

WOOTTON ACADEMY TRUST

Key Stage 4 Options

April 2023



Welcome

Purpose

To help parents/carers and pupils:

- Understand Key Stage 4 qualifications
- Know what options are available to them
- Make informed choices
- Understand the options process



Our Curriculum

To help we have designed a curriculum that is

- Broad
- Balanced
- Relevant
- Personalised

This accommodates the English Baccalaureate (EBACC)



We encourage you to be creative and adventurous, taking risks to expand your understanding



Your GCSEs

- Think about the style of learning that suits you best.
- Do you prefer:
 - Mainly theory-based subjects?
 - More practical-based subjects?
 - Subjects that allow you to express opinions and have more structured writing?
- GCSE courses are mostly 'linear' - exams take place at the end of the course.
- Other courses (BTEC/Cambridge Nationals) - have significant aspect that is based on 'controlled assessment' or 'NEA'



EBacc (English Baccalaureate)

- The DfE has acted on research suggesting that some subjects are better at facilitating more career choices than others.
- The EBACC recognises where students have received a good pass across a set of subjects.
- Students must gain a grade 5 (or higher) in the following:
 - English
 - Maths
 - Science - Combined Science / Separate sciences / Computer Science
 - History / Geography
 - Modern Foreign Language (MFL) - French/Spanish

*Almost essential for students wishing to apply to top universities
(i.e. think seriously about the implications of not taking a MFL)*



Languages?

Should I choose a language?

- The global tech industry is booming
- Languages give you the edge
- Employers know language students are quick learners
- Languages boost confidence



What will you study?

Core curriculum

Compulsory for all students

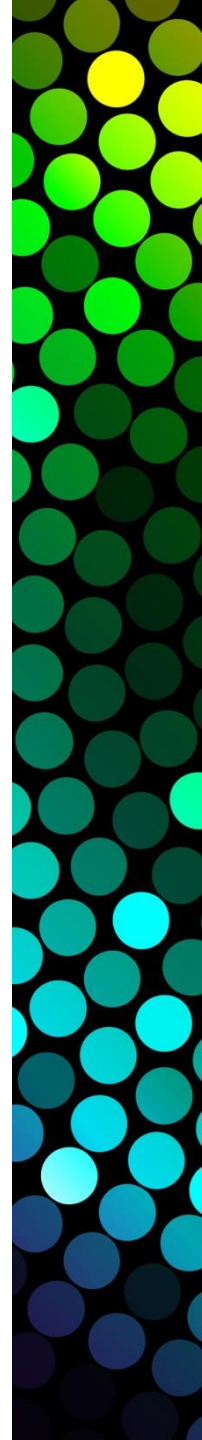
Optional curriculum

Four additional
qualifications



Core Curriculum (compulsory)

- English Language (GCSE)
- English Literature (GCSE)
- Maths (GCSE)
- Combined Science **or** Separate GCSEs
(Biology, Chemistry and Physics)
- PE (Core)
- PRE (Core)
- **PSHCE / Careers (non-examination)**



Core/Option Programme

- Students will be asked to choose if they wish to follow PRE through to a GCSE or undertake Core PRE lessons. Choose 1 of the following:
- **Choice 1:**
 - GCSE Philosophy, Religion and Ethics (PRE) - 4 lessons
 - Core PE - 2 lessons
- **Choice 2:**
 - Core Philosophy, Religion and Ethics (PRE) - 2 lessons
 - Core PE - 4 lessons
- (You may also take BTEC Sport as one of your main option subjects as well as Core PE)



Options subjects

Students will then choose 4 additional option subjects from the list on the next slide.

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



Options subjects

Students choose 4 option subjects from the list below.

- Art
- Child Development – **Cambridge National**
- Computer Science
- Creative Media - **BTEC**
- Dance
- Design & Technology
- Drama
- IT - **BTEC**
- French
- Geography
- Graphics
- History
- Music
- Separate Science
- Spanish
- Textile Design

To select **Separate Science** or **Computer Science**, ideally you should be an able mathematician

Number of lessons per fortnight

Subject	Lessons
English	8
Mathematics	8
Science	8
GCSE PRE / Core PE	4
Core PRE / Core PE	2
Option A	5
Option B	5
Option C	5
Option D	5
Total	50



KS4 Options – Why so much fuss?

