Biddick Academy

# Year 9 Options 2023

January 2023

Mr J Knowles (Assistant Headteacher)

Curiosity | Aspiration | Resilience | Readiness

# The Biddick Way

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# Guess Who!

| Teacher 1 | Teacher 2 | Teacher 3 | Teacher 4 | Teacher 5 | Teacher 6 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| French | Business Studies | Triple Science | Geography | Graphics | Sport Science |
| History | French | Geography | Biology | Art | Dance |
| Triple Science | Geography | German | Art and Design | Geography | Geography |
| Further Maths | Food Technology | Music | RE | History | History |
| | | | | | |

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# True or False?

"Some Options don't have any written work"

"It's a good idea to seek advice about my Options before making my decision"

"The best Options are the ones my friends are doing"

"I have to study English, Maths and Science at GCSE"

"GCSEs won't help me get into university"

"It's a good idea to play to my strengths when choosing my Options"

"To get on to some courses at College/Sixth Form and some apprenticeships, I will need a specific qualification"

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# Myth-busting

"If you choose RE, all you'll be able to do is become a vicar"

"All you do in Art is draw and paint"

"We just play football in Sport"

"All you need to know to do well in Maths is follow the rules"

"Spanish is just about memorising some phrases and regurgitating them in the exam"

"I heard that everyone who takes Business gets a 9"

"Biology is definitely the easiest Science"

"Pouring in right?"

MYTH

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# Questions you may have

- How is the Key Stage 4 Curriculum at Biddick Academy structured?
- What Options should I choose?
- What should I consider when I am choosing my Options?
- Why are my choices important?
- How will I be supported in making these important decisions?

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# Key Dates

| Date | Activity |
|---|---|
| 16th January | Key Stage 4 Curriculum Information Booklets |
| 19th January | Options Evening – 4pm to 6pm |
| 20th January | Options Surgery – Lunchtime |
| 23rd to 27th January | Provisional Options Form |
| 13th to 17th February | Final Options Form |
| 6th to 24th March | Senior Leadership Team Parent/Carer Meetings |

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# The Curriculum Model

| SUBJECT | TEACHING PERIODS PER FORTNIGHT |
|---|---|
| English Language or Literature | 8 |
| Mathematics | 8 |
| Science | 9 |
| History or Geography | 5 |
| Option 1 | 5 |
| Option 2 | 5 |
| Option 3 | 5 |
| Physical Education | 3 |
| Religious Education | 1 |
| Personal Development | 1 |
| TOTAL | 50 |

The Curriculum Model is subject to continual review and may change accordingly.

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# Provisional Curriculum Structure

| Pathway | Option 1 | Option 2 | Option 3 | Option 4 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | • History<br>• Geography | • French<br>• Spanish | • Triple Science<br>• Computer Science<br><br>Or<br><br>• *Free Choice (Subjects TBD)* | • History/Geography<br><br>Or<br><br>• *Free Choice (Subjects TBD)* |
| B | • History<br>• Geography | • *Free Choice (Subjects TBD)* | • *Free Choice (Subjects TBD)* | • French<br>• Spanish<br><br>Or<br><br>• *Free Choice (Subjects TBD)* |
| C | • History<br>• Geography | • *Free Choice (Subjects TBD)* | • *Free Choice (Subjects TBD)* | • Core Plus<br>• Preparation for Adulthood |

**TBD – Option Blocks are all provisional and structure is to be decided/subject to change according to subject demand, teaching group sizes and staffing.*

