



South
Nottinghamshire
Academy

Year 9 Options Evening 2026



What are Options?

A chance to choose subjects to:

- ✓ shape your learning experience
- ✓ focus on your interests and strengths
- ✓ prepare you for life and careers post-16 and beyond

You will study four options subjects and will be able to make up to six different options choices



Options Packs

- Inside your option pack:
 - Subject curriculum booklet
 - Information about each option subject
 - Maps for this evening
 - Who to contact with any questions
 - Option Form
 - Spare forms are available from Reception





Core Curriculum in KS4

- **English**
 - two GCSEs in English Language and English Literature
- **Mathematics**
- **Science Trilogy**
 - equivalent of two GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics
- **Philosophy, Religion and Ethics**
 - GCSE short course—examined in year 10
- **Recreational PE**
 - non-examined

The remainder of the curriculum will come from FOUR additional GCSE options choices.





Available Subjects 2026

GCSE Business	GCSE Music
GCSE Computer Science*	GCSE Physical Education
GCSE Design & Technology	GCSE Psychology
GCSE Drama	GCSE Sociology
GCSE Fine Art	GCSE Spanish *
GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition	GCSE Triple Science *
GCSE Geography *	NCFE Child Development and Care
GCSE History *	NCFE Health and Fitness
GCSE Media Studies	



The English Baccalaureate

- The English Baccalaureate (EBacc) is a set of subjects at GCSE that keeps young people's options open for further study and future careers.

English

Maths

Science

Humanity

Language

- Benefits include:
 - a well-rounded education,
 - developing critical thinking,
 - cultural awareness
 - communication skills.
 - opportunities to explore diverse fields
 - discover their interests
 - build a strong foundation for various career paths.
 - helps students become more adaptable and better prepared for the challenges of the future.
- EBACC study is no longer compulsory but we do **strongly encourage** students to consider this pathway and the breadth of both curriculum and learning provided by these subjects



Starred Subjects

The starred subjects are:

- Computer Science,
- French,
- Geography,
- History,
- Spanish
- Triple Science

These subjects are recognised as EBAC subjects by the Department for Education alongside Science Trilogy (which is worth two GCSES).

All students must study at least three of these subjects (including Science Trilogy as part of the Progress 8 measure which is used by the government to measure school performance across the UK)



The Options Process

- ✓ Open choice – you will choose SIX subjects and rank them in order of preference
- ✓ Options blocks will be generated from student choices which builds a curriculum that better reflects student demand
- ✓ A 'best fit' model will be created



Making Six Choices

- Students must **rank SIX subjects in order of preference**
- These choices should be **carefully considered**
- We will do our very best to accommodate preferences for all 180 students
- However:
 - Some subjects may be **oversubscribed**
 - Some combinations may not fit the timetable
- Six choices allow us to identify suitable **reserve options if needed**
- All students will receive a **full timetable of FOUR option subjects**

Student Name:

Year 9 Options 2026

The list below shows our comprehensive subject offer for 2026-28
It includes both GCSE and vocational subjects. Every subject is available to every student.

Subject List

GCSE Business	GCSE Music
GCSE Computer Science*	GCSE Physical Education
GCSE Design & Technology	GCSE Psychology
GCSE Drama	GCSE Sociology
GCSE Fine Art	GCSE Spanish *
GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition	GCSE Triple Science *
GCSE Geography *	NCFE Child Development and Care
GCSE History *	NCFE Health and Fitness
GCSE Media Studies	

Instructions for completing the form:

You should pick SIX subjects from the grid above and rank them in priority order in the grid below

- AT LEAST ONE STARRED subject should be chosen in your top FOUR subjects
- AT LEAST TWO STARRED subjects within your total SIX choices

You will be allocated to classes based on the priority order you write on this form. Choices will be confirmed in June 2026, any changes from this point will be subject to availability.

Disclaimer: we do our best to accommodate student preferences, but only courses with viable numbers will run and where there are clashes, the order of priority given below will be used to create the best fit

Write your option choices below in priority order

1 st option <u>choice</u> (highest priority)	
2 nd option choice	
3 rd option choice	
4 th option choice	
5 th option choice	
6 th option choice (lowest priority)	

Please hand the completed form to Student Services by Monday 16th March 2026

Parent Signature:

Completing the Form

Instructions for completing the form:

You must pick SIX subjects from the grid above and rank them in order of preference.

- AT LEAST ONE STARRED subject should be chosen
- AT LEAST TWO STARRED subjects within your top four choices

You will be allocated to classes based on the priority of your choices. If you have a subject confirmed in June 2025, any changes from this point will be subject to availability.

Disclaimer: we do our best to accommodate student preferences, but where there are clashes, the order of priority given below will be used to create the best fit.

Write your option choices below in priority order

1st option choice (highest priority)	Geography
2nd option choice	Triple Science
3rd option choice	Drama
4th option choice	French
5th option choice	Computer Science
6th option choice (lowest priority)	Psychology

You must rank your choices to ensure your preferences are considered in the event of scheduling conflicts. Your favourite subject should be at the top of the list.

Additionally, you must pick at least one starred subject within their top four choices and at least two in their overall list. All students will be allocated at least one starred subject.

Do...

- ✓ Read the Options Booklet carefully
- ✓ Speak to teachers during Options Evening
- ✓ Discuss choices at home
- ✓ Choose subjects you enjoy and are good at
- ✓ Think about your strengths and future plans
- ✓ Ask for advice — Heads of House, SENCO and SLT are here to help



Don't...

- x Choose subjects just because friends are choosing them
- x Choose a subject just because you like (or dislike) a teacher
- x Pick subjects that are too similar
- x Choose combinations that are too similar and not permitted
 - x GCSE PE + Health & Fitness



Form Deadline

- Completed forms should be submitted to Reception by

**Monday 16th March
2026**

- Spare forms can also be collected from Reception



What next?

- Department areas are open until 8pm – ground floor, first floor, Maple common room
- A chance to speak to staff and see examples of student work
- SLT and SENCO are available in Canteen
- Parents evening next week – additional appointments will be released tonight



Thank you



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