

Year 9 Options Information Evening 2025



Living and learning according to our Church Foundation and the example of St Aidan, we strive to be a centre of academic excellence where all our students flourish because of the quality care, nurture, and education they are given. Our students will develop in character to become courageous and confident. They will be brave enough to see the opportunities in every difficulty, and wise enough to promote respect and kindness through the choices they make. Guided by our Christian vision we walk together to ensure that each and everyone knows the gift of **life in all its fullness**

Key Stage 4 Options

Moving from
Year 9 to Year 10



Decision Time

Difference between Key Stages 3 and 4



- Year 7 and 8 (KS3) – Compulsory subjects with no choices
- Year 9 (KS3) – Compulsory subjects with some choices in languages and Technology
- Year 10 and 11 (KS4) – Core subjects remain compulsory. Students now have some choices

The Careers Department



TALKING

FUTURES

The Careers Department



ST. AIDAN'S
CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

Mrs Richmond: *Careers Leader*

Miss Cassells: *Careers Adviser*

- Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance
- Transition Planning
- Enrichment Opportunities

Careers Programme Overview 2024-25 St. Aidan's Church of England High School

THE CAREERS &
ENTERPRISE
COMPANY

Vision Statement

The core values of our school are at the heart of our careers programme:

- **Wisdom:** Learning all we can about the world and how we can live well in it.
- **Aspiration:** Exploring our calling and achieving the best for others and ourselves.
- **Learning Well Together:** Nurturing good relationships at the heart of our community.
- **Kindness:** As God's children, upholding dignity and respect, justice and charity.

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Email: careersstaff@staidans.co.uk

Telephone: 01423 818554

Milestones and Learning Outcomes

Key Events and Experiences

Year 11

The Year 11 Careers Programme focuses on the theme of "Moving On..."

During Year 11 students will receive advice and guidance from the Careers Department to help them make informed decisions about their post-16 destination, whether this is sixth form, college or an apprenticeship.

Year 10

The Year 10 Careers Programme focuses on the theme of "Preparing for Work..."

Students will focus on the contribution that personal attributes and effective communication skills make to their future life and work roles.

Year 9

The Year 9 Careers Programme focuses on the theme of "Preparing for Progression..."

During Year 9 students will receive advice and guidance from the Careers Department to help them make informed decisions when choosing Key Stage 4 options and will spend time exploring the courses available to them in Key Stage 4 and beyond.

Year 8

The Year 8 Careers Programme focuses on the theme of "What is Work..."

Year 8 is a good time for students to start reviewing possible future plans in the context of Labour Market information and how this employment trends are predicted to change over time.

Year 7

The Year 7 Careers Programme focuses on the theme of "Who Am I..."

Students will be involved in a range of different activities designed to encourage a reflection on their qualities, skills, strengths, and interests and further develop a positive self-image – the foundation for positive careers planning. They will also cultivate an awareness of the importance of different influences in their lives and how this may influence their decision-making.

Year 11

- PAL assembly
- Group careers sessions to explore post-16 options
- Individual guidance appointments, as appropriate
- Application support, including mock interviews, as appropriate
- Enrichment opportunities, including lunchtime talks
- PSHE and ACCIAN careers programmes
- Linking careers to the curriculum
- Annual Careers Evening
- Activities in National Careers and Apprenticeship weeks

Year 10

- PAL assembly
- Individual guidance appointments, as appropriate
- Off timetable careers morning
- PSHE and ACCIAN careers programmes
- Linking careers to the curriculum
- Access to digital resources
- Annual Careers Evening
- Activities in National Careers and Apprenticeship weeks

Year 9

- PAL assembly
- Group careers session to support Key Stage 4 subject decisions
- Individual guidance appointments, as appropriate
- Introduction to digital careers resources
- PSHE programme
- Linking careers to the curriculum
- Access to digital resources
- Annual Careers Evening
- Activities in National Careers and Apprenticeship weeks

Year 8

- PAL assembly
- Individual guidance appointments, as appropriate
- Linking careers to the curriculum
- Access to digital resources
- PSHE programme
- Activities in National Careers and Apprenticeship weeks

Year 7

- Careers assembly
- Individual guidance appointments, as appropriate
- Linking careers to the curriculum
- Access to digital resources
- PSHE programme
- Activities in National Careers and Apprenticeship weeks



Inspiring and preparing young people for the world of work.

The Careers Department



- The support offered in school to help students make informed and appropriate decisions
- How you can support your student to make informed and appropriate decisions
- Where you can find further information and support

