Wootton Upper School

Key Stage 4 Options 2026

Options

Aims

- To summarise GCSE and Level 2 qualifications and explain the options available
- To present guidance about progression routes
- To explain how to submit your option choices
- To offer guidance about the process and provide any necessary support

GCSE Qualifications

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- Grading system with 9 to 1 (not A* to G)
- No controlled assessment for non-practical subjects
- Written examination element in most subjects.
- Linear examinations with maths, science and languages offering tiered papers (“higher” grades 9 to 4 / “foundation” 5 to 1)

GCSE grades and where they take you

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You should aim to achieve at least grade 4's especially in English and Maths

If you do not achieve a grade 4 in English and/or Maths you will need to re-sit in Year 12.

Some refer to a 'Good pass', this equates to a grade 5.

GCSE grades and where they take you

Look ahead at where you may choose to go when you leave Wootton.

Some institutions will consider an APS (Average Points Score) of your GCSEs

Think ahead – where may you want to head next?

Entry criteria for Kimberley College 2026

SUBJECTS (W) Indicates subject taught at Wootton Upper School	**GCSE Average Point Score** English & Mathematics plus BEST 6	**GCSE English**	**GCSE Mathematics**	**Additional Subject Criteria**
Art (W)	4	4	4	5 in Art
Biology	5	5	6	5,5 in Combined Science OR Triple Science APS of 5 with a minimum of 5 in Biology
Business Studies	5	5	6	
Chemistry	5	5	6	5,5 in Combined Science OR Triple Science APS of 5 with a minimum of 5 in Chemistry
Computer Science	5	5	7	
History	5	5	4	
Law	5	5	4	
Mathematics	5	5	6	

Core Curriculum

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All students follow these subjects to GCSE:

- English Language
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- Combined Science (double award)
- French*

As well as:

- PE (non-examined)
- Philosophy, Religion & Ethics – PRE (non- examined)
- PSHE/Careers (non- examined)

French

Learning a foreign language is an essential part our students' curriculum.
It broadens horizons, supports wider literacy and language development, and is an exciting extra strand to a child's knowledge!

From this September, just as all our students study Maths, science, English and history or geography through to GCSE, the majority of our students will continue with French.

All students currently in language sets 1, 2 and 3 will continue with GCSE French.

All students should consider continuing with French. The small number who do not study French at GCSE will be allocated additional intervention English and maths lessons instead.

Option Subjects

Students are asked to choose 3 subjects

At least one of these choices must be Geography or History (although you may do both).

If you wish to follow Separate Sciences (separate Biology, Chemistry and Physics) then you will need to select this as one of your 3 choices.

Option Subjects

Wootton Upper School

- Geography
- History

- Dance
- Drama
- Music

- 3D Design (Art and Design) *
- Art *
- Graphics *
- Textile Design *

* Students may only select one of these subjects

- Business
- Computer Science *
- IT (BTEC)
- Food
- PE
- Philosophy, Religion & Ethics – PRE
- Separate Science *

* Entry criteria apply

Option Subjects

Separate Science - this is for our most able students who wish to pursue Science to a higher level.
You can still follow A-Level sciences without taking Separate Science.

The Maths content is significant in Physics and Chemistry papers.
If you follow this you will have a larger number of Science lessons (Core lessons + 1 option) – To take this option, you need to be competent at Maths (you should be in Maths sets 1, 2 or 3) and have achieved a high score in your recent Science assessment

Computer Science - challenging programming concepts and problem solving – need to be competent at Maths (in Maths sets 1, 2 or 3)

