



Range High
School

Year 9 Options Assembly

CHALLENGE ♦ SUPPORT ♦ FLOURISH

WELCOME

Getting the best out of KEY STAGE 4

and making the best choices for your future



1) What subjects can you study?

Overview of compulsory and optional courses



2) The options process

How choices are made and key milestones
milestones



3) Support this half term

Resources, events, and who can help

COMPULSORY SUBJECTS

You will have to continue to study:



Maths



English (Literature and Language)



Science (Double award or Separates)



Citizenship (Year 10)

- ⓘ You will also all do PE and RE but not as a GCSE.

Choose your pathways

✓ Study 3 of



BTEC & Cambridge Nationals

- Business Enterprise
- Engineering Design
- Child development
- Digital Information Technology
- Music Practice
- Sports Science
- Science



Traditional GCSEs GCSEs

- Art
- Computer Science
- Drama
- Food preparation and nutrition
- History
- Photography
- RE
- Separate Science (choose Physics as one of your options)
- Business Studies
- Dance
- Design and Technology
- Geography
- Media Studies
- Languages
- PE

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN

BTEC/Cambridge National vs GCSE



BTEC/Cambridge National

Vocational courses

- More coursework than GCSEs
- Includes some written examinations
- Assessment across the 2 years



GCSE

Academic Courses

- More written exams than practical work
- Assessment mainly at the end of 2 years
- Some (e.g., Art & Design) involve more coursework

ⓘ This will be covered in detail in the next careers hour.

Do Choose A Course vs Don't Choose A Course

✓ Do Choose A Course Because:

- You enjoy the subject and are curious to learn more
- It matches your strengths and interests
- It supports your future goals or keeps options open
- You've researched the content and assessment style
- Teacher feedback suggests it's a good fit

✗ Don't Choose A Course Because:

- Your friends are choosing it
- You think it will be easy
- You like the teacher this year
- Someone else decided for you
- It helps avoid another subject rather than choose well

KEY FACTORS



Key Announcement



Option form goes live

Friday 16th January 2026

Announcement

Information Booklet Details



Key details for choosing your options at Key Stage 4



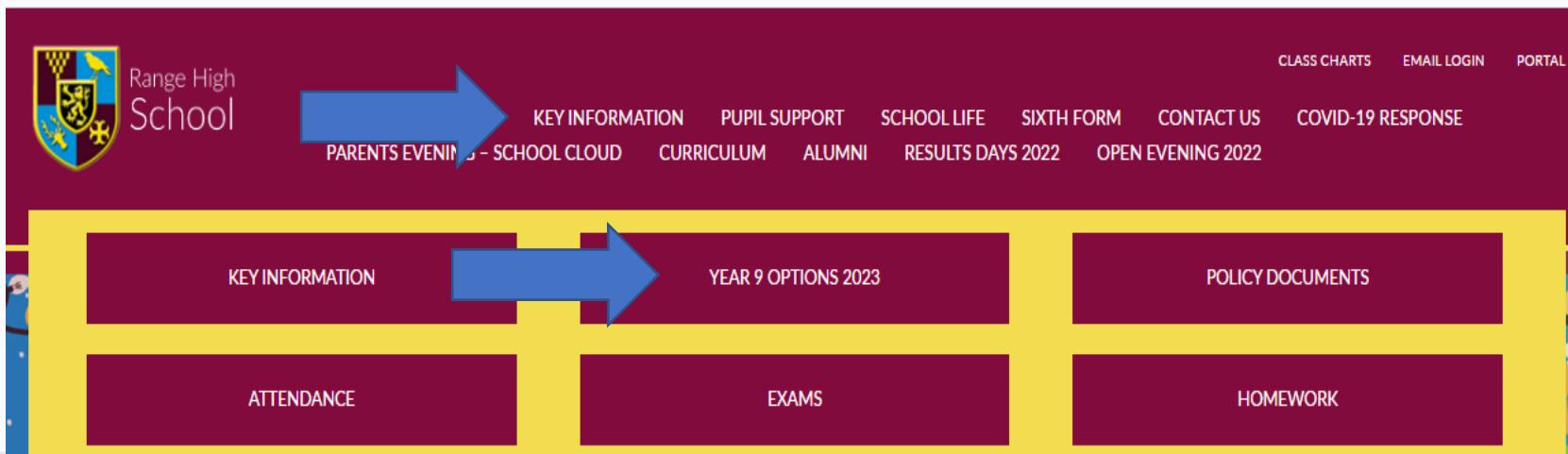
Covers all courses

courses

■ Subjects, Content and Assessments

On school website

- Find it under KEY INFORMATION / YEAR 9 OPTIONS 2026
2026



How your option choices work



Important guidance

Read carefully before submitting your choices

Number of choices - Enter 5 option choices (4 if taking separate sciences)

☛ **Free choice system** - We do not use option blocks; timetabling is built from student choices

⚠ **Availability** - Not all students are guaranteed their first 3 choices



Enter subjects in order of preference

List your most preferred option first to help us allocate places fairly

Support timeline



**This week &
Next week**

GCSE taster
sessions in
lessons



**Thu 15th
January**

Year 9 options
Marketplace
Evening



**End of
January**

Careers hours
in citizenship
lessons



**Thu 5th
February**

Year 9
Parents'
Evening

Event details

Bring your Parents



Thursday 15th January

Year 9 Options Marketplace Evening

Encourage your parents to attend.



Location

Canteen and Arts Theatre



Staff available

- ✓ Career advisor
- ✓ Head of year
- ✓ Leadership team
- ✓ SENDCo
- ✓ Heads of Department

KEY STAFF

Who to speak to



Mr Tees

Assistant Headteacher, Curriculum and Assessment



Mrs Phillips

Deputy Headteacher 14-19
Education and Sixth Form



Ms Gooding

Head of Careers



Mr Ficorilli

Independent Careers advisor
advisor



Mrs Pepper

SEN Co-ordinator



YOUR SUBJECT TEACHERS

For subject-specific guidance

DEADLINE DATE

Final submission

Important



Friday 13th February 2026

The final deadline for options



PLEASE DO NOT RUSH YOUR CHOICES

OPTIONS ARE NOT DONE ON A FIRST COME FIRST SERVED BASIS

CONTACT



Email

options@range.sefton.sch.uk