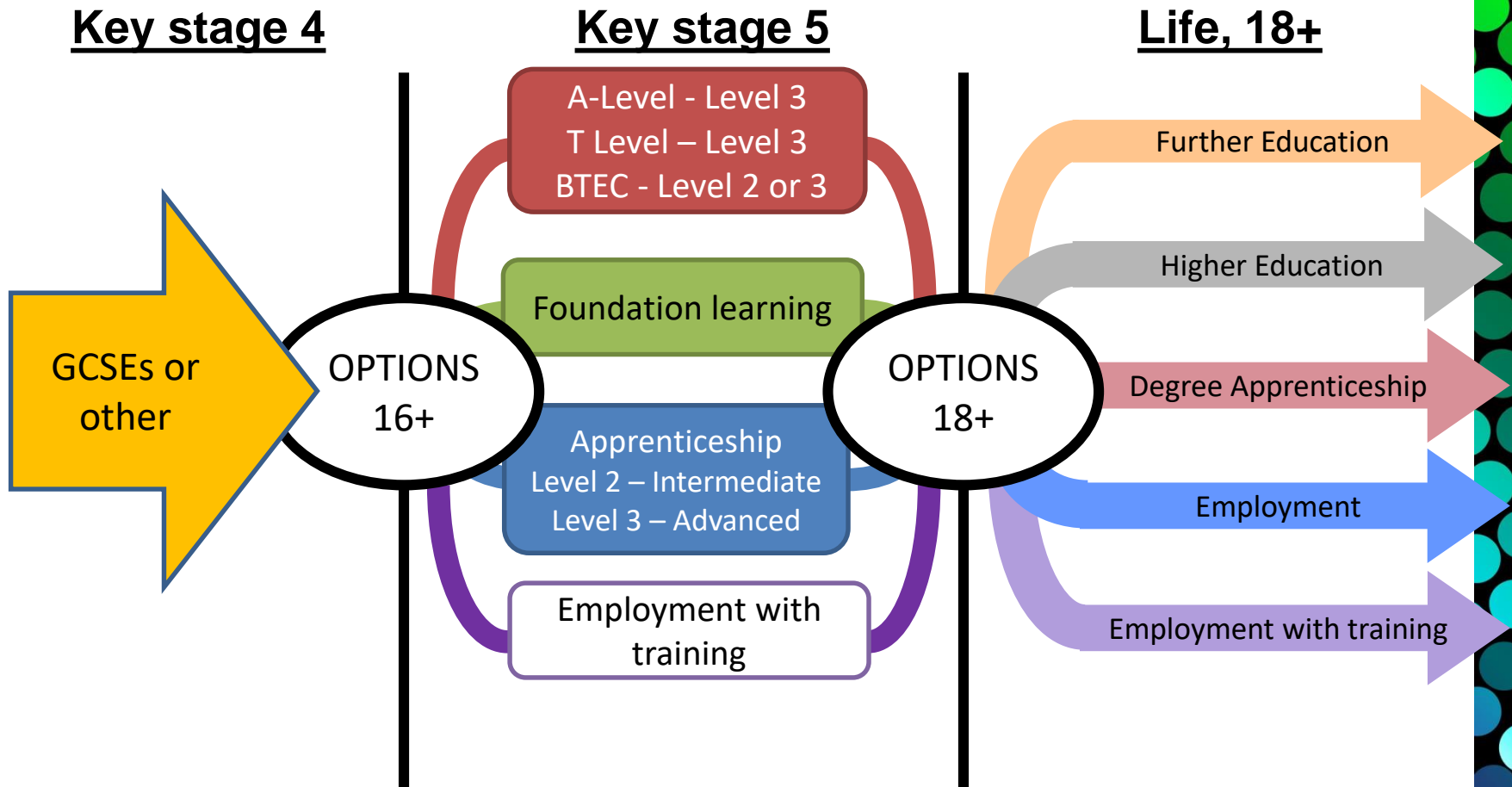
Competitive and changing job market

It is more vital than ever that you leave school thoroughly prepared with the **qualifications**, **range of skills** and **attributes** required for further study or for the fast-changing world of work and training.

Decisions made now may impact on opportunities available in future!