Subjects and class sizes

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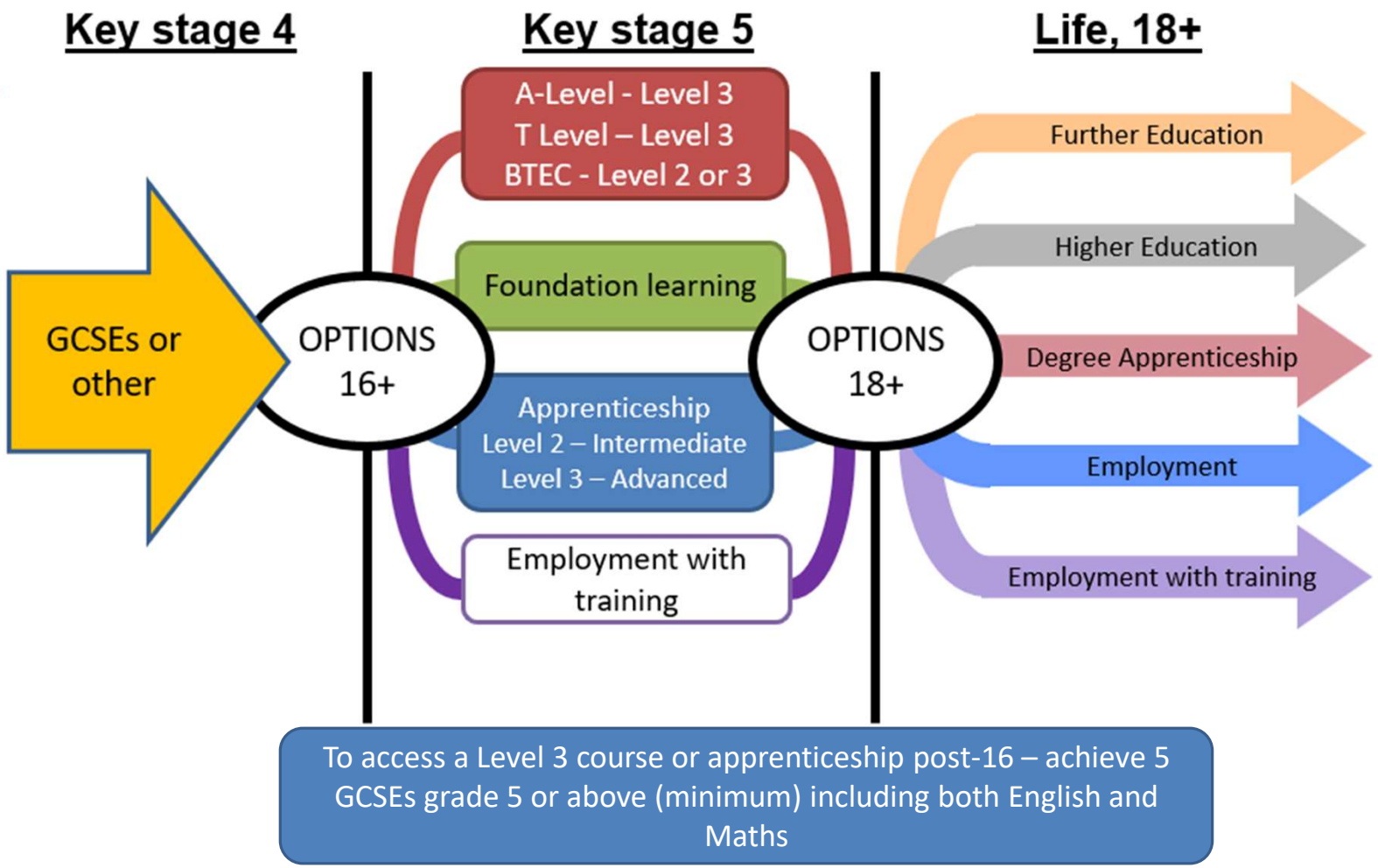
Maximum class sizes – there is a limit on the class sizes that we will allocate students to. Some classes are restricted by health and safety (e.g. Food), by the equipment available or a maximum group size.

Course selection – if a class has too few people selecting it then we may be unable to run it.

If a class has too many students selecting it, then we will initially use the subject priorities that students have ranked their choices by.

We will have a limited number of places/classes in some subjects.

Where do GCSEs fit in?



To access a Level 3 course or apprenticeship post-16 – achieve 5 GCSEs grade 5 or above (minimum) including both English and Maths

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How to choose your subjects?

Get as much advice as you can

Talk to your teachers

Talk to your parents

Talk to older students who have been through this process in the past

Do research into any possible career paths you may be considering

Choose subjects which will help you progress into post 16 education and onto university or employment

Choose subjects in which you have an interest

Choose subjects in which you are successful

Choose a balanced group of subjects

Do not choose a subject because your friend is taking it!

Options

Selecting your options

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Options choices will be submitted using an online form

You will need to select **ONE subject from each block.**

- One of your choices must be Geography or History
- Only one of: 3D Design, Art, Graphics and Textile Design may be chosen as a main subject.

Option Block A	Option Block B	Option Block C
Geography	Geography	Geography
History	History	History
3D Design	Art	Business
Art	Dance	Food
Business	Drama	PE
Computer Science	Food	Separate Science
Drama	Graphics	
Graphics	IT (BTEC)	
PRE	Music	
Textile Design	PE	
	PRE	

Option Blocks A-B are timetabled for the whole year group at the same time.

Option Block C is timetabled for half the year group at the same time, hence the need for less subjects/classes in these blocks

Options

Selecting your options

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You will need to choose 3 main subjects

You will need to select **ONE subject from each block.**

- One of your choices must be Geography or History
- Only one of: 3D Design, Art, Graphics and Textile Design may be chosen as a main subject.

