

# Yr8-Yr9 Options Evening





# Useful contacts...

- Mrs Richmond – Head of Year 8  
([cfr@leventhorpe.net](mailto:cfr@leventhorpe.net))
- Ms Price – Deputy Headteacher  
([lep@leventhorpe.net](mailto:lep@leventhorpe.net))
- Ms Copeland – Data Manager and  
Options Administrator  
([nc@leventhorpe.net](mailto:nc@leventhorpe.net))

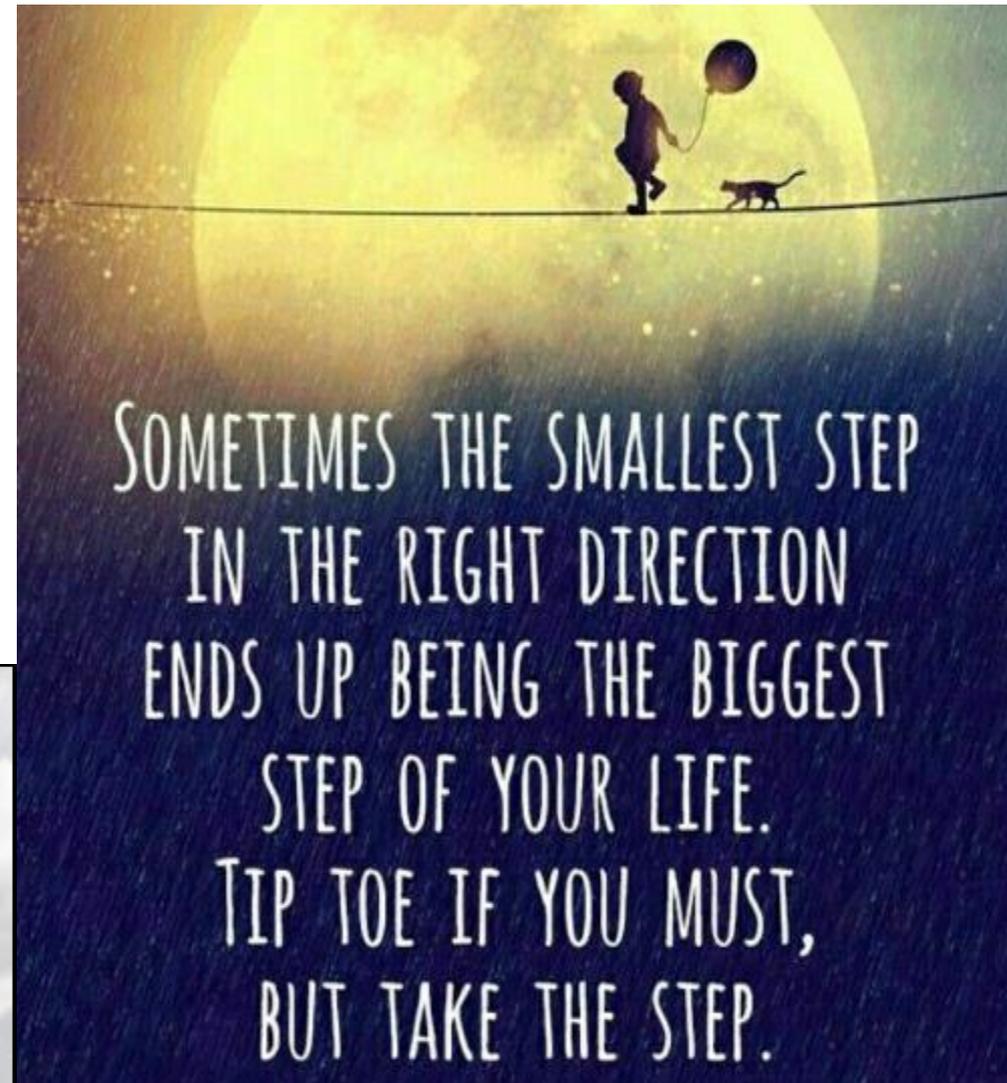


# What is included in this presentation?

- Explain how we do Options at Leventhorpe
- Explain the importance of Options
- Explain what is happening to GCSE's



# Choices, choices, choices





# End of Year 11

- Choices made now will impact the subjects you take for GCSE
- These GCSE's will influence what you do after Year 11
- They might shape your future career or your life journey



# Making the right choices

- What qualifications do you want/need?
- Will you have a balanced curriculum that will increase options for the future?
- Have you thought about Post-16 education/training (to age 18)
- Are you thinking about university?
- Think about subjects you'll enjoy
- Think about what you are doing well in
- Think about the new subjects, do you think you will be interested?



# Support for students

Who can students speak to?

- Teachers
- Mrs Blair-Park – Futures Advisor
- Other students
- Parents
- Older siblings



# Understanding the Leventhorpe curriculum...



# What is Learning at Leventhorpe like?

At Leventhorpe, we are proud of our Key Stage Four curriculum and the way in which we prepare students for GCSEs and beyond.