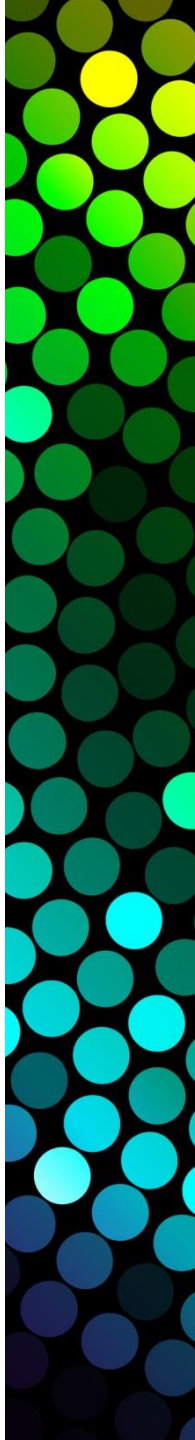
Where does this fit in?



To access a Level 3 course or apprenticeship post-16
– achieve 5 GCSEs grades 4/5 or above, including
both English and Maths

Making the right choices!

- Consider future aspirations
- Aim high
- Enjoyment & balance
- Skills
- Achievement



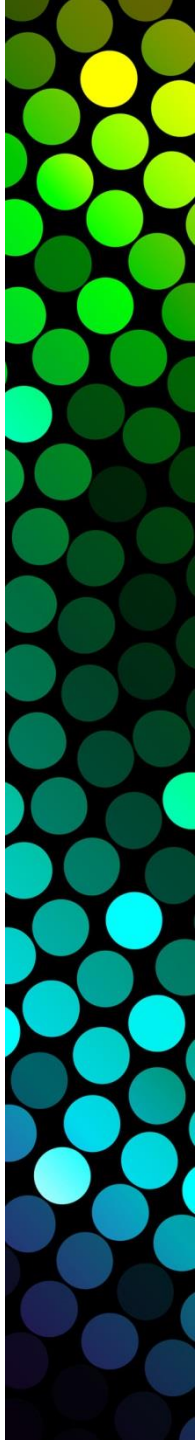
Future aspirations

- Choices now can impact on options available at further education, university and beyond
- They can also impact on Apprenticeship options available to you
- **No future idea on education/career options** – very important to choose a broad range of subjects, playing to your strengths/interests
- **Have an idea of what the future holds** – essential to research course qualifications needed for that career area and choose subjects accordingly



Future aspirations

- Subjects for you to carefully consider:
 - Art/Design
 - Performing Arts
 - Languages
 - IT
- To study any of these areas at A-level (and then university and beyond), you may have needed to take a subject in this area at GCSE



Top Ten Tips

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!

