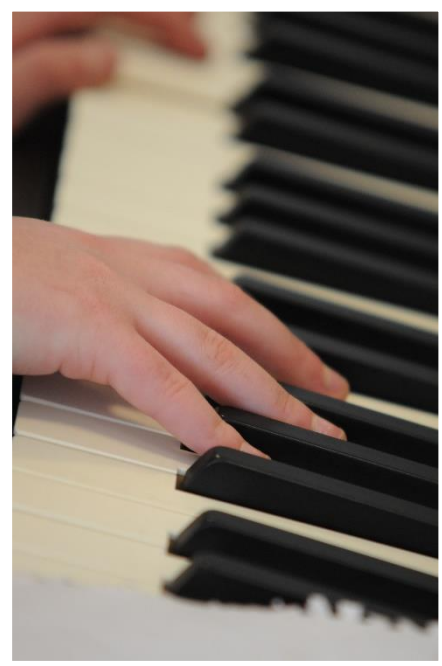


KS4 Options 2024





Key Dates



Wednesday 24th January

Options Launch Assembly

Monday 29th January

Year 9 Report Issued

Tuesday 30th January

Options Booklet online

Tuesday 30th January

Bookings open for the 8th

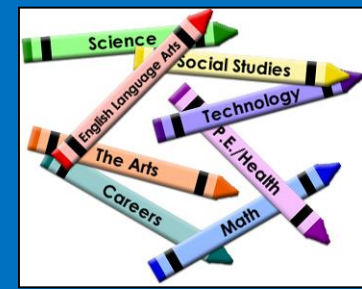
Thursday 8th February

Parent/Carer Evening

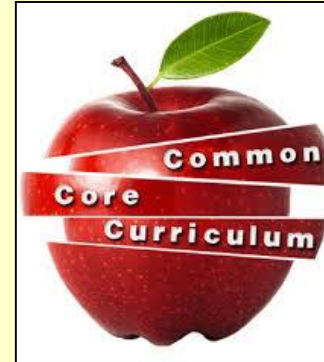
Wednesday 28th February

Option Form Submission

Core Curriculum



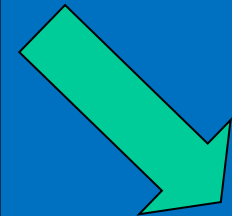
English Language
English Literature
Maths
RE



Science * **Combined Science (2 GCSEs)**

A small group of selected students will study Separate Sciences. These courses will cover more content, and at a faster pace. Students will be expected to consolidate their understanding through extra home learning and independent revision.

PSHE/RSE (Not GCSE)
PE (Not GCSE)



6
GCSEs

English Baccalaureate (EBacc)

The government's ambition is to see **90%** of pupils studying the EBacc subject combination at GCSE by 2025

This EBacc combination is:

- English Language **and** Literature
- Mathematics
- Science - Combined Science, 3 single Sciences or Computer Science
- **Geography or History**
- **One MFL (Spanish or Mandarin)**



English



Geography **OR** History



Mathematics



Modern Languages



Science

Why study a MFL at GCSE?

Spanish is a global language and is the official language in 20 countries. It is spoken throughout South America, and on many island such as the Balearics and the Canaries.

