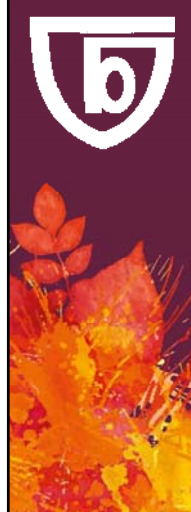


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Year 9 Options Evening



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The Purpose of Options Evening

- To provide information on the options process including an update based on feedback.
- To understand the range of courses available at Key Stage 4 (KS4).
- To provide information on the new grading systems in GCSE examinations.

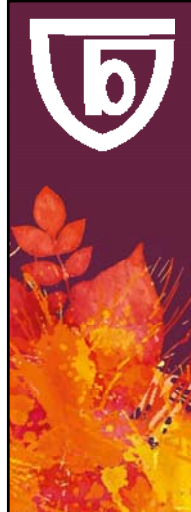


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The KS4 Curriculum

The KS4 Curriculum at The Brakenhale School:


- **The Core Curriculum** – English Language and Literature, Mathematics, Science, RS, Core PE and PSHE through tutor.
- **The Optional Curriculum** – 3/4 subjects, some of which choices are advised by Government guidance.



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A Broad and Balanced yet Personalised Curriculum


- This is the starting point.
- Previous model tried and tested – This is the third year running options this way.
- Allows a broader range of courses.
- Courses that are accessible for all learners.
- Vocational and/or Traditional courses in all subject areas.



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Pathways


- Previously – Students opted for subjects but in a limiting way.
- Previously – Students dropping courses halfway through their study.
- Previously – Students lose motivation as struggle with a subject.
- Now – Students have courses available to them that weren't before.
- Now – All courses offered are approved by OfQUAL and accepted by 6th forms and colleges.
- Now – Courses available for students that they can succeed in.



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Flexibility


- The pathways are a recommended route based on previous and predicted performance, learning styles and a knowledge of your child.
- Meetings available with Mr Corry, Ms Douse and Mr Kingston.
- Some subjects span all pathways.
- No streaming – You will not be in a pathway class.
- Listening to your feedback – Compulsory subjects and combinations – PE and Dance, Art and Photography allowed.



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Pathways


Green	Blue	Yellow	Purple
GCSE English Language	GCSE English Language	GCSE English Language	GCSE English Language
GCSE English Literature	GCSE English Literature	GCSE English Literature	GCSE English Literature
GCSE Mathematics	GCSE Mathematics	GCSE Mathematics	GCSE Mathematics
GCSE Science	GCSE Science	GCSE Science	GCSE Science
GCSE Religious Studies	GCSE Religious Studies	GCSE Religious Studies	GCSE Religious Studies
PE	PE	PE	PE



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The EBacc


- A set of qualifications recognised by the Government to create a broad and balanced curriculum.
- Excellent for those that are unsure of a career.
- English, Maths, Science, MFL and Humanity.
- Recognition – but not a certificate!



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Languages

- Most students have studied one language throughout Key Stage 3.
- You must choose the language that you have studied so far, unless there are special considerations.



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Vocational Courses


- Much more rigorous and accepted by colleges and Sixth Form alike.
- Used to be 100% coursework but now has an exam.
- Vocational focus.
- Excellent track record of success.



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College courses


- Exciting development.
- Teamed up with Farnborough College.
- BTECs in Car Mechanics and Construction.
- VTCT in Hair and Beauty.
- Again, all approved.



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College courses


- Tuesday afternoons.
- Transport provided to and from college.
- Quality assured by me!
- Application process...



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The Process


- 6th February – Options evening.
- 12th and 13th February – Parents Evening.
- WB 25th February – Appointments available with Mr Corry, Ms Douse and Mr Kingston – bookable through reception.
- Option returns due 1st March.
- Any issue with clashes will be discussed on a one to one basis.



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Advice!


- ✓ Find out about the subjects by reading the booklet and asking the relevant members of staff.
- ✓ Choose subjects you enjoy or think you will enjoy.
- ✓ Select subjects that you feel you already excel in.
- ✓ Ask for advice!
- ❖ Do not be influenced by the choices made by your friends.
- ❖ Do not select a subject because you like a teacher. You may have a different teacher.
- ❖ Each student is encouraged to select a broad and balanced curriculum.



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Information


- Tech Award in Enterprise replaces old BTEC Business
- Green pathway students wishing to take Computer Science will need to pass an test to ensure suitability
- ALL students will still take Core PE. GCSE PE is in addition to this.
- You cannot “Drop” a subject once you have started it.
- If you are unsure about whether to take GCSE/Vocational, please ask the teacher.



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What's Different About KS4


- 19 month course (a little over 5 terms)
- Greater responsibility: Important work throughout Key Stage 4
- Higher level and greater amount
- More independent learning
- PPE and final examinations
- Be prepared to give time to your studies



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GCSE Reform

- All GCSEs are reformed – no exceptions.
- Lots of change to content.
- Changes to the amount of content.
- Grades changed from letters to numbers. A*-G is now 9-1.




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Department for Education

Grading new GCSEs from 2017


New grading structure	Current grading structure
9	
8	A*
7	A
6	B
5	STRONG PASS
4	STANDARD PASS
3	D
2	E
1	F
	G
U	U



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GCSE Reform Continued


- Less tiering.
- Less coursework and more exams.
- Terminal papers at the end of two years.
- Focus on EBacc subjects.



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Some examples

- PE – 40% practical, 60% exam (switched).
- GCSE History – No coursework.
- GCSE Computer Science – reduction in courses.
- Standards required in practical subjects – significantly higher than before.



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Next Steps



Brakenhale School The is inviting you to join SMS Online Services, their new online portal. You can register for the following services:

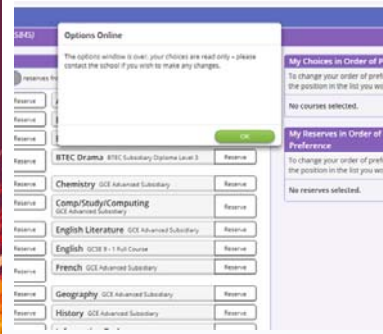
- SMS Options

- You will shortly receive an email from the school looking like this.
- You both must register by clicking the link.
- You must then click the orange box once you've registered.




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Option choices




- You will then be able choose your options plus two reserves.
- Reserves will be used where necessary as we cannot guarantee everybody's options.



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Thank you

- Thank you for listening.
- Please email me at rcorry@brakenhale.co.uk or book an appointment through reception to arrange a meeting with either myself, Ms Douse or Mr Kingston to discuss further.
- Finally, a word from Karen Roche, Chair of Governors.



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Sixth Form		
Art & Design	Hospitality & Catering	PE / Sport
Photography	Food & Nutrition	Health & Social Care
Design & Technology	Graphic Communication	Media Studies
Engineering		
Refreshments available in the sixth form		
Geography Classrooms		
G01	G02	G03
Geography	Business	Dance
History	Economics	Drama
French	Enterprise	Music
Spanish	IT	
	Computer Science	