



Christ's
College
Guildford

YEAR 9 OPTIONS BOOKLET

GCSE SUBJECT GUIDE



www.christscollege.surrey.sch.uk

THE OPTIONS PROCESS

College Guildford

This booklet will provide you with key information about your Y9 Options, so that you can make the best decision possible about your studies.

KEY DATES

26th February	Options Evening
9th March	Deadline for handing in completed Options Form
24 th March	Consultation Day (opportunity to discuss your choices)
6 th July	Reports and official options published

At the start of Y10, you will have a 2 week “settling in” period, and after that, it will no longer be possible to change your options.

QUALIFICATIONS EXPLAINED

Most subjects are GCSEs, which have 9-1 grading system. All courses will have exams at the end of Y11, although up to 40% of a GCSE may be NEA (coursework).

Some subjects are BTechs, which use a different system (distinction*, distinction, merit, pass). A Level 2 BTech Pass is equivalent to a Grade 4 at GCSE. BTechs have more coursework than GCSEs but will still have an exam at the end.

CORE SUBJECTS

All Students must complete the core subjects.

Core Subjects	
Combined Science - Trilogy	2 GCSEs
English Language	1 GCSE
English Literature	1 GCSE
Mathematics	1 GCSE

An option can be used to upgrade Combined Science into Separate Sciences, which will then be worth 3 GCSEs.

In addition to the core subjects, there are also compulsory non-examined subjects which must be completed by all students. These are listed below:

PSHE	RE	Core PE
Digital Literacy	Sex & Relationships Education	Future Choices (Careers)

ADVICE ON CHOOSING YOUR COURSES

Do

Choose subjects that you enjoy - if you enjoy it, then you will put more time and effort in and be more successful

Choose subjects you are good at - good GCSEs will open doors, so choosing something you excel at will increase your chances of getting great results

Research all of your options - look at the specification, what will be expected of you and the topics covered

Think about the future - where could these GCSEs take you post 16. This is especially important if you aspire to study something at university with specific requirements.

Get advice - speak to your parents, teachers, and current GCSE students

Don't

Choose a subject just because your friends are - you may not even be put in the same class

Choose a subject based on the teacher - teachers change, and you may end up with a different, or even new, teacher teaching you

Panic - doing your best will open doors for you, so as long as you are trying hard at your GCSEs, then your decision here should not be a source of stress