



KINGS LANGLEY SCHOOL

Unlocking potential for life

Year 9 Options

2025-2027

Student and Parent Presentation

The Options Process

- Students have been looking at options and careers as part of their PSHE programme.
- Students and parents have been sent their suggested pathway.
- This presentation and the options booklet can be found on our school website. <https://www.kls.herts.sch.uk/home/curriculum/year-9-options/>
- Students and parents will have the opportunity to discuss GCSE potential in subjects with their teachers during the online parent consultation evening (Thursday 23rd January).
- Students should be using Unifrog considering any thoughts regarding their future education, or careers and making conscious decisions about their choices.
- Students and parents need to return the options sheet by Friday 14th February 2025.



Further Guidance

- Mrs Jennings is available to students during registrations and break times. Appointments can be booked by completing the sheets on Mrs Jennings' office door.
- If parents have any question regarding options, you can email Mrs Jennings using this email: jenningsr@kls.herts.sch.uk
- Using Unifrog can help students look at future careers and educational pathways. Students all have access to this programme <https://www.unifrog.org/sign-in>
- Ms Shannon and the form tutors are able to discuss issues and concerns with students, and point them in the right direction for any further support.



Before we go on...

FIXED MINDSET		GROWTH MINDSET
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SOMETHING YOU'RE BORN WITH• FIXED	SKILLS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• COME FROM HARD WORK.• CAN ALWAYS IMPROVE
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SOMETHING TO AVOID• COULD REVEAL LACK OF SKILL• TEND TO GIVE UP EASILY	CHALLENGES	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SHOULD BE EMBRACED• AN OPPORTUNITY TO GROW.• MORE PERSISTANT
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• UNNECESSARY• SOMETHING YOU DO WHEN YOU ARE NOT GOOD ENOUGH	EFFORT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ESSENTIAL• A PATH TO MASTERY
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• GET DEFENSIVE• TAKE IT PERSONAL	FEEDBACK	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• USEFUL• SOMETHING TO LEARN FROM• IDENTIFY AREAS TO IMPROVE
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• BLAME OTHERS• GET DISCOURAGED	SETBACKS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• USE AS A WAKE-UP CALL TO WORK HARDER NEXT TIME.

Are you a growth or fixed mindset person?



How will you support your child with their options process?

“

“SHE
TAUGHT ME
THAT FEAR
IS NOT AN
OPTION.”

DIANE VON FURSTENBERG,
ON HER MOM



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KS4 Pathways

- There are two pathways: English Baccalaureate and non-English Baccalaureate.
- Pathways were allocated on overall ability and/ or flair for languages. (i.e. students who should achieve a grade 5 or above based on their year 9 data)
- Each pathway requires students to study 10 GCSEs as we have a focus on student entitlement to breadth of curriculum.
- Therefore if your child wishes to swap from the non-English Baccalaureate pathway to study a language, this is possible and you just change your options form.
- Every child, regardless of ability, has access to the same breadth of subjects as options are not allocated on ability.



Compulsory Subjects For All

Every student will follow a National Curriculum Core Programme in:

- English Language and Literature
- Mathematics
- Double Science



Compulsory Subject For All

Every student will study The Foundation Programme

This consists of :

Personal Social and Health Education (PSHE)

- This is used to deliver the relationships and sex education, and careers and guidance National programmes of study, as well as developing awareness of other issues and supporting our character programme

Physical Education (P.E.)

- This is part of our healthy school and well-being focus

Religious Education (R.E.)

- This is a GCSE qualification and supports students understanding in other subjects such as English literature, history, drama, art



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Non - English Baccalaureate Pathway

Students following this pathway will have a:

- Choice of: History or Geography
- Choice of: Food preparation and nutrition,
Design and technology
Drama
Physical Education
or Art and design
- Choice of 2 courses from the 'free option' block



English Baccalaureate Pathway

Students following this pathway will :

- Continue studying either French or Spanish
- A choice of: History or Geography
- A choice of: Food preparation and nutrition,
Design and technology
Drama
Physical Education
or Art and design
- A choice of 1 course from the 'free option' block



'Free Option' block

The subjects available to students in this area include:

- Art and design
- Business
- Computer science* (Must be at least a grade 5)
- Drama
- Geography
- History
- Music
- Physical Education
- Triple science* (Must be at least a grade 5)