At Leventhorpe, we run a three year Key Stage Four. This means that students will be preparing for GCSEs from Yr9 onwards.

All students follow a core curriculum.

In Yr9, students choose an additional six subjects to study.

In Yr10, students reduce this further to choose four subjects to study to the end of GCSEs.



# The core curriculum...

The core curriculum is made up of subjects that all students will study. These are common across most schools. The subjects in the core curriculum include:

- English
- Maths
- Science
- Physical Education (PE) which is not examined
- Relationship, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) which is not examined
- Religious, Philosophy and Ethics (RPE) which is not examined



# Making your choices

## The new GCSEs...

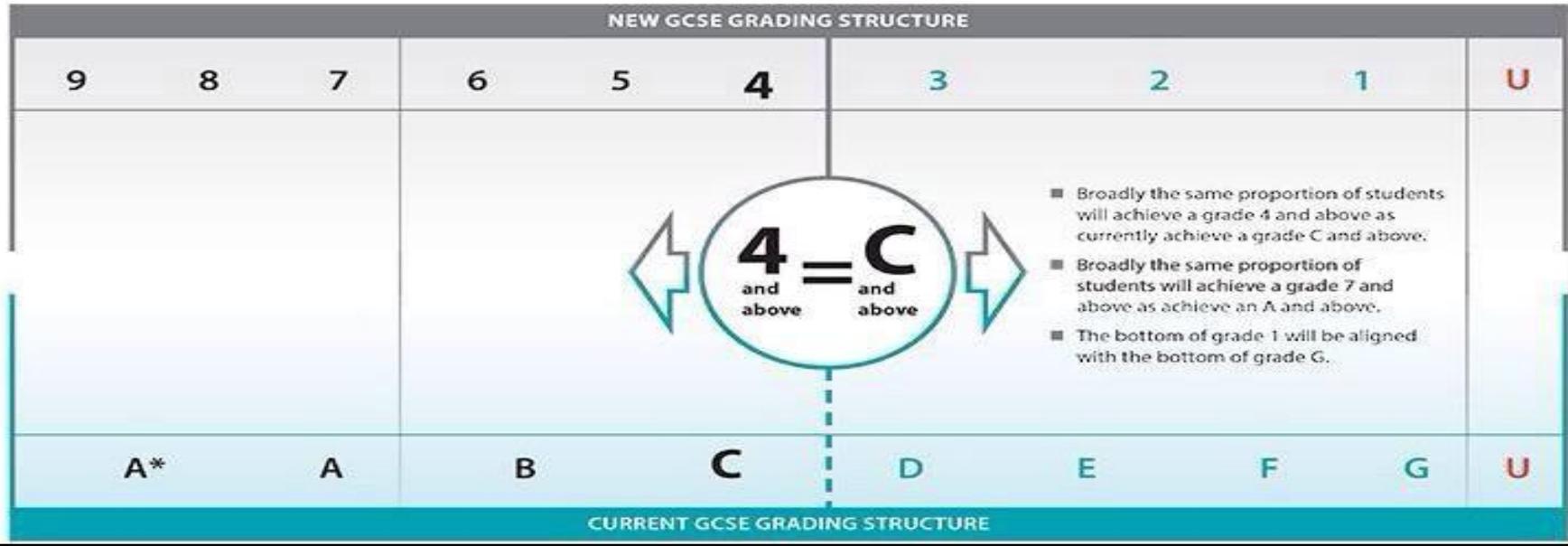
**As you will know, the structure, assessment and grading of GCSEs changed a couple of years ago...**

- All Yr9 students will sit the new GCSEs
- GCSEs will be graded from 1-9 (as opposed to A, B, C etc)
- Cambridge National and BTEC will still be graded Pass, Merit, Distinction, Distinction\*



# Grading the New GCSEs in 2017

Ofqual



**In the new GCSEs, a Grade 4 is termed as a Standard Pass, whilst a Grade 5 is termed as a Good Pass.**



# Making your choices

## What about the English Baccalaureate?

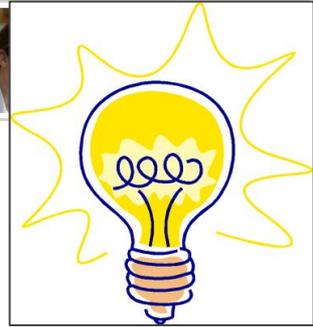
- In 2010 the Government introduced the English Baccalaureate (Ebacc) as a performance measure to help compare schools
- It was introduced mainly to challenge schools where it was felt that the students did not have access to a broad and balanced curriculum
- The EBacc is **not** a qualification, but a collection of subjects that is used as a measure for school performance



# Making your choices - The Ebacc subjects...

- English Language or Literature (core)
- Maths (core)
- Two Sciences (core)
- History or Geography
- A foreign language (ancient or modern)

**It is the expectation of the Government that by 2022, 75% of students will have chosen an Ebacc curriculum**



# **Making your choices**

## **The Ebacc - an important point to note!**

Many schools now insist that students follow an Ebacc curriculum. Some schools insist that certain groups of students do this.