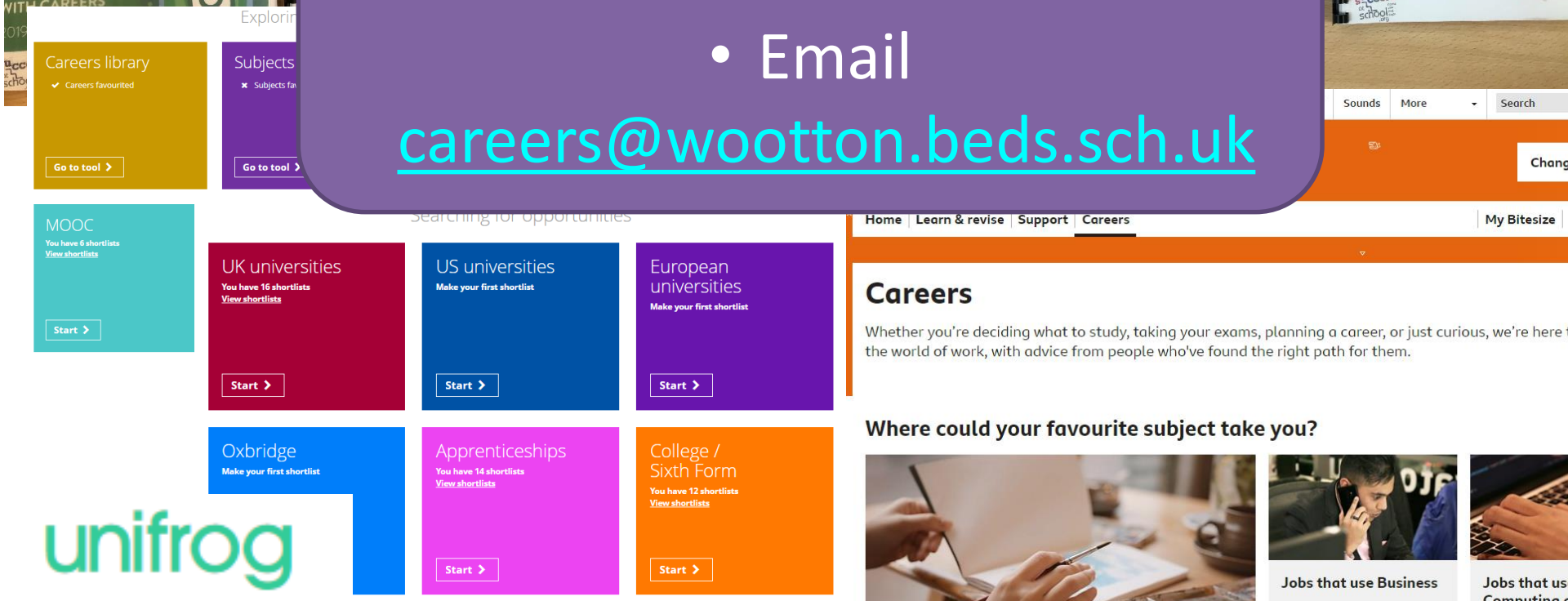




More advice needed?

- Email

careers@wootton.beds.sch.uk



Selecting your options

Step 1

Please tick 1 of these choices

GCSE PRE (4 lessons) and Core PE (2 lessons)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Core PRE (2 lessons) and Core PE (4 lessons)	<input type="checkbox"/>

Select one of these two choices



Selecting your options

One of your choices must be Geography or History

Option Block A	Option Block B	Option Block C	Option Block D
Art	Art	Child Development #	Drama
Computer Science *	Computer Science *	French *	Geography *
Creative Media (BTEC) #	Creative Media (BTEC) #	Geography *	History *
Dance	Dance	History *	Separate Science *
Design & Technology	Design & Technology	Sport (BTEC) #	Sport (BTEC) #
Drama	Drama		
Geography *	Geography *	Select one subject from each option block	
Graphics	Graphics		
History *	History *		
IT (BTEC) #	IT (BTEC) #		
Music	Textiles	* indicates EBACC subjects # indicates non-GCSE subjects	
Spanish *			

Main choices (Only one subject from each option block)

Rank Order	Block	Subject
1	B	IT BTEC
2	A	Geography
3	D	Drama
4	C	French

Selecting your options

Step 3

Reserve choices (Only one subject from each option block)

Rank Order	Block	Subject
1	A	Graphics
2	B	Dance
3	D	History
4	C	Child Development

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Select one reserve choice from each column

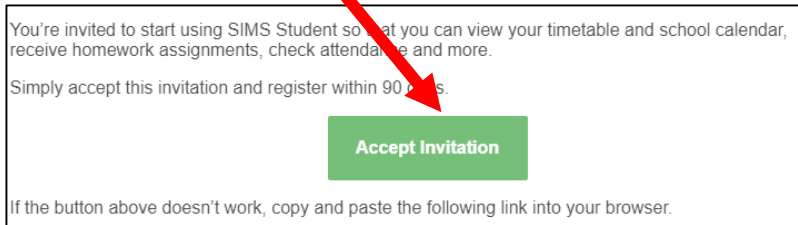
You will be able to rank these in order of preference



How to access Options online

Step 1 – log onto school email via www.office.com

Step 2 – you should have received an email from SIMS
Click **Accept invitation**



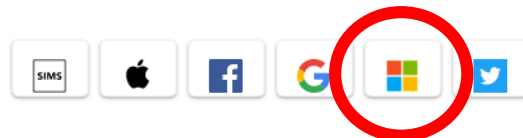
Step 3 – Click on **Register with an external account**

Step 4 – Then copy and paste the invitation code from the email and click **Register**

Step 5 – Enter your date of birth


Step 6 – Click on the Microsoft icon to sign in

Sign in to SIMS Options


A screenshot of the SIMS "Activate Your Account" form. The header shows the email "noreply@sims.co.uk" and "(No subject)". The form asks for a "Username" (Email address) and an "Invitation Code" (CRJR9643CG). There is a "Next" button. Below, it says "Alternatively you may complete the registration using an External Account." and has a "Register with an External Account" button. At the bottom, it says "Secured by SIMS ID" and "ESS Hosted Services: Check Service Status". A red arrow points from the "Register" text in Step 4 to this button.

