Year 9 Options 2026

Information on Key Stage 4 Courses

Things to Consider

Do consider:
- What do I enjoy?
- What am I good at?
- What do I want to do post-16
  a) Sixth form?
  b) Vocational course?
  c) Apprenticeship?
- Choose a good range of subjects

Do not consider:
- Choosing subjects just to be with friends
- Choosing subjects because "I like/don't like the teacher"

What do I <u>have to</u> study in Year 10/11?

English

GCSE English Language

GCSE English Literature

Mathematics

GCSE Mathematics

Science

One of the following

- Combined Science
- Triple Science

Religious Studies

GCSE Philosophy and Ethics

Core PE

The English Baccalaureate

- English GCSE
- Maths GCSE
- 2 x Science GCSE
- *1 x GCSE French or Spanish*
- *1 x GCSE Geography or History*

EBacc

English and Maths

- It is essential that every student gets the highest grade they can in GCSE English and Maths

- Students who do not achieve at least a grade 4 in English and Maths GCSEs are required to continue to study these subjects post 16

Languages

- Languages are hugely important in broadening pupils' horizons and improving their employment opportunities

- Languages are an 'integral part of the curriculum' and they 'equip pupils with the knowledge and cultural capital they need to succeed in life'

Ofsted Research Review Series: Languages (2021)

Points to Consider

CONTROLLED OR NON-EXAM ASSESSMENT

None Examinations only	Business, Computer Science, Economics, English Language, English Literature, Geography, History, Maths, Religious Studies, Combined and Triple Sciences, Sociology
25%	French, Spanish (Languages have Speaking Assessments)
30%	Media
40%	Physical Education
50%	Design and Technology, Food Preparation and Nutrition
60%	Drama, Music, Health and Social Care
100%	Art (40% is under controlled conditions)

Options Pathways

There are four options pathways, which are designed to suit and meet each individual student's needs. All students must follow one of,

- EBacc plus Triple Science and STEM enrichment
- EBacc (includes Combined Science)
- EBacc Plus (includes Combined Science)
- Non-EBacc (includes Combined Science)

Options Pathways

Ebacc plus Triple Science and STEM enrichment

- French or Spanish (or another approved language)

- Geography or History

- Triple Science/STEM enrichment

- One further subject choice

Options Pathways

EBacc

- French or Spanish (or another approved language)

- Geography or History

- Two further subject choices

Options Pathways

EBacc Plus

- French or Spanish (or another approved language)

- Geography or History

- EBacc subject support sessions

- One further subject choice

Options Pathways

Non-EBacc with English and/or Maths support

- French or Geography or History or Spanish

- Additional support sessions in English and/or Maths

- Two further subject choices

Options Pathways

- Based on the progress and other data for each student, they will be guided to consider the appropriate pathway(s)

- Suggested pathway(s) will be shared with families by email on Wednesday 11 Feb 2026

Pathway	Choice 1	Choice 2	Choice 3	Choice 4	Reserve
EBacc with Triple Science & STEM* Enrichment	Tick your choice French ☐ Spanish ☐	Tick your choice Geography ☐ History ☐	Triple Science		
EBacc	Tick your choice French ☐ Spanish ☐	Tick your choice Geography ☐ History ☐			
EBacc Plus	Tick your choice French ☐ Spanish ☐	Tick your choice Geography ☐ History ☐	EBacc Plus		
Non EBacc	Tick your choice French ☐ Geography ☐ History ☐ Spanish ☐	English and/or Maths support			

Students following the EBacc, EBacc Plus and Non EBacc pathways will study Combined Science which is equivalent to two GCSEs.

Arts Subjects	Humanities Subjects	Languages	Technology Subjects
• Art • Drama • Music • PE • Media	• BTEC Health and Social Care • Economics • Geography • History • Sociology *BTEC Health and Social Care not available to EBacc with Triple Sci pathway.* *Economics is only available to students secure in English and Maths*	• French • Spanish *If you have, or intend to, take a GCSE exam in a community language please see the next page.* *Where it has been agreed that a community language is being taken, students may also study a language in school or may choose another subject instead.*	• Computer Science • Design and Technology • Food Preparation and Nutrition *Computer Science is only available to students secure in Maths.*

- Design and Technology students will need to express a preference for either Textiles or Product Design

Next steps

- Students and families will receive details of their suggested pathway(s) by email on Wednesday 11th February
- Families will receive an email after half-term to register to use SIMS Options Online
- Families can either
  i.   Complete option choices online by Monday 2nd March
  ii. Request an options interview and complete the option choices online straight afterwards

- Individual interviews will begin during week commencing Monday 9th March

- Individual interviews are not necessary where there is accord regarding the guided pathway

Next steps

- To request an options interview - email
  options@qegschool.org.uk

- To enquire about community languages - email
  options@qegschool.org.uk

- To enquire regarding recommended pathways - email
  options@qegschool.org.uk

Option Choice Follow-Up

- Timetabling constraints may force minor changes
- Families will be contacted if first preferences cannot be accommodated – this is to agree alternative choices.

OPTION CHOICE CONFIRMATION

- Final letters issued to students with their options offer - after Easter

- No changes in September

Information available on the school website

- KS4 Options Handbook 2026-2028

- 'How to use SIMS Options Online' helpsheet

- SIMS Options Online Demonstration Video

- For each subject
  - Subject overview video
  - Subject information sheet
  - Subject FAQs

Using SIMS Options Online

- You will receive an invitation email from noreply@sims.co.uk. If you cannot find this email, please check your SPAM/junk folder before contacting the school.
- Best to sign out of all accounts first
- Click the **Accept Invitation** button

You're invited to start using SIMS Parent to manage your child's personal details at GreenAb. If enabled by the school, you can also view child's attendance, school reports, homework assignments and more.