Non - English Baccalaureate Pathway Option Form

National curriculum core programme	English Language and Literature Mathematics Double science	
Foundation programme	Core PE PSHE RE	
Option 1	Pick one: History Geography	Choice:
Option 2	Pick one: Food Preparation and Nutrition Design and Technology Art and design Drama Physical Education	Choice: Reserve choice:
Options 3 & 4	Choose two from the following: Art and design Business and communications systems Computer science - must be at least a secure pathway 5 Drama Geography History Music Physical education Triple science - must be at least a secure pathway 5	1st Choice: 2nd Choice: Reserve choice:

English Baccalaureate Pathway Option Form

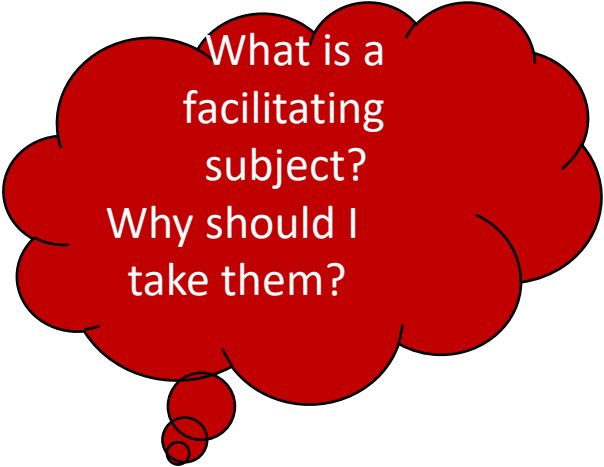
National curriculum core programme	English Language and Literature Mathematics Double science	
Foundation programme	Core PE PSHE RE	
Option 1	Pick one: History Geography	Choice:
Option 2	Pick one: Food Preparation and Nutrition Design and Technology Art and design Drama Physical Education	Choice: Reserve choice:
Option 3	Pick one: French Spanish	
Option 4	Choose one from the following: Art and design Business and communications systems Computer science - must be at least a secure pathway 5 Drama Geography History Music Physical education Triple science - must be at least a secure pathway 5	Choice: Reserve choice:

Points to consider

- It is not first come, first served – all data is entered into the system together, so use the time to make your decisions.
- If you do not return your form on time, you will be left with the subjects that have spaces.
- Subjects can only be offered if there is enough interest – groups below 20 are extremely unlikely to run.
- Where subjects are over-subscribed, groups will be decided by looking at clashes students have elsewhere; attitude to learning scores, and computer random generated. The school will look at running additional groups, but these may not be possible, so waiting lists will be created.
- Not all students will get their choices, you may get a reserve choice so please be careful when choosing. We endeavour to give everyone their choices but this is not possible balancing 204 students.
- Please do not repeat subjects in the reserve choices i.e. picking art in option 2 and then choose art as reserve option in option 4, as the computer could allocate you this twice!
- Triple science and computer studies – please make sure you reach the requirements.



Other things to consider:



What is a
facilitating
subject?
Why should I
take them?

- Biology
- Chemistry
- English Literature
- French
- Geography
- History
- Maths, further maths
- Physics
- Spanish

University of Birmingham
University of Bristol
University of Cambridge
Cardiff University
Durham University
University of Edinburgh
University of Exeter
University of Glasgow
Imperial College London
King's College London
University of Leeds
University of Liverpool
London School of Economics
and Political Science
University of Manchester
Newcastle University
University of Nottingham
University of Oxford
Queen Mary University of London
Queen's University Belfast
University of Sheffield
University of Southampton
University College London
University of Warwick
University of York



What is a
Russell
Group
University?

Doing your research

Starting top down

- If your child knows what they what to do, consider what qualifications they need to enter that profession.
- Think about all the different ways to enter the profession and at what levels this can be done from.
- What qualifications are needed?
Degree, level 3 courses or A level, level 2 courses or GCSEs
- How will your child obtain the relevant qualification?
University, apprenticeship, sixth form, college
- To obtain that qualification, what GCSEs do you have to have/
would be considered useful?



SUBJECTS



Choose what
you enjoy



Choose what
you're good at



Choose subjects
related to your degree



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Dates to Remember

Thursday 23rd January 2025

Year 9 Parent Consultation Evening

Friday 17th January until Wednesday 12th February 2025

Ms Shannon and Mrs Jennings are available to answer any further questions

Friday 14th February 2025

Deadline for choices forms to be returned to Mrs Jennings via form tutors

JUNE/JULY 2025

Students will receive confirmation of options

If students have changed their minds or wish to switch, there will be a form to complete and hand into Mrs Jennings. This is first come – first served

Tuesday 30th September 2025

This is the last date for switching subjects.



Questions to
jenningsr@kls.herts.sch.uk

Thank you and good luck!