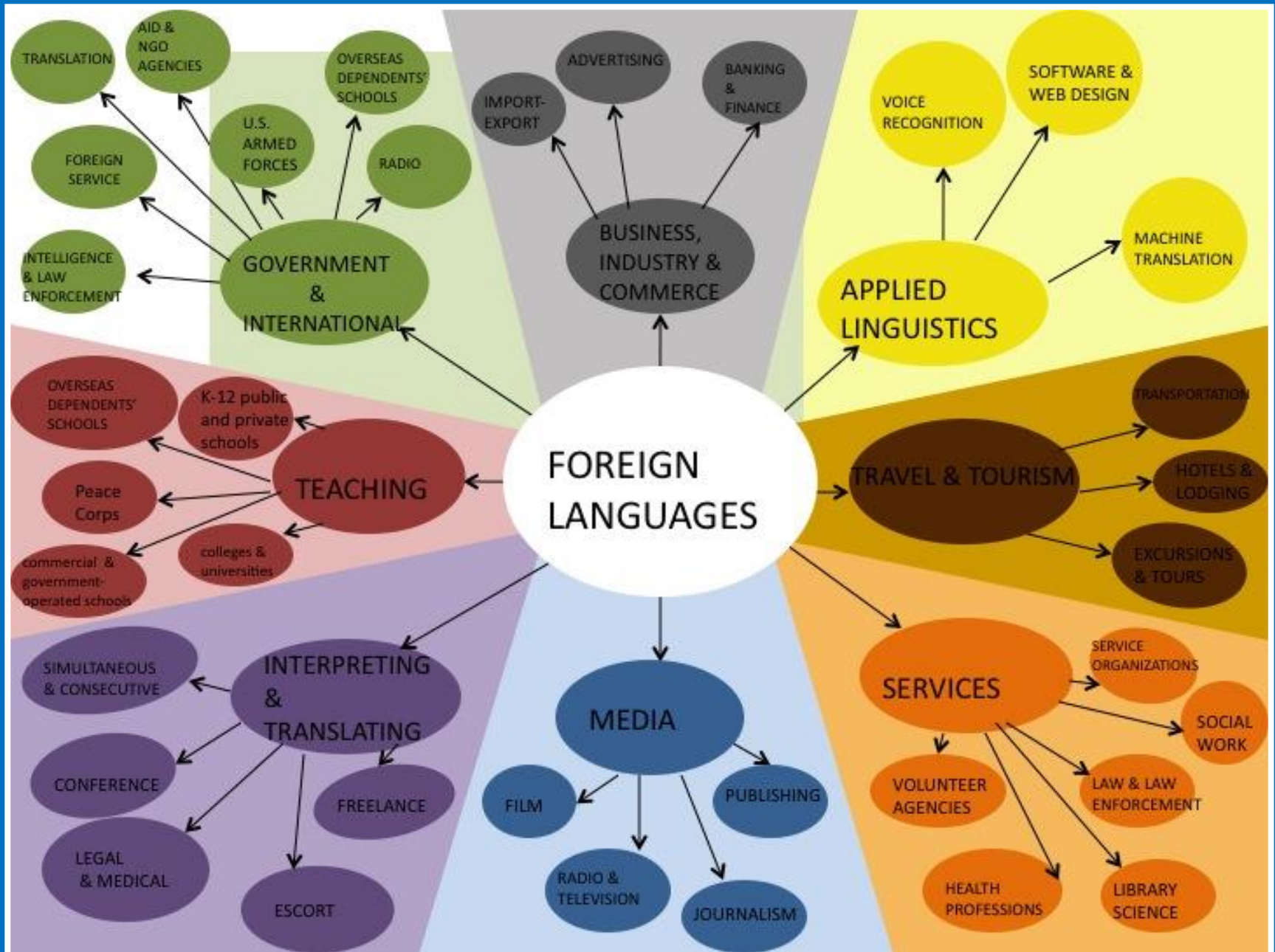
It is also the second most native spoken language globally, only behind **Mandarin Chinese**, which has roughly 955 million speakers.



Why study a MFL at GCSE?



MFL and Future Job Opportunities



Choose a broad and balanced curriculum



We offer the EBACC combination to all pupils -this is **NOT** compulsory but **highly recommended**.

As a minimum you must choose **at least one** EBACC subject from the following:

- *Mandarin Chinese**
- Spanish
- History
- Geography



The grade conversion table for the new GCSEs and Technical Awards can be seen below

NEW GCSE Grades	OLD GCSE Grades
9 - 7	A* / A
6 - 5	B / C
4 - 3	C / D
3 - 1	E / F / G

Technical Award	GCSE Grades
L2 Distinction*	8-9 (A*)
L2 Distinction	7 (A)
L2 Merit	5-6 (B / C)
L2 Pass	4 (C)
L1 Distinction	3 (D / E)
L1 Merit	2-3 (E / F)
L1 Pass	1-2 (F / G)

Non-exam assessment (NEA)

The term 'non-exam assessment' covers a range of different forms of assessment.

Non-exam assessments are not necessarily 'internally' or teacher-marked nor undertaken over an extended period of time. A performance may, for example, be undertaken under timed conditions and marked by a visiting exam board assessor.