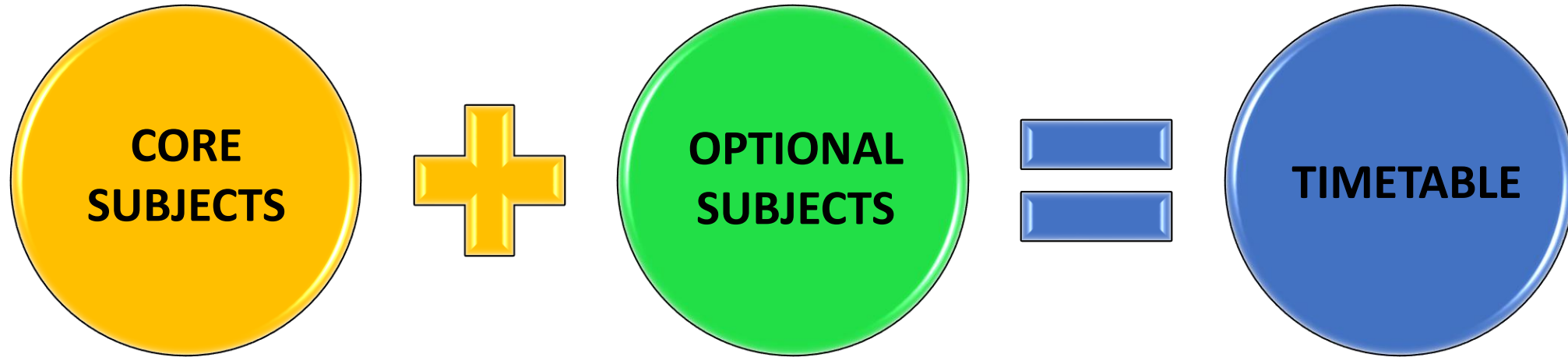
Support for Students



- Input into PSHE programme
- Student parent/carer newsletter
- Year 9 parents evening
- Individual guidance appointments, as appropriate

- Self reflection – *who am I?*
- The importance of making informed decisions
- The importance of planning to reach goals
- Pros and cons of study choices

PSHE – Key Messages



Consider entry requirements for any future study and career goals



Core subjects provide a solid foundation for a multitude of different careers

- *Preparation* is key when considering study choices. Understand course *content* and *assessment method*
- Strengths, personal preferences, weaknesses - *consider these* when choosing study options.
- Teachers, careers advisers and previous students can help to provide a *well-rounded view* of each study option, and which of these could be *appropriate* choices.

How Parents/Carers Can Help



- *Talk regularly* about careers, aspirations and interests as part of everyday conversation
- Share your *experiences*, the *choices* you made and how these have further developed your *skills*
- Encourage your student to be *curious* and work with them to *research* their options

Resources



[Career Conversations - Talking Futures](#)



[Explore careers | National Careers Service](#)



[Career Zones - Success at School](#)



[Careerpilot : Jobs by job sector](#)

Careerpilot

[icould - Career ideas and information](#)

icould

[Home - BBC Bitesize](#)



[Careerometer – LMI For All](#)



Careers Evening



CAREERS EVENING
WEDNESDAY 26TH MARCH 2025

Constance Green Hall
4.30pm-8pm

60+ exhibitors include:

- Kirk Newsholme
- University of Sheffield
- Harrrogate Hospital
- University of Glasgow
- University of Dundee
- ASKHAM BRYAN COLLEGE
- Nestlé
- ARMY BE THE BEST
- QUICKLINE
- AMP
- Manchester Metropolitan University
- ALSS
- Northumbria University
- seven
- LEEDS METRO UNIVERSITY
- LEEDS BECKETT UNIVERSITY
- LEEDS SEVEN UNIVERSITY
- Nuffield Health

Open Monday – Thursday
9.00am - 4.30pm

careersstaff@staidans.co.uk

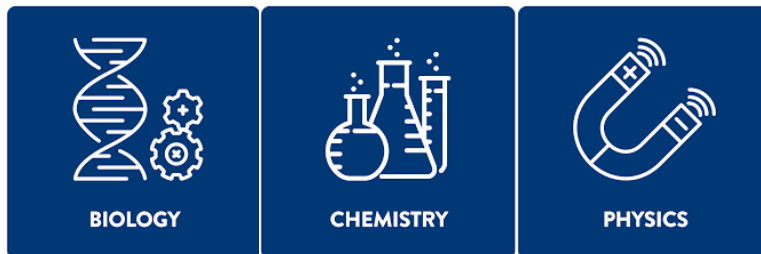
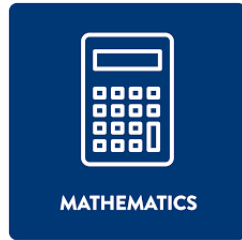
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How you will be assessed

Course	Coursework	Grade
GCSE	0% to 40%	1 to 9
BTEC/ Cambridge National	Up to 60%	(Level 1 or 2) P, M, D, D*

Compulsory Core Courses which you *must* study



English

- *Language*
- *Literature*

Mathematics

Religious Studies

- *Christianity, Ethics and Philosophy* **or**
- *Christianity, Ethics and St Mark's Gospel*

Science – Biology, Chemistry and Physics

- *Separate – 3 GCSEs*
- *Combined – 2 GCSEs*

CORE
PE

P S H E

What can you *choose* to study?

Students can choose **three more subjects** as well as the compulsory subjects.

Choose one from each option block.

Option Block **A**

Option Block **B**

Option Block **C**

You must also choose one reserve subject from any of the option blocks

The English Baccalaureate (Ebacc)



- Not a qualification in itself
- English, maths, science, a humanity, a language
- Often recognised by top universities
- Provides an academic based pathway
- A national performance measure for schools

The Option Subjects

Option A	Option B	Option C
French	Art: Photography	Art: Fine Art
Geography	Business Studies	Business Studies
German	Computer Science	Dance
History	Child Development	French
Spanish	Drama	Geography
	History	Media Studies
	Physical Education	Music
	Spanish	Physical Education
	Technology: Product Design	Psychology
	Technology: Engineering	Sociology
	Technology: Food & Nutrition	Technology: Product Design
	Technology: Textiles	Technology: Food & Nutrition
		Technology: Textiles

Some students may be offered a personalised pathway to support their specific learning needs

Next Steps



- Options Booklet - available on the school website next week.
- Students will be emailed the Options Form
- Parents Evening - Thursday 13th February
- Options Form – to be completed and returned by Friday 7th March
- Parents of students who will be offered a personalised pathway will be invited to a meeting with the SENDCO and member of the Senior Leadership Team
- Choices will be confirmed in the Summer Term