>

The Core Curriculum

These are the courses that everyone follows and these are on the yellow pages of this booklet. Please read these carefully so that you can see how they link with other subjects.

- English Language and English Literature
- Maths
- Science
- PE
- RS and PSHE
- The Tutorial Programme

The core curriculum will provide the majority of students with an opportunity to gain at least 5 GCSEs at grades A*-C including English and Maths which are essential requirements for most post 16 courses and apprenticeships.

English Baccalaureate- EBacc

The government has made clear that schools will now be judged upon the achievement of the 'English Baccalaureate'. To achieve the EBacc students will need to pass GCSEs at grade C or higher in each of:

- English Language
- Mathematics
- Two of: Core Science, Additional Science, Biology, Chemistry, Physics or Computer Science
- A Humanity subject: History or Geography
- A Modern Foreign Language: French, German or Spanish

We have taken the decision that students will not be obligated by the school to choose subjects in order to fulfil the EBacc requirements. We believe students should have a free, but guided choice for their options. However, The Government has intimated that prospective employers and universities may, in the future, regard students with EBacc more favourably than students without. We know that UCL already requires a MFL at grade C or above for all of their programmes. Other universities may follow suit, therefore, we would ask parents and students to consider carefully taking subjects that satisfy the EBacc requirements when choosing their option subjects.

The Options - Your Choices

Now which subjects will you decide to do?

Thinking about the range of subjects that you can study in Year 10 at Chenderit is an exciting process. For many students this is the first time that there has been some element of choice. All students are now required to study or train at least until the age the age of 18. It is important to think of potential pathways beyond the age of 16 when you plan your Key Stage 4 choices.

As you begin to think about which subjects you would prefer to develop your learning in, there are several things that you should bear in mind:

- What am I good at?
- What do I enjoy?
- How do I like to learn?
- What sounds interesting?
- How do these subjects link to other subjects post-sixteen?
- How do these subjects link to the kind of career that I might be interested in?
- What skills would these subjects give me?
- How would these subjects allow me to develop personally?

That's quite a bit of thinking to do. To help you we are offering:

- Y9 Options Assemblies for Students
- Tutorial sessions
- Access to and training in 'Fast Tomato' (a web based careers programme)
- An extensive set of information on the 'careers course' on the VLE
- A 'Subject Fair' on Wednesday 12th February where you can hear about our options system and talk to subject teachers
- An interview on either 11th 13th 18th 20th March to discuss and select subjects

CORE SUBJECTS

Tutorial Programme

Head of Learning for Key Stage 4: Mr T Holland

Learning Manager for Key Stage 4: Mr T Fitton

Weekly plan for tutor time and assemblies

- Monday Year 10 assembly or Year 11 planner checking/silent reading
- Tuesday Year 11 assembly or Year 10 planner checking/silent reading
- Wednesday Registration only
- Thursday Pastoral Programme for both Year 10 & Year 11
- Friday Pastoral Programme for both Year 10 & Year 11

Students will take part in tutor sessions throughout Years 10 and 11 that will complement and enhance their learning across the curriculum, prepare them for the rigours of GCSE exams while developing their own inter-personal skills.

Year 10 programme:

- Autumn Term – Student Council Elections, Newspaper project, initiate Target Setting process, Anti-Bullying week, review Interim Reports.
- Spring Term – preparation for Work Experience placements, where relevant, study skills & revision techniques, review of targets from Target Setting process.
- Summer Term – review Full Subject Reports, preparation for end of year 10 exams, evaluate Work Experience placements, where relevant.

Year 11 programme:

- Autumn Term – Student Council Elections, review of study skills and revision techniques, Digging Deeper Day – Mock Interview Preparation, initiate Target Setting process, Anti-Bullying week, review Interim Reports, preparation for GCSE Mock Exams.
- Spring Term – Digging Deeper Day – Mock Interviews with members of Brackley Rotary club, preparation for final GCSE exams including revision timetable,
- Summer Term – final revision and preparation for GCSE exams.

Registration and Tutor Time expectations:

- Students arrive in full uniform and are equipped as for any other lesson with pencil case, planner and a reading book when required.
- Students are expected to complete work on their own or in groups which may involve discussions and/or written work as directed by the tutor.
- Work is expected to be completed during tutor time and as I.S.; and at times submitted on the VLE for the tutor to give feedback on.

Year group assemblies:

- Assemblies for both year groups will be taken by either Mr Holland/Mr Fitton or by a member of the Leadership Team in the Lecture Theatre.
- The theme of each week's assembly will be guided by the tutorial programme or the relevant SEAL theme.

OPTION CHOICES

COURSE PREFERENCE SHEET - SUBJECT CHOICES 2014 - 2016

NAME: _____

TUTOR GROUP: _____

KS2 English Result _____

Expected Target Grade _____

Aspirational Target Grade _____

1. Circle your preferred subject choice in EACH column.

2. Add a RESERVE choice of subject at the bottom of columns 1 – 5 – *This will be used where group numbers are not large enough for your 1st subject choice course to be running. You will be informed by Mr Woodcock if this is the case.*

Column 1 Choose 1 Subject 2 hours per week Y10/11	Column 2 Choose 1 Subject 2 hours per week Y10/11	Column 3 Choose 1 Subject 2 hours per week Y10/11	Column 4 Choose 1 Subject 2 hours per week Y10/11	Column 5 Choose 1 Subject 2 hours per week Y10/11	Science Choice Choose 1
Art Painting and Drawing	History	MFL French	Textiles Technology	ICT	Level 5a / b / c or above
Art Three Dimensional Design	Geography	MFL German	Graphic Products	Engineering	Science Triple
Art Textiles	Health and Social Care	MFL Spanish	Resistant Materials	Resistant Materials	Level 4a / b / (c)
Media Studies	Business Studies	Media Studies	Food Technology	Food Technology	Science Core and Additional
Drama	Art Painting and Drawing	Environmental and Land-Based Science	Computing	Physical Education	
Music		Health and Social Care	MFL Spanish	Business Studies	Level 4c / 3a or below
Engineering			Geography	History	Science BTEC
			Religious Studies		
RESERVE	RESERVE	RESERVE	RESERVE	RESERVE	<i>Office use only:</i> INTERVIEWER JCC RJR KEB MWW

All students who achieved KS2 English SAT results at Levels 4 or 5 are advised to take one MFL and one Humanities subject in order to have the widest possible range of opportunities available to them at post 16, post 18 and beyond.

All other students MUST choose at least one subject from: Computing; Geography; History; Religious Studies; French, German or Spanish.