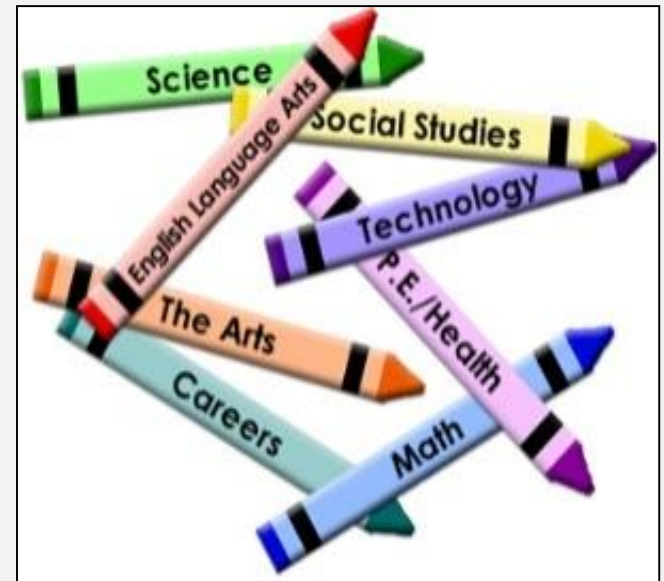
Will all GCSEs have non-exam assessment?

No. The percentage depends on the range of skills to be assessed and the most effective way of assessing them.

Option Subjects

You need to select to **5 choices** from this list in rank order - **3 firm choices & 2 reserves**:

- Art
- Business Studies
- Child Development
- Computer Science *(at least 'secure -S' on your Y9 report to be eligible)*
- Creative Media Production
- Film Studies
- Food Preparation and Nutrition
- Geography
- Graphic Art
- History
- Information Technology
- Mandarin Chinese *(compulsory for those who study this subject)*
- Music
- Physical Education
- Spanish
- Sport Studies
- Sociology



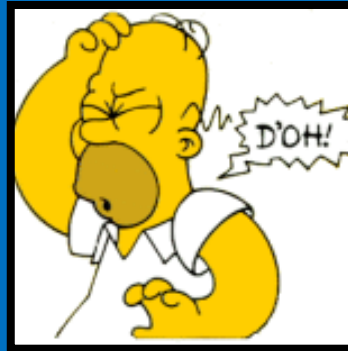
You cannot do PE AND Sport

You cannot do Art AND Graphics

You cannot do Mandarin Chinese
AND Spanish

You cannot do Creative Media
AND Film Studies

...choose subjects because you like that teacher



...forget to look at how you will be assessed...

Don't ...



.... do your option choices in a hurry



...choose subjects because your friend wants to



Something you are good at



Take your time to make your choices and reflect on your Y9 report

Something you enjoy 😊

Ask for advice



Reflect on your strengths

A balanced curriculum

Consider a good range of courses



Good Choices



Advice - Who to speak to



- Parents/carers and other relatives.
- Subject teachers, who know your strengths in their subjects.
- Mrs Henderson (KS3 Progress Lead) and Miss Smith (DHT) who have an overall picture of your progress.
- Miss George and Mrs Murray
- Mr Moore, our Careers Co-ordinator.
- Mr Craggs, our Head of Sixth Form.

Year 9 GCSE Options |
Whitburn Church of
England Academy
(whitburncofeacademy.org)

Whitburn Church of England Academy

An Academy with Specialist Status in Maths and Computing



Spring 2024
KS4 Options Booklet





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[PSHE](#)

[Relationships, Sex and Health Education](#)

[WCEA Music Service](#)

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Year 9 GCSE Options

[Spring 2023 Year 9 Options Booklet](#)

[Options Information shared with students in Assembly](#)

[Year 9 Student Consultation Evening – Appointment Booking Guide](#)



Choose a balance of academic and practical / creative

Subject	Assessment through Examination (%)	Assessment through Non -examined work (%)
Art	0	100 (40% externally set)
Business Studies	100	0
Child Development	40	60
Computer Science	100	0
Creative Media	40	60
English Language	100	0
English Literature	100	0
Film Studies	70	30
Food Preparation and Nutrition	50	50
Geography	100	0
Graphics	0	100 (40% externally set)
History	100	0
IT	40	60
Mandarin Chinese	100	0
Mathematics	100	0
Music	40	60
PE	60	40
RE	100	0
Science - Combined or Separate	100	0
Sport Studies	40	60
Sociology	100	0
Spanish	100	0

CHILD DEVELOPMENT



Mrs Tennent

'New' Subjects
studied in Year 10
and Year 11...

Business Studies



Ms Thirlwell

Miss Boswell



SOCIOLOGY



Mr Thompson



Wednesday 28th Feb 2024

Option form submission date



After this you will each have a meeting with a member of the Senior staff to discuss the 5 choices submitted before these are finalised in summer term