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: **XVG9BTMRXT**

Using SIMS Options Online

- The **Activate Your Account** screen is displayed. The **Invitation Code** field is already filled with the unique code from your email.
- Enter your email address as **Username** and click the **Next** button

- Do not use the 'external account' option

Activate Your Account

So that we can confirm your identity, please enter your email address and personal invitation code.

Username

AdeleAbimbola@myexampledomain.co.uk

Invitation Code

XVG9BTMRXT

Next

Alternatively you may complete the registration using an External Account.

Register with an External Account

Using SIMS Options Online

- You will be asked to **Create a Strong Password**

- Once your account has been registered, you will need to validate it. Check your email account for an email from SIMS ID Registration

- Click on **Verify My Email** in the SIMS ID Registration email

- Click the **Sign In** button on the screen confirming your email address has been validated

Using SIMS Options Online

● Once the registration process is complete, users can sign in via the following URLs.

  ○ https://www.sims-options.co.uk (for Options Online)

  ○ https://www.sims-parent.co.uk (for checking and updating personal data)

Using SIMS Options Online

When you log in you will see your daughter's recommended pathway.

Home

📁 Student Choices – *Guest Student ()*

☁️ Save | 🖥 Show Notes | ⊠ Hide Notes

Pathway: Ebacc

This pathway is tailored to students who want to secure the EBacc with the flexibility to study a w
in Key Stage 3.

Students on the EBacc pathway will have the opportunity to study a language (French or Spanish)

For more information about subjects please look at the Key Stage 4 Options page of the school w

Queen Elizabeth's Girls' School

☁ Save | 📖 Show Notes | 🚫 Hide Notes

EBacc Language Choice

Please choose either French or Spanish. If you wish to study both languages the other will be available in the Open Choice List.

You have chosen [1 of 1] ✓ courses from this list

French GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Spanish GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course
ℹ This course is also available in Open Choice	ℹ This course is also available in Open Choice

EBacc Humanity Choice

Please choose either Geography or History. If you wish to study both subjects the other will be available in the Open Choice List.

You have chosen [1 of 1] ✓ courses from this list

Geography GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	History GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course
ℹ This course is also available in Open Choice	ℹ This course is also available in Open Choice

Open Choice

Please choose two subjects from the list below. For those that wish to take the STEM route, Triple Science should be chosen as one of the subjects from this list. Once you have chosen your subjects, you will then need to choose one reserve subject.

You have chosen [2 of 2] ✓ courses and [1 of 1] ✓ reserves from this list

Art GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Business Studies GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Computing GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve
Design & Technology GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Drama GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Food Technology GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve
French GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Geography GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	History GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve
❗ You have selected this course in EBacc Language Choice		ℹ This course is also available in EBacc Humanity Choice		❗ You have selected this course in EBacc Humanity Choice	
Media Studies GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Music GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Physical Education GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve
Triple Science GCSE Full Course	Reserve	Spanish GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve		
		ℹ This course is also available in EBacc Language Choice			

Priority Choices (Total Choices: 2)

Course priorities do not need to be sorted by order of preference.

1. **French** GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course EBacc Language Choice
2. **History** GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course EBacc Humanity Choice

My Choices (Total Choices: 2)

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

1. **Drama** GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course Open Choice
2. **Food Technology** GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course Open Choice

My Reserves (Total Reserves: 1)

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

1. **Design & Technology** GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course Open Choice

EBacc Language Choice

Please choose either French or Spanish. If you wish to study both languages the other will be available in the Open Choice List.

You have chosen (1 of 1 ✔) courses from this list

French GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Spanish GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course
ℹ This course is also available in Open Choice	ℹ This course is also available in Open Choice

EBacc Humanity Choice

Please choose either Geography or History. If you wish to study both subjects the other will be available in the Open Choice List.

You have chosen (1 of 1 ✔) courses from this list

Geography GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	History GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course
ℹ This course is also available in Open Choice	ℹ This course is also available in Open Choice

Open Choice

Please choose two subjects from the list below. For those that wish to take the STEM route, Triple Science should be chosen as one of the subjects from this list. Once you have chosen your subjects, you will then need to choose one reserve subject.

You have chosen (2 of 2 ✔) courses and (1 of 1 ✔) reserves from this list

Art GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Business Studies GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Computing GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve
Design & Technology GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Drama GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Food Technology GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve
French GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Geography GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	History GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve
❗ You have selected this course in EBacc Language Choice		ℹ This course is also available in EBacc Humanity Choice		❗ You have selected this course in EBacc Humanity Choice	
Media Studies GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Music GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Physical Education GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve
Triple Science GCSE Full Course	Reserve	Spanish GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve		
		ℹ This course is also available in EBacc Language Choice			

Priority Choices
(Total Choices: 2)

Course priorities do not need to be sorted by order of preference.

1 **French**
GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course EBacc Language Choice

2 **History**
GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course EBacc Humanity Choice

My Choices
(Total Choices: 2)

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

1 **Drama**
GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course Open Choice

2 **Food Technology**
GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course Open Choice

My Reserves
(Total Reserves: 1)

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

1 **Design & Technology**
GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course Open Choice

Using SIMS Options Online

▾ Parent/Carer Approval

☐ Parent/Carer Approval

Add any comments here

Using SIMS Options Online

Opportunities to ask questions

- Questions relating to individual subjects should be directed to the relevant subject lead

- FAQs and video overviews are available for each subject on the school website

A Final Message

- The best choices are the ones that fit your child's:
  - Interests
  - Strengths
  - Future goals