Option Block A	Option Block B	Option Block C
Geography	Geography	Geography
History	History	History
3D Design	Art	Business
Art	Dance	Food
Business	Drama	PE
Computer Science	Food	Separate Science
Drama	Graphics	
Graphics	IT (BTEC)	
PRE	Music	
Textile Design	PE	
	PRE	

Main choices (Only one subject from each option block)

Rank Order	Block	Subject
1		
2		
3		

You will then need to put these in priority order

Options

Selecting your options - reserves

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You will need to choose 3 main subjects and then 3 reserves

You will need to select **ONE subject from each block.**

- One of your choices must be Geography or History
- Only one of: 3D Design, Art, Graphics and Textile Design may be chosen as a main subject.

Option Block A	Option Block B	Option Block C
Geography	Geography	Geography
History	History	History
3D Design	Art	Business
Art	Dance	Food
Business	Drama	PE
Computer Science	Food	Separate Science
Drama	Graphics	
Graphics	IT (BTEC)	
PRE	Music	
Textile Design	PE	
	PRE	

Main choices (Only one subject from each option block)

Rank Order	Block	Subject
1		
2		
3		

Reserve choices (Only one subject from each option block)

Rank Order	Block	Subject
1		
2		
3		

Reserve choices - Please do not duplicate any of the choices you have put as main choices.

You will also need to put these in priority order

Submitting choices online

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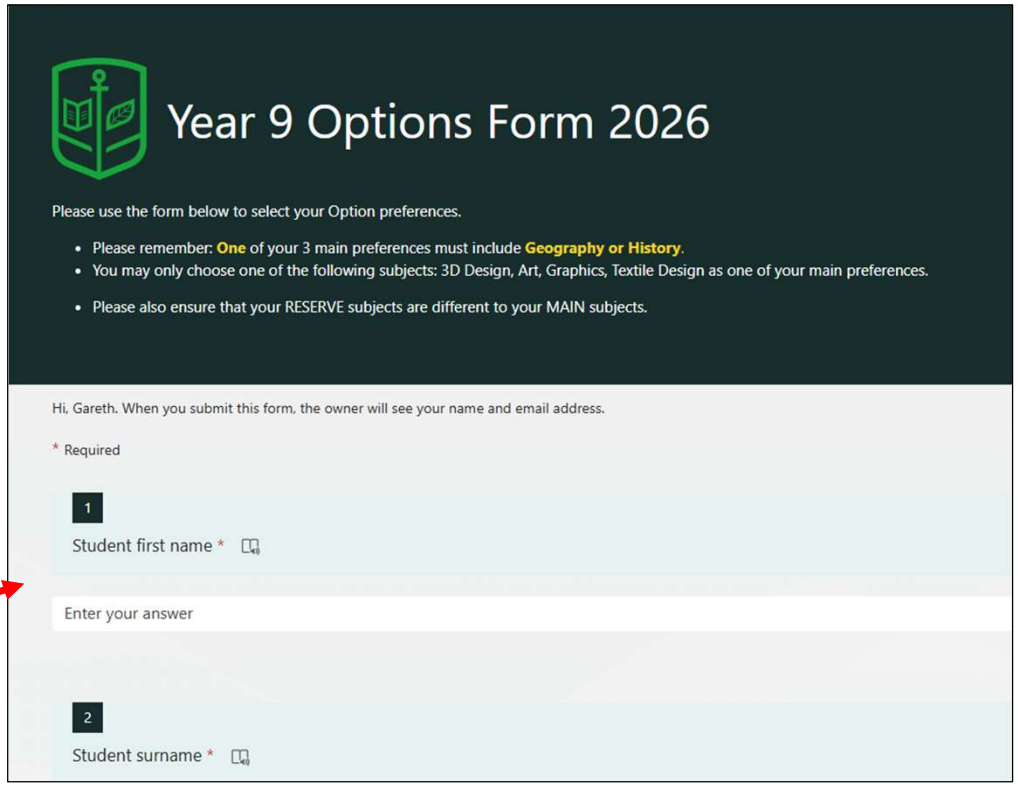
Log on to www.office.com using your school email address (as you do in your Computing lessons)