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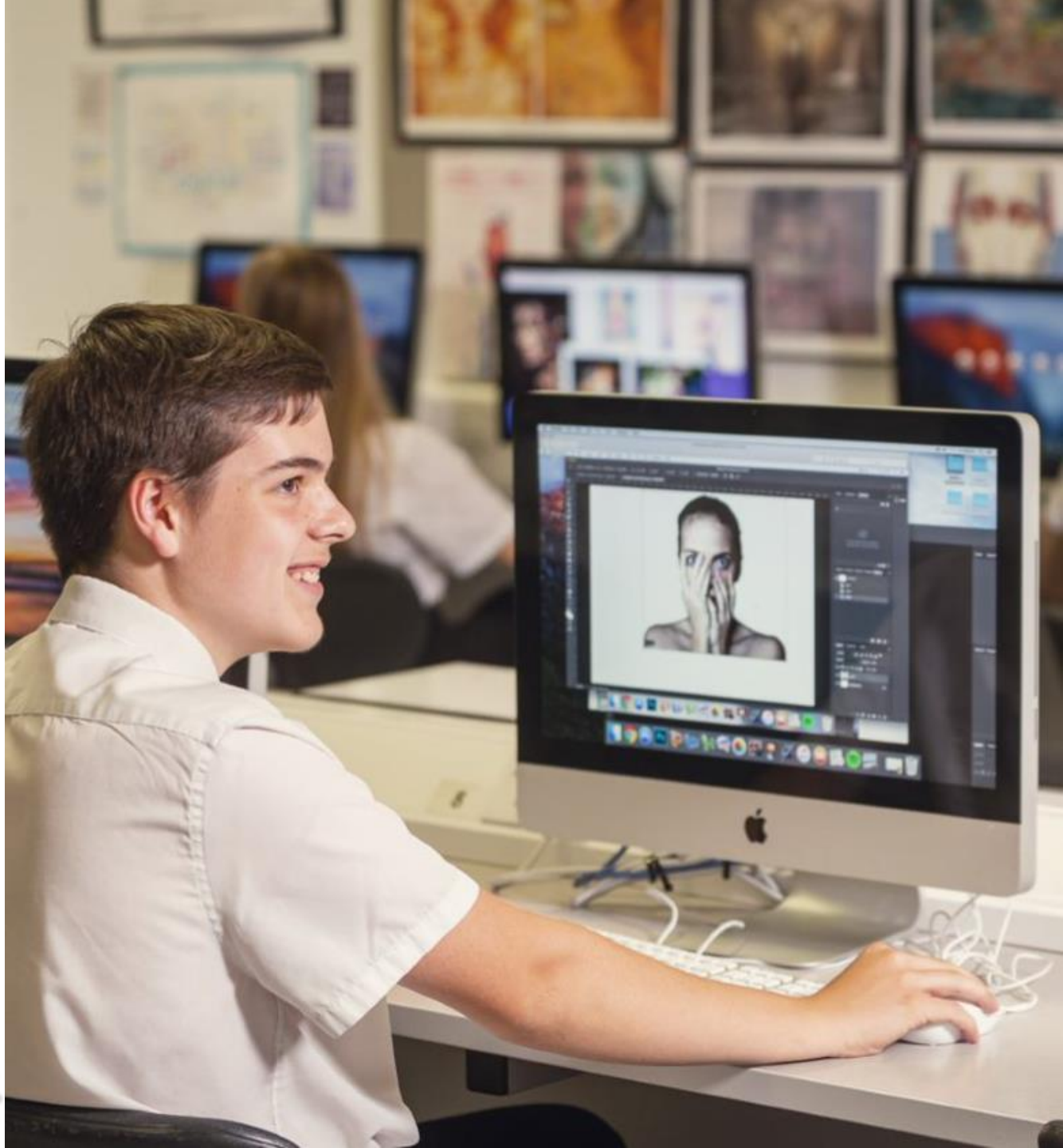

# Choosing your Options

- What are my favourite subjects and why?
- Are there any subjects I would like to study in more detail?
- Do I enjoy classroom learning or practical hands-on activities?
- Do I prefer project-based coursework or theory?
- Which subjects would I like to study beyond Year 11?
- Will my chosen subjects allow me to fulfil my educational and career aspirations?

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# Important Points to Note

- You must opt for a language to achieve the English Baccalaureate (Ebacc).
- You can only choose History AND Geography, Triple Science or Computer Science if you are in Pathway A.
- You can only choose French or Spanish if you have a minimum of a Grade 5 target in GCSE English.
- You are only allowed to select ONE Art discipline – Art and Design, Digital Art, Fine Art or Textiles.
- Engineering is capped to one teaching group of 23 students.
- Whilst every effort will be made to ensure that you receive your first-choice preferences where possible, it should be noted that this is not guaranteed and as such, you will select TWO 'Reserve' Options choices just in case – allocation onto all courses of study are subject to popularity, teaching group sizes, staffing and minimum entry requirements.

# Next Steps

- Come along to the Year 9 Options Evening and Options Surgery
- Read through the Key Stage 4 Curriculum Information Booklet
- Make contact with your teachers
- Complete and submit the Provisional Options form on Microsoft Forms
- Key points of contact:
  - Mr J Knowles (Assistant Headteacher) knowles.j@biddickacademy.com
  - Mrs S Huntington (Head of Year 9) huntington.s@biddickacademy.com
  - Mr C Brown (Assistant Headteacher – Careers Lead) brown.c@biddickacademy.com

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# Thank you!

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