Options online

www.sims-options.co.uk

 Save



GCSE PRE/Core PE











You have chosen 0 of 1  courses from this list

Core PE General

PRE GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

Option A

You have chosen 0 of 1  courses and 0 of 1  reserves from this list

<div>Art GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course</div> <div> This course is also available in Option B</div> <div>Reserve</div>	<div>Computer Science GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course</div> <div> This course is also available in Option B</div> <div>Reserve</div>	<div>Dance GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course</div> <div> This course is also available in Option B</div> <div>Reserve</div>
<div>Drama GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course</div> <div> This course is also available in other lists.</div> <div>Reserve</div>	<div>Design & Technology GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course</div> <div> This course is also available in Option B</div> <div>Reserve</div>	<div>Geography GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course</div> <div> This course is also available in other lists.</div> <div>Reserve</div>
<div>Graphics GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course</div> <div> This course is also available in Option B</div> <div>Reserve</div>	<div>History GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course</div> <div> This course is also available in other lists.</div> <div>Reserve</div>	<div>Digital Information Technology BTEC Tech Award Level 1/2</div> <div> This course is also available in Option B</div> <div>Reserve</div>
<div>Creative Media BTEC Tech Award Level 1/2</div> <div> This course is also available in Option B</div> <div>Reserve</div>	<div>Music GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course</div> <div>Reserve</div>	<div>Spanish GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course</div> <div>Reserve</div>

My Choices in Order of Preference

(Total Choices: 1)

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

1

Core PE

General GCSE PRE/Core PE

My Choices

(Total Choices: 0)

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

No courses selected.

My Reserves

(Total Reserves: 0)

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

No reserves selected.

Options online

www.sims-options.co.uk

GCSE PRE/Core PE

You have chosen 1 of 1 ☒ courses from this list

Core PE General

Choice

PRE GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

Option A

You have chosen 1 of 1 ☒ courses and 0 of 1 ☒ reserves from this list

Art GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

Reserve

i This course is also available in Option B

Computer Science
GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

Choice

Reserve

i This course is also available in Option B

Dance GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

Reserve

i This course is also available in Option B

Drama GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

Reserve

i This course is also available in other lists.

Design & Technology
GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

Reserve

i This course is also available in Option B

Geography GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

Reserve

i This course is also available in other lists.

Graphics GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

Reserve

i This course is also available in Option B

History GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

Reserve

i This course is also available in other lists.

Digital Information Technology
BTEC Tech Award Level 1/2

Reserve

i This course is also available in Option B

Creative Media

BTEC Tech Award Level 1/2

Reserve

i This course is also available in Option B

Music GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

Reserve

Spanish GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

Reserve

Options online

www.sims-options.co.uk

Option B

You have chosen 1 of 1 ☒ courses and 0 of 1 ☐ reserves from this list

Art GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reserve <small>This course is also available in Option A</small>	Computer Science GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course <input type="checkbox"/> Reserve <small>You have selected this course in Option A</small>	Dance GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course <input type="checkbox"/> Reserve <small>This course is also available in Option A</small>
Drama GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course <input type="checkbox"/> Reserve <small>You have selected this course in Option F</small>	Design & Technology GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course <input type="checkbox"/> Reserve <small>This course is also available in Option A</small>	Geography GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course <input type="checkbox"/> Reserve <small>You have selected this course in Option D</small>
Graphics GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course <input type="checkbox"/> Reserve <small>This course is also available in Option A</small>	History GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course <input type="checkbox"/> Reserve <small>This course is also available in other lists.</small>	Digital Information Technology BTEC Tech Award Level 1/2 <input type="checkbox"/> Reserve <small>This course is also available in Option A</small>
Creative Media BTEC Tech Award Level 1/2 <input type="checkbox"/> Reserve <small>This course is also available in Option A</small>	Textiles GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course <input type="checkbox"/> Reserve	

Option D

You have chosen 1 of 1 ☒ courses and 0 of 1 ☐ reserves from this list

Child Development OCR Nationals Award Level 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Reserve	Geography GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reserve <small>This course is also available in other lists.</small>
History GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course <input type="checkbox"/> Reserve <small>This course is also available in other lists.</small>	

Option F

You have chosen 1 of 1 ☒ courses and 0 of 1 ☐ reserves from this list

Drama GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reserve <small>This course is also available in other lists.</small>	Geography GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course <input type="checkbox"/> Reserve <small>You have selected this course in Option D</small>	History GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course <input type="checkbox"/> Reserve <small>This course is also available in other lists.</small>
Separate Science GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course <input type="checkbox"/> Reserve	BTEC Sport BTEC Award Level 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Reserve <small>This course is also available in Option D</small>	

Click on the subject in each block you wish to choose.

