

Welcome to

Year 8 Options Evening

- Please fill up seats from the front and from the centre aisle outwards
- Please turn mobile phones to silent or vibrate

Thank you



**ATTLEBOROUGH
ACADEMY
NORFOLK**

part of the
Tengroup
transforming education in norfolk

Mr Barns

Assistant Principal



Aims for tonight

- An overview of the options available
- An overview of the process
- Opportunity to speak to staff

Why are we opting in Year 8?

- Develop skills and knowledge
- Achieve full potential
- Foundation year if appropriate

What do we offer?

- Mainly 'traditional' GCSE Options
- Selected BTEC's (technical/vocational courses)

Core

- English Language
- English Literature
- ICT
- Maths
- Science
- PE

Options

- Four subjects will come from the options process
- ‘Free’ choice for three subjects within a broad and balanced curriculum
- Requirement to study **at least** one of History, Geography, French or German
- If there are too few people then course may have to be withdrawn

What is the 'Ebacc'?

- English Baccalaureate
- Not the same as 'International Baccalaureate'
- Umbrella term for passing a defined set of subjects
- About 25% of students nationally do Ebacc

What makes an Ebacc ?

- To achieve an Ebacc you need to achieve a “good pass” in:
 - GCSE English (Core)
 - GCSE Mathematics (Core)
 - GCSE Science (Core)
 - GCSE in a Humanity (History/Geography)
 - GCSE in a Language (French/German)

Should I do an Ebacc?

Universities will be most likely to look for specific GCSE grades in English, Maths and possibly Science – but these subjects are compulsory for you to take anyway.

It's up to you to decide whether to take one or more of the optional subjects. On the plus side, taking a mix of these will ensure you can be more flexible in your university course choices later down the line – especially if you're not sure what you want to do yet. But if you feel you're weaker in these subjects, don't feel that you *must* take them in order to go to university.

<http://university.which.co.uk/advice/gcse-choices-university/whats-the-english-baccalaureate>

Should I do an Ebacc?

The English Baccalaureate ... is not an official requirement, even among Russell Group institutions.

UCL does, however, ask that students have a grade C GCSE or above in a modern foreign language – an Ebacc subject. If your child did not take a languages GCSE, or they missed out on a C grade, this won't damage their application, but they will be expected to complete a short language course either before or during their first year.

<http://www.theguardian.com/education/2014/aug/21/how-important-are-gcses-when-applying-to-university>

TEN Group Ebacc Policy

- TEN Trustees – put the needs of the students first
- Free choice of options we will not insist on all students doing Ebacc

(This may prevent Ofsted grading us as 'Outstanding')

What are BTECs?

- Vocational
- Combination of coursework and final exam
- Recognised and highly respected
- Progression to FE and University

How to Choose

DO - read all the information in the Options Booklet.

DO - get as much help as you can from your Parents/Carers, Form Tutors and Subject Teachers.

How to Choose

- DON'T - choose a subject because of the teacher.
- DON'T - choose a subject because your friend has.

OPTIONS

Students can choose **ANY 4** Options from the subjects listed below but they must choose **AT LEAST 1** subject with an asterisk (*).

- Art and Design
- Business Studies
- Citizenship
- Computer Science (see note 1)
- BTEC Sport (see note 2)
- BTEC Dance (see note 2)
- Drama
- Flexible Intervention
- Food Preparation and Nutrition
- French*
- Geography*
- German*
- Graphic Products (see note 3)
- History*
- Music
- Product Design (see note 3)
- Religious Studies

Note 1: Computer Science requires a highly mathematical approach. If you are not in the top sets (A1 or B1) for maths then please discuss your situation with Mr Pickering before making your final choice.

Note 2: You can choose BTEC Dance OR BTEC Sport - not both.

Note 3: You can choose Product Design OR Graphics Products - not both.

Choose 6 subjects in order of preference, ranked 1 – 6 (with 1 as most preferred and 6 as least preferred option). We will endeavour to allocate your first 4 option choices wherever possible, however, choices 5 and 6 may be needed as a back-up.

The Process

The screenshot shows the website header with the logo, contact information, and social media icons. The navigation menu includes 'About Us', 'Curriculum', 'Sixth Form', 'News & Events', 'Parents', 'Academy Life', 'Job Vacancies', and 'Contact Us'. The 'Curriculum' dropdown menu is open, listing items such as 'Curriculum Statement', 'Subjects', 'Student Support', 'Attitude to Learning', 'Developing Literacy & Reading', 'Extra-curricular Activities', 'Applied Options - BTECs', 'GCSE Options', 'Gifted & Talented Programme', and 'Student Rewards'. A large photo of students is featured below the menu, with a red arrow pointing to the 'GCSE Options' link in the menu and another red arrow pointing to the photo. Below the photo is a 'News' section with four small thumbnail images.

Curriculum

GCSE Options
Choose Your
Options

Form emailed to student's school account

* Required Information

* Forename

* Surname

* Form

- * Choose 6 subjects in order of preference, ranked 1 – 6 (with 1 as most preferred and 6 as least preferred option). We will endeavour to allocate your first 4 options choices wherever possible, however, choices 5 and 6 may be needed as a back-up.

You must choose at least **1** subject with an asterisk (*). You can choose more than 1 of these marked subjects

Art and Design	--Please Rank--
Business Studies	--Please Rank--
Citizenship	--Please Rank--
Computer Science (See note 1)	--Please Rank--
BTEC Sport (See note 2)	--Please Rank--
BTEC Dance (See note 2)	--Please Rank--
Drama	--Please Rank--
Flexible Intervention	--Please Rank--
Food Preparation and Nutrition	--Please Rank--
French*	--Please Rank--
Geography*	--Please Rank--
German*	--Please Rank--
Graphic Products (See note 3)	--Please Rank--
History*	--Please Rank--
Music	--Please Rank--
Product Design (See note 3)	--Please Rank--
Religious Studies	--Please Rank--

Note 1: Computer Science requires a highly mathematical approach. If you are not in the top sets (A1 or B1) for maths then please discuss your situation with Mr Pickering before making your final choice.

Note 2: You can choose BTEC Dance **OR** BTEC Sport - **NOT** both.

Note 3: You can choose Product Design **OR** Graphics Products – **NOT** both.

[Clear answers on page](#)

Submit



When should I complete my options?

- Option forms will be **emailed** Friday 3rd February
- Closes Friday 24th February
- NOT first come first served
- We will send a letter home to confirm with a reply slip

Over the next few weeks

- Read the Options Booklet (also available on-line)
- Speak to the Subject Leaders/Teachers and Form Tutors
- Discuss your choices with your parents/carers

Next Steps Tonight

- Options Subjects in the Gym
- Core subjects in the Dining Room

