



The Hinckley SCHOOL

'Taster' Day for Option Subjects – Friday 9th February

The purpose of this day is to help you select the option subjects you wish to study in Year 10 and 11. The attached form is for taster sessions only – these are **NOT** your actual option choices.

Types of Qualifications:

All GCSE examinations are taken at the end of Year 11. We also offer a range of vocational subjects to complement our more traditional GCSE courses. These courses are not easier options, but instead offer a more work-related programme that is assessed via a mix of coursework and external assessment.

English Baccalaureate (EBacc)

The English Baccalaureate EBacc is a set of subjects at GCSE that keeps students' options open for further study and future careers. Although studying the complete EBacc combination is optional for all students, we do strongly recommend this route as it keeps all Further (Sixth Form) and Higher (University) Education pathways open for students as they seek to maximise their potential and aspirations. **The EBacc route requires you to study either GCSE French or GCSE Spanish**

We recommend that you make your choices based on your own interests and future goals. Your choices shape your future, so make sure that they are right for you. Equally, it is important to not choose courses based on teacher preferences. The teachers teaching you next year may not be those you currently have.

We strongly advise that:

- If students have target grades in English and Maths of 5 or above, we encourage them to consider choosing a modern foreign language to secure the EBacc route.
 - Students choosing GCSE Computer Science should be very confident in Mathematics
- Students choosing GCSE PE should be participating in extra-curricular sport at school and/or other clubs/centres.

Options Timeline: Key Dates

Taster Day for Option Subjects – Friday 9th February 2024

Students can experience 'taster' lessons in option subjects they may be interested in taking in Year 10/11.

Key Stage 4 Options Evening— Tuesday 13th February 2024

The Options Evening will take place at The Hinckley School and will allow you to explore each option by talking to subject teachers. Further information will be sent to parents in advance of the evening, and there will also be opportunities to meet with class teachers of core subjects (English and Maths).

On the same evening parents and carers of all Year 9 students will receive an email containing a link to the electronic options form and full instructions on how to complete the options process.

Options Deadline – Monday 4th March 2024

This is the deadline for your final options choices to be submitted. This allows conversations to happen over half term and allows students further opportunities to ask questions when we return after the break. Please note that we encourage option choices to be submitted prior to this date where possible, but options are not allocated on a first come, first served basis.

'Taster' Choices – Friday 9th February

Please note that choices you submit here are for the Taster Day only
You will pick your actual option choices later in the term.

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|---------------|--|
| Student Name: | |
|---------------|--|

| TASTER A | |
|------------|--------------------------|
| GCSE | Computer Science |
| GCSE | Drama |
| GCSE | Ethics & Philosophy (RE) |
| GCSE | French* |
| Vocational | Hospitality & Catering |
| GCSE | Music |
| GCSE | Spanish* |
| Vocational | Sports Studies |

Please choose three Taster (A) Subjects in order of preference

Taster Subject 1:

Taster Subject 2:

Taster Subject 3:

*Ebacc Route

| TASTER B | |
|------------|------------------------|
| GCSE | Art, Craft & Design |
| Vocational | Engineering Design |
| GCSE | Geography |
| Vocational | Health & Social Care |
| GCSE | Media Studies |
| GCSE | Physical Education |
| GCSE | Textiles |
| GCSE | Triple Science (B/C/P) |

Please choose three Taster (B) Subjects in order of preference

Taster Subject 1:

Taster Subject 2:

Taster Subject 3:

PLEASE HAND IN YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR
TUTOR BY FRIDAY 2nd FEBRUARY