Load up Outlook

You will receive an email from Wootton Upper School

Click the link within the email

Enter your basic details



Submitting choices online

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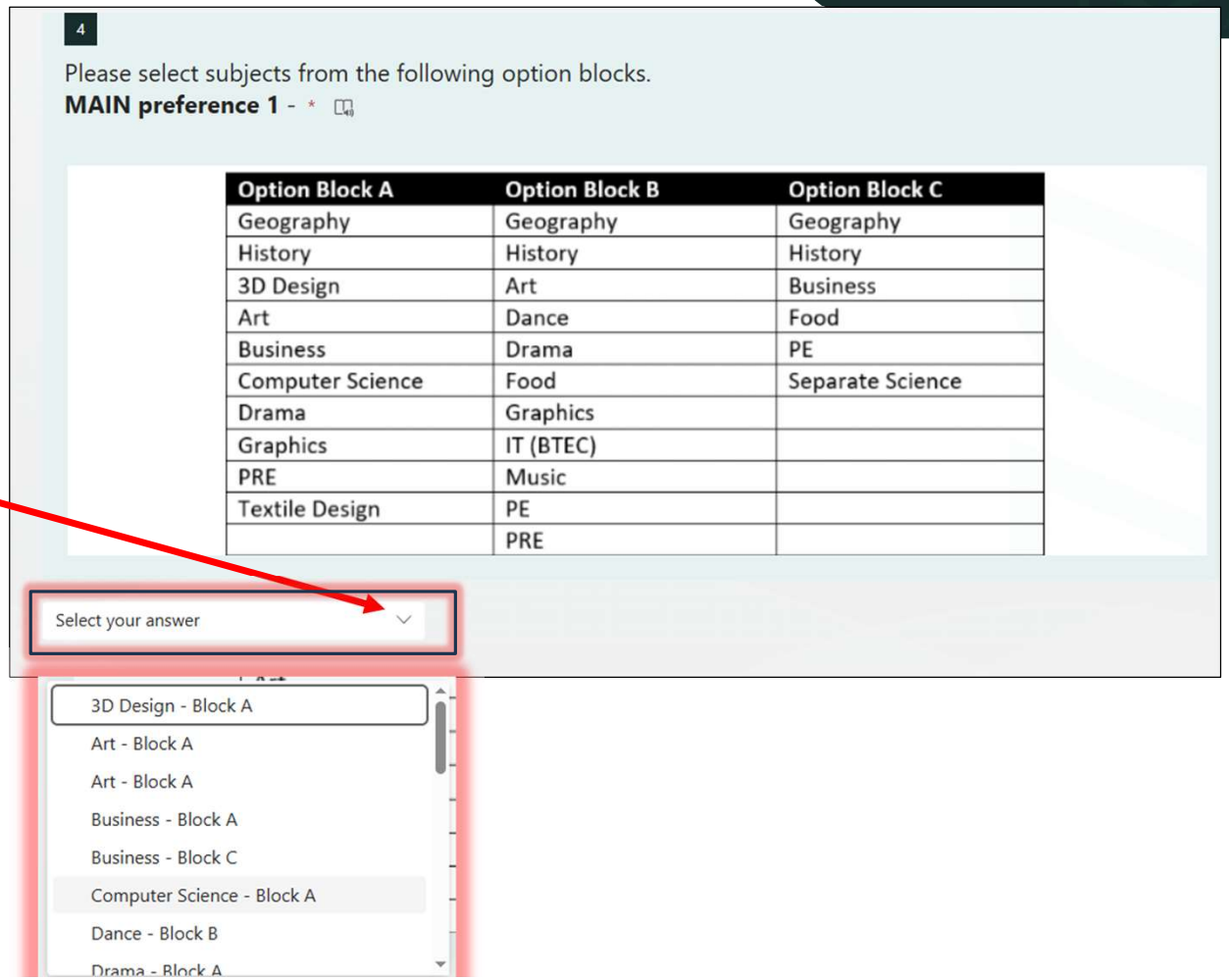
There is a copy of the option blocks and then a drop-down list for each of your preferences.

Click the arrow and all subjects (and block will appear)