Click these in priority order.

Options online

www.sims-options.co.uk

Your subjects will appear on the right in the order you selected them.

To change, just click a subject and click the position that you wish it to move to in the list

My Choices (Total Choices: 4)

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

1

French
GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course Option C

2

Computer Science
GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course Option B

3


History
GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course Option B

4

Food
GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course Option A

4

Food
GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course Option A

 Click to move French here.



Options online

www.sims-options.co.uk

Then choose a reserve in each block (the subject changes to orange)
Again this is displayed in priority order

To do this, click the 'Reserve' button next to the subject

The screenshot displays the 'Options online' interface. At the top, a purple header bar reads 'Option B'. Below it, a status bar indicates 'You have chosen 1 of 1 courses and 1 of 1 reserves from this list'. The main area lists four courses, each with a 'Reserve' button. The 'Art' course is highlighted in orange, and its 'Reserve' button is circled in red. A pop-up window titled 'My Reserves' is overlaid on the right, showing a list of four reserves in priority order: 1. Art, 2. Graphics, 3. Business, and 4. Separate Science. The 'Reserve' button for the 'Art' course is also visible in the background.

Option B

You have chosen 1 of 1 courses and 1 of 1 reserves from this list

Course	Reserve
Art GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course <small>This course is also available in Option A</small>	Reserve
Dance GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve
Geography GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course <small>This course is also available in other lists.</small>	Reserve
Info.Tech BTEC Award Level 2 <small>This course is also available in other lists.</small>	Reserve

My Reserves (Total Reserves: 4)

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

- 1 Art**
GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course Option B
- 2 Graphics**
GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course Option A
- 3 Business**
GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course Option C
- 4 Separate Science**
GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course Option D

Options online

www.sims-options.co.uk

The screenshot shows the SIMS Options online interface. At the top left, there is a 'Save' button. Below it, a red validation warning banner states: 'Validation Warning: You have chosen too many courses from Option A.' The main area displays 'Option A' with a selection of courses. A red circle highlights the '2 of 1' indicator next to a red exclamation mark icon, indicating an error. A red arrow points from the 'Save' button to the 'Click SAVE in the top left.' text box. Another red arrow points from the error indicator to the 'If an error appears...' text box. The course list includes: Art, Design & Technology, History, Music, Child Development, Food, Info.Tech, Computer Science, Graphics, and Creative Media. Each course has a 'Reserve' button and a note about its availability in other options.

Click SAVE in the top left.

If an error appears – this means you have selected more than one subject in a block. Adjust your choices and click 'save' again

▼ Parent/Carer Approval

☐ Parent/Carer Approval

The parent/carers tick box has not been activated so please ignore this

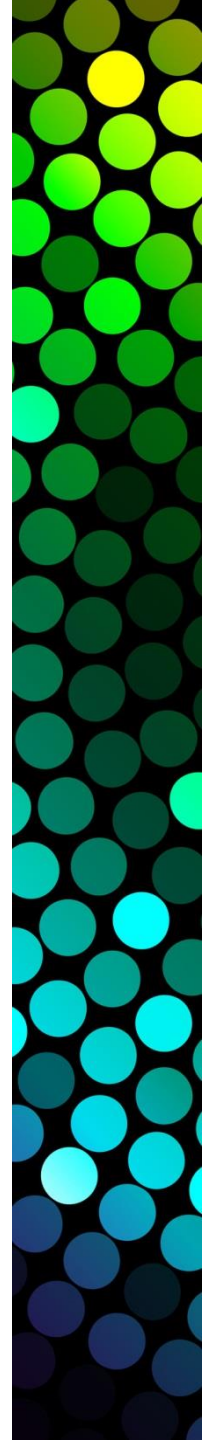
Where to get more advice?

Subject/Options information

- Subject teachers
- Form tutors
- Parents
- Mrs Ashby – Head of Careers –
careers@wootton.beds.sch.uk
- Subject Information and videos (school website)

Options online issues

- options@wootton.beds.sch.uk



Key Stage 4 Options 2023

Welcome to our KS4 Options Web page. The information on this page is designed to support you and parents/carers with this exciting time on the learning journey. This is the time when you can choose from the subjects that you/your child will be studying in years 10 and 11. Please read through the information carefully as the information in it will help you make these important decisions.



