

# Year 9 Options

Your first opportunity to choose an individual curriculum

# Key Stage 3 (Year 7 to Year 9)

- ▶ Christ the King College are legally required to follow the statutory National Curriculum (NC)
- ▶ The NC provides you with essential knowledge across a broad range of subjects
- ▶ Year 10 is when it all changes...

	Key stage 3	Key stage 4
Age	11 – 14	14 – 16
Year groups	7 – 9	10 – 11
<b>Core subjects</b>		
English	✓	✓
Mathematics	✓	✓
Science	✓	✓
<b>Foundation subjects</b>		
Art and design	✓	
Citizenship	✓	✓
Computing	✓	✓
Design and technology	✓	
Languages <sup>4</sup>	✓	
Geography	✓	
History	✓	
Music	✓	
Physical education	✓	✓

# Key Stage 4 (Year 10 and 11)

- ▶ You will still study and gain qualifications in; English, Mathematics, Science and Religious Education
- ▶ You will also study Physical Education and PSHE
- ▶ Citizenship and Computing will be covered across other lessons including PSHE
- ▶ You are able to choose three other subjects

	Key stage 3	Key stage 4
Age	11 – 14	14 – 16
Year groups	7 – 9	10 – 11
<b>Core subjects</b>		
English	✓	✓
Mathematics	✓	✓
Science	✓	✓
<b>Foundation subjects</b>		
Art and design	✓	
Citizenship	✓	✓
Computing	✓	✓
Design and technology	✓	
Languages <sup>4</sup>	✓	
Geography	✓	
History	✓	
Music	✓	
Physical education	✓	✓

# What are the qualifications?

- ▶ Some subjects will be a GCSE and are graded 9-1
- ▶ A grade 4 is a “standard pass” and a grade 5 is a “strong pass”
- ▶ GCSE subjects will only be assessed through exams
  
- ▶ Some subjects will be Vocational and are graded; Pass, Merit and Distinction
- ▶ A Pass is a “standard pass” and a Merit is considered a “strong Pass” (equivalent to a 5.5)
- ▶ Vocational subjects tend to have coursework and exams

# A Broad and Balanced Curriculum

- ▶ The government wants to ensure all students study a balance of strong academic **CORE** subjects but still allow **BREADTH** and student choice. This will keep your options open for further study and future careers
- ▶ Strong Academic **CORE**
  - ▶ English Language and English Literature
  - ▶ Mathematics
  - ▶ Science (Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Physics or **Combined Science**)
- ▶ **BREADTH**
  - ▶ Humanities; Geography, History, **Religious Education**
  - ▶ Creative; Art, Design Technology, Drama, Music, Dance
  - ▶ Languages; French, Latin

# The BREADTH subjects we offer

Humanities	Creative	Languages	Science
Geography History	Fine Art Graphics Photography Design Technology Drama Music Dance	French Latin	Separate Science* Computer Science

\*Separate Science is actually 3 GCSE's; Biology, Chemistry and Physics

# Other Subjects

- ▶ Christ the King offers lots of other subjects (more than most schools on the Isle of Wight)
- ▶ You must choose 3 subjects and one reserve
- ▶ You must keep your options **“broad and balanced”**, this means don’t choose too many similar subjects
- ▶ Most of you don’t know what you will be doing at 16 or later in life - **do not limit your options**

Other	Vocational
Business Studies	Child Development
Classical Civilisation	Creative iMedia
Food Technology	Health and Social Care
Film Studies	Information Technology
Media Studies	Music
Physical Education	Sport Studies
	Travel and Tourism

CORE / BREADTH	GCSE	Vocational
Computer Science	Business Studies	Child Development
French	Classical Civilisation	Creative iMedia
Geography	Design Technology	Health and Social Care
History	Drama	Information Technology
Latin	Fine Art	Music
	Food Technology	Sport Studies
	Film Studies	Travel and Tourism
	Graphics Communication	
	Media Studies	
	Physical Education	
	Photography	
	Dance	

24  
different  
subjects

# Science

- ▶ All students will study Combined Science which is graded as a double e.g. 55
- ▶ It is equivalent to **two** GCSE grades
- ▶ You do have the option of studying Separate Science which would be **three** GCSEs with separate Grades e.g.
  - ▶ Biology 7
  - ▶ Chemistry 6
  - ▶ Physics 5
- ▶ **You can still do A-Level Sciences with Combined or Separate Science**
- ▶ There is a lot more content and will require lots of independent learning (at home or after school)
- ▶ It will still be assessed with 6 exams but they are 30 minutes longer (due to the extra content)

# Choosing your options

- ▶ We would like you to choose three subjects and one reserve
- ▶ You will complete a Google Form before Christmas to highlight what subjects you are interested in
- ▶ You will also indicate whether you would like to study Separate Science

CORE / BREADTH 1	CORE / BREADTH 2	GCSE	Vocational
Computer Science	Fine Art	Business Studies	Child Development
French	Graphics Communication	Classical Civilisation	Creative iMedia
Geography	Photography	Food Technology	Health and Social Care
History	Design Technology	Film Studies	Music
Latin	Drama	Media Studies	Sport Studies
		Physical Education	Travel and Tourism

# Timeline

- 1st and 5th December; KS4 options assembly
- 5<sup>th</sup> December; Pre-options Information - subject information shared
- 19<sup>th</sup> December; Pre-option choices are completed
- 8<sup>th</sup> January; Parents Consultation Evening
- 12<sup>th</sup> February; Options Evening
- **27<sup>th</sup> February; Final Options deadline**

# Prayer

As we gather today after exploring the paths before us, we thank You for the opportunities to learn, grow, and prepare for the future.

Bless each student here as they make choices about their GCSE subjects. Give them wisdom to select courses that reflect their strengths, their passions, and the dreams You have placed in their hearts.

We pray for courage to embrace the challenges ahead—whether in core subjects, creative pursuits, or the disciplines of languages, computer science, and humanities.

Grant them perseverance to work hard, curiosity to explore new ideas, and confidence to trust in their abilities.

Guide them, their teachers, and their families as they walk this journey together.

May they find joy in their learning and fulfilment in their choices, knowing that every step brings them closer to the person they are meant to be.

We ask this in Your name. Amen.