Please scroll for all subjects



Submitting choices online

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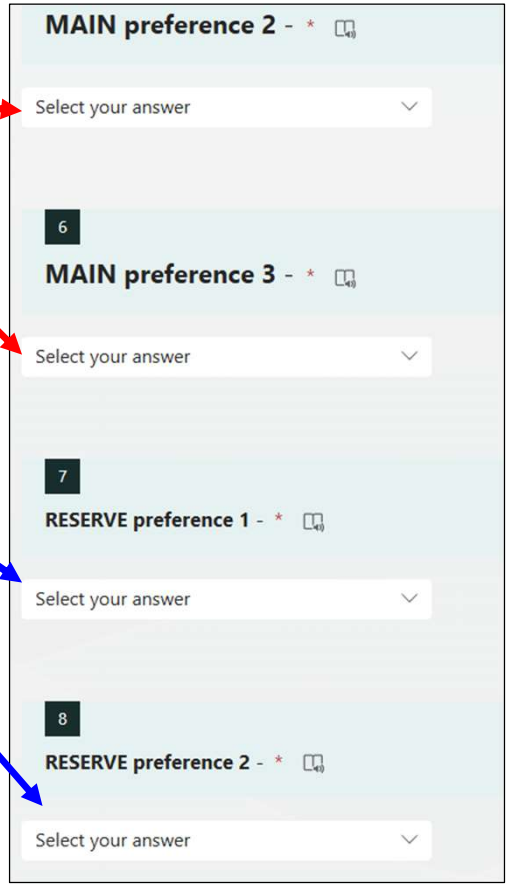
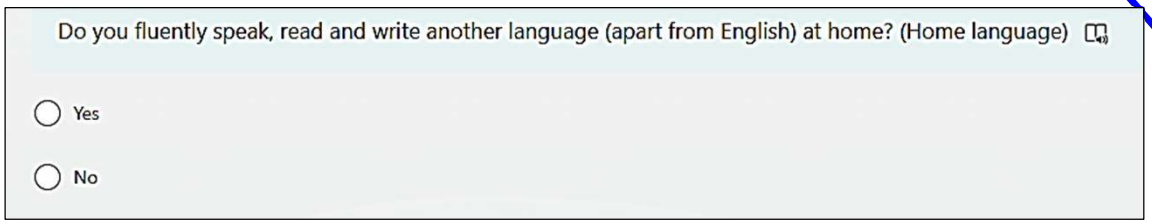
Work through the questions adding your 3 main preferences

Then add your 3 reserve choices

Then a question about 'home languages'





Submitting choices online

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Check you are happy with the selection (and order) and then click Save

Deadline: Friday 27th February

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What's next?

Information evening / subject fair	- Thursday 5th February
Parents/carers consultation event (please book appointments online)	- Thursday 12th February
Deadline for completion of options (online)	- Friday 27th February

Options

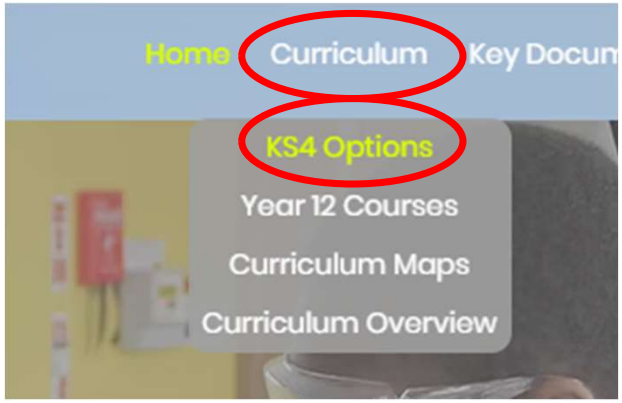
Where do I find out more information?

- Subject Fair
- Parents/carers consultation evening:
  - Speak to teachers (appointments now open)
  - SLT drop in
- Form Tutors
- Parents
- School website – options and subject information

Options

Wootton Upper School website

www.woottonupper.co.uk/ks4options



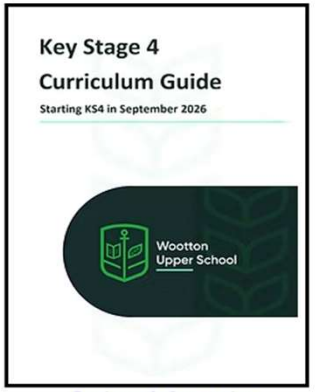
Key Stage 4 Options 2026

We are pleased to launch our 2026 Key Stage 4 (KS4) options information.

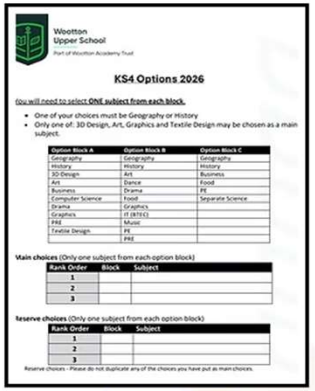
The information on this page is designed to support both students and parents/carers with this exciting time on the learning journey. This is the time when you can choose some of the subjects that you/your child will be studying in years 10 and 11.

The information shown below includes:

- Link to the **slides** shown on the presentation evening
- Options Information and Subject Booklet - this contains detailed information about the options process and subjects available to you
- Careers link - links to a variety of website with advice regarding making the right choices, university courses and potential career paths



Options Information Booklet



Options Form

Careers weblinks

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Subject information sheets

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Thank you

Options