Options Booklet



Subject Booklet

WOOTTON UPPER KS4 Options Blocks 2023-2025

Name: _____ Tutor Group: _____

Please tick 3 of these choices:

Core PE (10 lessons) and Core PE (12 lessons)	Core PE (10 lessons) and Core PE (12 lessons)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please choose ONE option from each block.

One of your choices must be Geography or History.

Block 1	Block 2	Block 3	Block 4	Block 5
Computer Science*	Art	Design & Technology*	Music*	Physical Education*
Computer Science*	Art	Design & Technology*	Music*	Physical Education*
Computer Science*	Art	Design & Technology*	Music*	Physical Education*
Computer Science*	Art	Design & Technology*	Music*	Physical Education*
Computer Science*	Art	Design & Technology*	Music*	Physical Education*
Computer Science*	Art	Design & Technology*	Music*	Physical Education*
Computer Science*	Art	Design & Technology*	Music*	Physical Education*
Computer Science*	Art	Design & Technology*	Music*	Physical Education*
Computer Science*	Art	Design & Technology*	Music*	Physical Education*
Computer Science*	Art	Design & Technology*	Music*	Physical Education*

Mark choices (Only one subject from each option block)

Rank Order	Block	Subject
1		
2		
3		
4		

Reserve choices (Only one subject from each option block)

Rank Order	Block	Subject
1		
2		
3		
4		

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Options Form

[Click to view the subject information](#)

Options Booklet – all information about the process and choices

Subject Information – details about each subjects

Options blocks – the combinations that are available

Links to subjects – click to find out more

Video for each subject

Subject information

Child Development



Computer Science



Creative Media



Dance

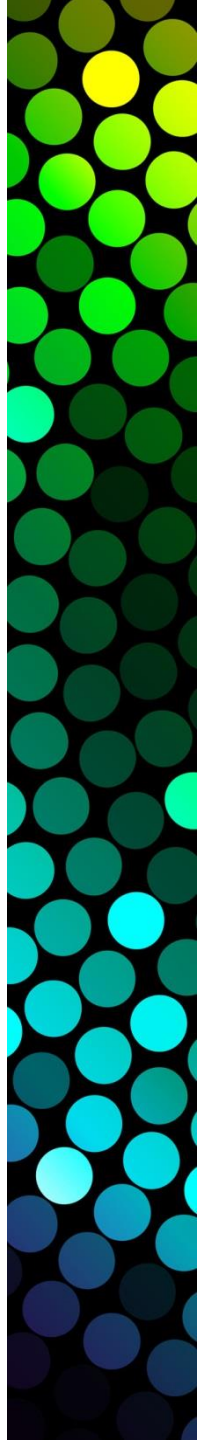


Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- Can we change our requests:

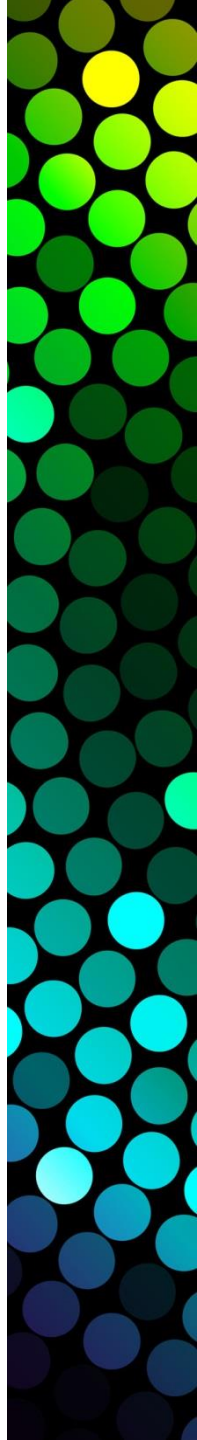
We will place a form on the website once the deadline has passed to request changes

- What is the latest date we can request a change?
 - We cannot accept any further requests for changes once the new timetable has been in operation for a few weeks (September 29th 2023).



