

WIGMORE SCHOOL POLICY STATEMENT

KS4 Preferences

The following subjects form part of the **core curriculum** (meaning that they are compulsory).

- GCSE English Language
- GCSE English Literature
- GCSE Mathematics
- GCSE Combined Science or Triple Science (individual GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics)
- Lifeskills
- Core PE (Games)

In addition to the core curriculum pupils' study four further option subjects. These are chosen from option blocks. Pupils must choose **one** option subject from each block.

Some pupils are offered the opportunity of a modified curriculum studying one (and sometimes two) less GCSE option subject(s). The Support Studies protocol sets out the process of determining which pupils are selected for Support Studies. This will be explained to pupils and parents at Year 9 Preferences Evening.

English Baccalaureate

Pupils are advised to consider the English Baccalaureate (EBacc) when making their option choices. The EBacc is increasingly important for many further and higher education courses. It consists of the following five subject areas:

- English
- Maths
- Combined Science, two single sciences or Computer Science and one other Science GCSE
- History **or** Geography
- Spanish **or** French

Pupils are encouraged to select a modern foreign language and at least one humanities subject (Geography or History) to study at GCSE as one of their option choices.

All pupils must choose at least one from the following: French, Spanish, Geography, History in their option choices.

Restrictions on subject choices

Subjects have a maximum number of places – this is usually 32 for a classroom based subject, 18 for Design Technology and 16 for Hospitality & Catering. If a subject is oversubscribed pupils will be selected based on the following:

- meeting the published deadline for submitting chosen subject preferences
- how the subject fits into ensuring a broad range of option subjects are being studied at GCSE
- their attitude to learning and commitment to the subject during Year 9 (for subjects studied at KS3)
- any future career-based plans and preferences they have discussed during their option interview which require a GCSE in this subject
- their aptitude for their second choice subject in each option block

If the number of pupils choosing a subject is fewer than 10 the subject is not viable and will not run during KS4.

For these reasons pupils are asked to make a second choice in each option block when stating their preferred option choices. Wherever possible, where subjects are oversubscribed, we will ensure pupils are allocated three out of four of their first choice option subjects.

Person responsible for this policy statement	Deputy Headteacher
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