



## Year 9 Options 2023



### 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 have to 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

### PSHE & Citizenship



## The English Baccalaureate

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

All at 5 grade or above =





## 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 5 in English and Maths GCSEs are likely to be required to continue to study these subjects post 16



## Points to Consider

### CONTROLLED OR NON-EXAM ASSESSMENT

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



## 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

There are four option pathways:

**EBacc plus Triple Science and STEM enrichment** – This option is tailored to support breadth and academic success for students with a particular interest and aptitude in the Sciences, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) |

**EBacc** – This option is tailored to students who want to secure the EBacc with the flexibility to study a wide range of subjects. It is suited to students who have a secure grounding across the range of subjects in Key Stage 3

**EBacc Plus** – This option is tailored to offer additional support to help students to secure the EBacc. Students opt for one subject less, which provides time for additional support in the EBacc subjects. It is suited to students who have a developing grasp of the subjects studied in Key Stage 3.

**Non-EBacc with additional English and/or Maths** – This pathway offers support to students who may prefer a less traditional route through Key Stage 4. It offers greater flexibility in subject choice alongside additional support in English and/or Maths.



## 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 additional English and/or Maths**

- French or Geography or History or Spanish
- Additional support sessions in English and/or Maths
- Two further subject choices



## Options Pathways

- Based on the school's progress and other data for each student, they will be guided to consider the appropriate pathway(s)
- These are included on each student's profile in 'SIMS Options', the online platform used in the options process.



Pathway	Choice 1	Choice 2	Choice 3	Choice 4	Reserve
EBacc with Triple Science & STEM* Enrichment	French <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish <input type="checkbox"/>	Geography <input type="checkbox"/> History <input type="checkbox"/>	Triple Science		
EBacc	French <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish <input type="checkbox"/>	Geography <input type="checkbox"/> History <input type="checkbox"/>			
EBacc Plus	French <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish <input type="checkbox"/>	Geography <input type="checkbox"/> History <input type="checkbox"/>	EBacc Plus		
Non EBacc	French <input type="checkbox"/> Geography <input type="checkbox"/> History <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish <input type="checkbox"/>	Additional English and/or Maths			

*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
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Art</li><li>• Drama</li><li>• Music</li><li>• PE</li><li>• Media</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Business</li><li>• BTEC Health and Social Care</li><li>• Economics</li><li>• Geography</li><li>• History</li></ul> <p><i>BTEC Health and Social Care not available to EBacc with Triple Sci pathway.</i></p> <p><i>Economics is only available to students secure in English and Maths and cannot be taken with Business.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• French</li><li>• Spanish</li></ul> <p><i>If you have, or intend to, take a GCSE exam in a community language please see the next page.</i></p> <p><i>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.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Computer Science</li><li>• Design and Technology</li><li>• Food Preparation and Nutrition</li></ul>

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



## Next steps

- Families will receive an email tomorrow to register to use SIMS Options Online
- Families can either
  - i. Complete option choices online by Wednesday 1st March
  - ii. Request an options interview and complete the option choices online straight afterwards
- Individual interviews will begin during week commencing Monday 6th 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](mailto:options@qegschool.org.uk)
- To enquire about community languages - email [options@qegschool.org.uk](mailto:options@qegschool.org.uk)
- To enquire regarding recommended pathways - email [options@qegschool.org.uk](mailto: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 2023-2025
- '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@sim.co.uk](mailto:noreply@sim.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@myexampdomain.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



Student Choices – Guest Student ()

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

<b>French</b> GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course This course is also available in Open Choice	<b>Spanish</b> GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course This course is also available in Open Choice
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**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

<b>Geography</b> GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course This course is also available in Open Choice	<b>History</b> GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course This course is also available in Open Choice
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**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

<b>Art</b> GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	<b>Business Studies</b> GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	<b>Computing</b> GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course
<b>Design &amp; Technology</b> GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	<b>Drama</b> GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	<b>Food Technology</b> GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course
<b>French</b> GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	<b>Geography</b> GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	<b>History</b> GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course
You have selected this course in EBacc Language Choice	This course is also available in EBacc Humanity Choice	You have selected this course in EBacc Humanity Choice
<b>Media Studies</b> GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	<b>Music</b> GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	<b>Physical Education</b> GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course
<b>Triple Science</b> GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	<b>Spanish</b> GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	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	<b>French</b> GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course EBacc Language Choice
2	<b>History</b> 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	<b>Drama</b> GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course Open Choice
2	<b>Food Technology</b> 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	<b>Design &amp; Technology</b> GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course Open Choice
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## 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

This course is also available in Open Choice

**Spanish** GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

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

This course is also available in Open Choice

**History** GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

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

You have selected this course in EBacc Language Choice

**Geography** GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

This course is also available in EBacc Humanity Choice

**History** GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

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

This course is also available in EBacc Language Choice

Educating Women of the Future



## 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

Educating Women of the Future



## Using SIMS Options Online

### ▼ Parent/Carer Approval

☐ Parent/Carer Approval

Add any comments here



## Using SIMS Options Online

Home

📁 Student Choices – *Guest Student ()*



Save

Show Notes

Hide Notes



## Opportunities to ask questions

- Any general questions about the options process can be asked at 7pm in the hall
- 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