Next steps

- We are sorry but Year 9 pupils will not be in school on Thursday 27th April.
- If you have queries, please email options@wootton.beds.sch.uk and we will respond further (either by email or phone).
- **Deadline for options is Friday 28th April 2023 – 09:00am**
- Please return your completed form to your tutor



Pupil Premium Team

If you have any queries you can contact us on
pupilpremiumteam@wootton.beds.sch.uk

Garrett McTernan
Pupil Premium Co-ordinator
Responsibilities;

- Teaching and Learning
- Connolly Foundation



Lucy Whitwham –Deputy PP Co-Ordinator

- Free school meals
- Uniform
- Attendance
- Well-being

Sophie Farrant - Deputy PP Co-Ordinator

- Resources
- ICT resources
- Enrichment
- Scholars programme



What is Pupil Premium

The pupil premium grant is funding to improve educational outcomes for disadvantaged pupils in state-funded schools in England. We have used evidence based interventions to ensure our students are supported at Wootton Academy Trust.

It aims to:

- supporting the high-quality teaching, such as staff professional development
- providing targeted academic support, such as tutoring
- tackling non-academic barriers to academic success, such as difficulties in attendance, behaviour and social and emotional wellbeing

Pupil eligibility

The following groups are eligible for pupil premium:

- pupils who are recorded as eligible for free school meals, or have been recorded as eligible in the past 6 years, including eligible children of families who have no recourse to public funds (NRPF)

Eligibility For Free School Meals

Your child could get a free school meal if you receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (as long as you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and you don't get more than **£16,190** a year)
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Universal Credit (with annual earned income of no more than **£7,400** after tax and not including any benefits you get)

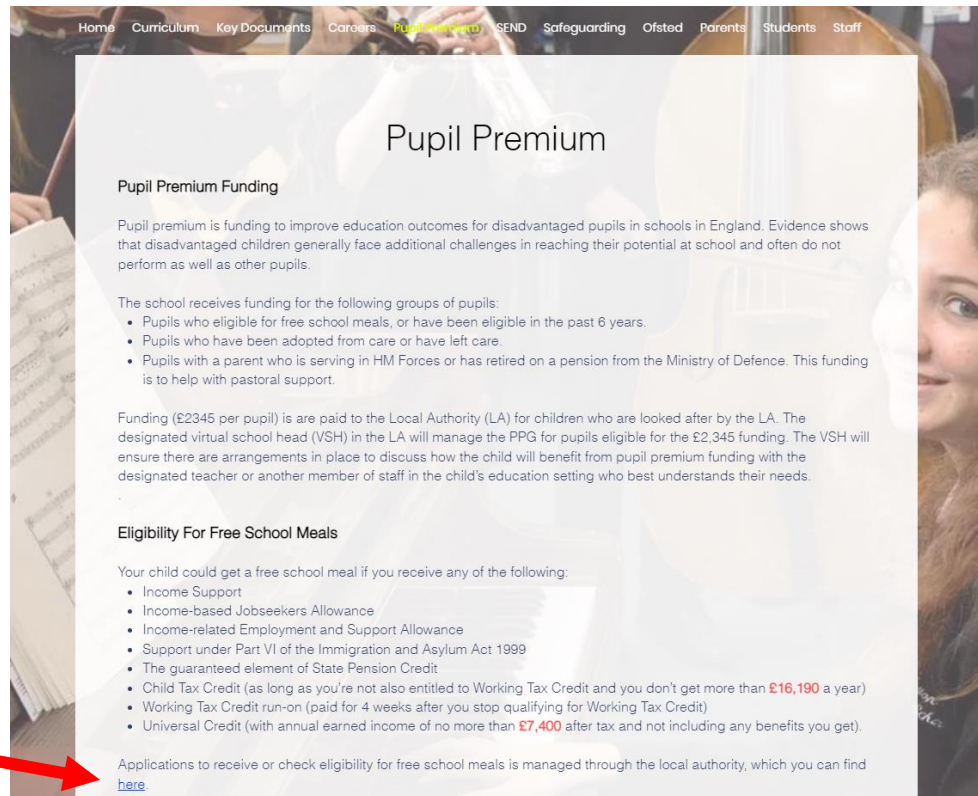
Some of the things we have used our funding at Wootton Upper School

- Tuition
- Subsidising trips (photos)
- Extra curricular activities – Scholars (photos)
- Academic resources (Laptops, equipment, guides etc)
- Well being support
- Supporting with Uniform purchases



How to apply:

Further information on **Pupil Premium** can be found on the school website.



Click here to apply

Thank you and good
luck with your choices