Y9 Options 2026 Parents

Pathway to Success

- All students need to leave Moor Park with appropriate qualifications
- Students need to be able to compete locally, nationally and internationally
- Competition for College and University places is tough. Students need to secure outstanding progress and attainment in KS4 qualifications
- To ensure that students secure the best possible examination grades to access further education, employment or training, all students will need to lay successful foundations by selecting the right options now

Types of Qualification & Combinations

GCSEs

The most common qualification on offer is a GCSE

Most GCSEs are assessed solely through exams at the end of the course, and a small number are still assessed through a combination of Controlled Assessment throughout the course & exams at the end of the course

BTECs and NCFE

Specifically tailored to build the skills necessary to successfully gain employment in the subject area. These qualifications are Government approved courses and are assessed through assessment in school throughout the course and between 20-40% exam at the end of the course

Compulsory courses in Years 10 & 11

GCSE English Language and English Literature (2 GCSES)

GCSE Mathematics (1 GCSE)

GCSE Science (2 GCSES)

GCSE Religious Education (1 GCSE)

Physical Education This is a non-examination course

PDWB including core ICT

Option courses in Y10 & Y11

In addition to the compulsory core subjects, students can opt for 3 additional subjects.
Students will choose 1 subject from each of the 3 blocks.

ONE of their options must be either:
Geography
History
Spanish

Students will have 2.5 lessons a week for each subject

It is very important that students choose subjects which will allow them to achieve their full potential. There will be lots of guidance to support students through this process

1	2	3

Monday 9th March	Options Assembly
Tuesday 10th March	Dedicated Options Area on School Website will launch.
Thursday 12th March	Careers information and Guidance Assembly
Tuesday 17th March	Selecting subjects for the options taster day
Wednesday 25th March	Options taster day
Thursday 26th March – Wednesday 22nd April	Options interview with a member of SLT
Monday 13th April	Year 9 options form will be launched on teams
Thursday 16th April	Year 9 Parents Evening and Year 9 student reports
Thursday 23rd April	Deadline for Option form to be returned on teams

YEAR 9	LEVEL 1/2 YEAR 10/11	LEVEL 3 YEAR 12/13	LEVELS 4/5/6/7/8 HIGHER EDUCATION	THE REST OF YOUR LIFE
SCHOOL	SCHOOL	SCHOOL OR FE COLLEGE	UNIVERSITY OR COLLEGE	WORK
Year 9 (Options)	GCSE'S	A levels	HNC / Higher Apprenticeship	Work and study (on-going)
		Advanced Apprenticeship	Foundation Degree / Dip HE	Work and training (on-going)
		NVQ	HND / Degree Apprenticeship	
		BTEC Certificate 1 yr	PGCE - Teaching	
		BTEC Diploma 2yrs	Bachelors Degree BA / BSC	
		T Levels	Masters Degree MA	
			Doctorate PHD	

YOU'RE HERE

Post 16

Level 3 courses

Level 3 courses include A-levels and advanced vocational qualifications. To access these pathways, schools and colleges usually expect a number of strong GCSE grades.

At **Cardinal Newman College**, A-Level courses typically require Grade 5 or above in both English Language and Maths, with some subjects requiring higher grades. For example, A-Level **Biology, Chemistry and Physics** usually requires **at least two Grade 6s in Science.**

Newman College level 3 BTec courses including Business studies expect at least five GCSEs at grade 4 or above, including a minimum of grade 4 in either English Language or Maths.

At **Preston College**, Level 3 courses— including **Public Services, Sport and Engineering**—generally require **five GCSEs at Grades 9–4**, including at least a **Grade 4 in either English Language or Maths**, and often **Science**, depending on the course. The other core subject typically needs to be at **minimum Grade 3**.

Post 16

Level 2 courses

For students who do not achieve the grades needed for Level 3 study, there are still excellent opportunities available. Students may begin with a **Level 2 qualification**, which provides a strong foundation for future progression.

At **Preston College**, entry requirements for most Level 2 courses are **four GCSEs at Grade 3 or above**, including **English Language and Maths**.

Level 2 courses usually last **one year**, after which students can move onto an appropriate **Level 3 course**, providing a clear and supported route towards further study or training.

ambitions & further education

How your child currently engages in the subject

Encourage your child to speak to teachers, parents/carers, older siblings and KS4 students about their plans

Reserve Choices. Students may not always get their first choice so think carefully about reserve choice subjects

Attendance & punctuality

Things NOT to consider

The teacher
We do not know who will be teaching the course for the next 2 years

Friends
They may be a great support, but your child may have different ambitions.

'Easy options'
The courses have been recently rewritten. Easy options do not exist.

Option Blocks

Option blocks will not be created until taster sessions have been completed. After the taster sessions students will be asked again what subjects they are interested in selecting. We will then finalise the option blocks.

Draft option blocks.

The option blocks were created based on staffing, student voice and allowing different pathways to be created.
These options blocks may change following the taster day and a final student voice collection

Block 1	Block 2	Block 3
GCSE History GCSE Geography GCSE ICT GCSE 3D Design GCSE Art GCSE Sociology	GCSE History GCSE Music GCSE Triple Science* GCSE Drama GCSE PE GCSE photography	GCSE Spanish GCSE Geography GCSE History GCSE Business BTEC Health and Social Care GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition

*The school will speak to students directly about the opportunity to student triple science.
There may be other pathways available for a small number of students. These will be discussed on an individual basis with the child and parent.

All options subjects are dependent on staffing and the number of students opting for the subject.

Some subjects have maximum numbers. If the subject is over subscribed fair decisions will be made

Key Staff involved in the process who you can speak to regarding options

Mrs Tolson
Mrs Roberts

Teachers

Year 9 Tutors

Staff completing the options interviews

Miss Ishtiaq
Mrs Roberts
Mrs Shallcross
Ms Aslam
Ms Allison

Monday 9th March	Options Assembly
Tuesday 10th March	Dedicated Options Area on School Website will launch. Here you will find lots of information about options including a copy of the options booklet and this presentation
Thursday 12th March	Careers information and Guidance Assembly
Tuesday 17th March	Selecting subjects you wish to try as part of our options taster day (form time)
Wednesday 25th March	Options taster day
Thursday 26th March – Wednesday 22nd April	Options interview with a member of SLT
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