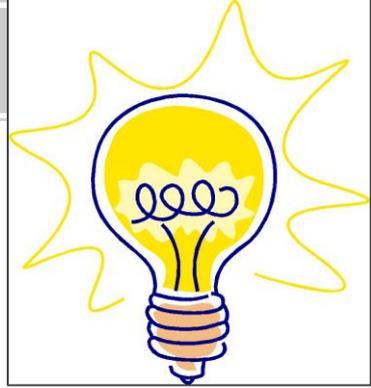
At this point, Leventhorpe allow students to make a free choice. However, we strongly recommend that – if students are intending to go to university – they choose subjects which are Ebacc compliant.

In Yr9, students will continue to follow an Ebacc curriculum so that they do not narrow their choices too far at this early stage.



At Leventhorpe, we ensure that students follow a broad and balanced curriculum.  
 Students choose from four *families* of subjects...

Humanities	Languages	Creative and Expressive	Social Sciences
History	French	Art	Business and Enterprise
Geography	Spanish	Music	Philosophy and Ethics
		Drama	Computing
		PE	ICT / i-Media
		Technology	



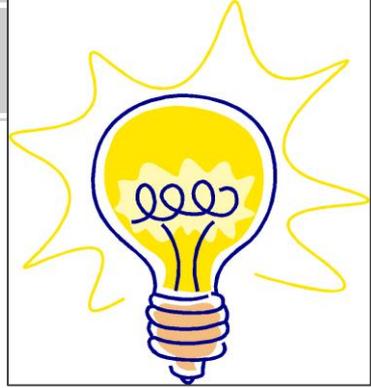
# **Making your choices**

## **What happens after Yr9?**

You will study your choice of 6 subjects for two lessons per week in Yr9.

At the end of Yr9, you will choose only 4 of these subjects to continue with. This means that you will 'drop' two subjects.

**The choices that you make now are very important as you will have to choose your final four subjects from the ones you have studied in Yr9. You will not be able to go back and pick up subjects, once you have dropped them.**



# **Making your choices**

## **What happens after Yr9?**

When you reach Yr10 and Yr11, you will have the opportunity to explore new ways of learning.

These include BTEC courses (Business) and Cambridge National (i-Media)

Some students will also be given the opportunity to explore College courses in more vocational subjects, such as Hair and Beauty, Construction and Motor Vehicle.



# Making your choices

## Think about assessment and workload...

- More practical subjects – like PE, Drama and Music – all require you to perform practical assessments which will count towards your final, grade
- Subjects such as Art and Technology require you to work on large projects which will count towards your final grade
- Most other subjects will be final exams

### How do you like to work best?

It is always important to think about your workload and how you will manage the assessment in your chosen subjects.



# Top Tips when making your option choices...

- Talk your ideas through with as many people as you can – parents, siblings, teacher, friends
- Think about what you enjoy – and what you don't enjoy
- Don't choose a friend because you like the teacher. Or because your friend is taking the subject. Things change!
- Think about your future career or study – how do your options choices help you to get to where you want to be?
- Make sure your choices are broad and balanced



**In summary, choose six subjects from the options below...**

<b>Humanities</b>	<b>Languages</b>	<b>Creative and Expressive</b>	<b>Social Sciences</b>
History	French	Art	Business and Enterprise
Geography	Spanish	Music	Philosophy and Ethics
		Drama	Computing
		PE	ICT / i-Media
		Technology	



# Understanding the Options process...



A new development is that your child's options application will be completed online this year. Students have all been sent invitations to register for SIMS Online Student and I hope parents also received information on how they should register for SIMS Parent as well. Students can see how to access the new system through their school Office 365 account. Parents will need to 'approve' all choices online for us to accept them.

If you have any problems with accessing the system please contact Ms Copeland via [nc@leventhorpe.net](mailto:nc@leventhorpe.net) and we will send you a paper form to complete.

[Click here for a video to see how to make your Options Choices...](#)



# A few things to bear in mind...

- Select one subject from each of the four sections. Each section is a subject family. These are the same families that you will see in the Options Booklet
- Once you have done this, select two further subjects and two reserves. These can be any two subjects in the bottom section. **These must be in order of preference**
- Be honest in this, we will use the ranks to decide the options blocks and which subjects you will get, if you can't get your top 6
- Some subjects have limits on numbers. We cannot guarantee choices, we will use the rankings you give to make the allocations
- If you change your mind, talk to Ms Copeland. Some changes will be fine, some we might not be able to do. Keep us informed.
- We will talk to students if there are issues with allocating your choices, or if we feel your choices are too narrow.



# Next steps - a reminder...

- Year 8 Interim Reports – March
- Log in to SIMS online and complete your choices. Parents confirm the choices in SIMS Online. Deadline is Wednesday 1st April
- Receive confirmation of options in June/July



In the event of school closure, if you have any questions regarding subject choices, please refer first to the Options Booklet. All the information you need is included in there.

[Click here to access the Options Booklet](#)