

Presdales School



GCSE Options Evening 2018

Year 9 Option Process 2018

- A **two stage** process: Option Indications and Final Option Selection from Option Blocks
- Option Indications utilised to structure Option Blocks in order to allow **as many students as possible** to study their preferred option subjects
- Students may make **different** Final Option Choices from the Option Blocks than previously indicated
- One or more of the Option Subjects may not be available in the Option Blocks if insufficient demand exists for the subject

<u>DATE:</u>	<u>EVENT:</u>	
Week commencing Monday 27th November	Careers sessions	Use of Kudos in form times
Thursday 4th January	Special Year Assembly in the Lecture Theatre	Option Booklet and Option Indication Letters emailed out
Wednesday 10th January to Friday 19th January	Futures Meetings	Discussion of Student Option Choices with Senior Management Staff
Week commencing Monday 15th January		Second report issued to parents (TPB)
Wednesday 24th January	GCSE Options Evening With Parents	Discuss Option and Core GCSE subjects with Teaching Staff
Tuesday 30th January		Parents' Consultation Meeting
Friday 2nd February		Return Deadline for Option Indication Forms
Thursday 8th February	Year Assembly in the Lecture Theatre	Option Blocks and Final Option Choice Letters given out
Tuesday 20th February		Return Deadline for Final Option Choice Forms

KEY STAGE 4 CURRICULUM: QUALIFICATIONS EARNED

- **Core Studies:** GCSE English Language GCSE English Literature
GCSE Mathematics
GCSE Science (Combined) equivalent to 2 GCSEs
(or 3 separate GCSE's in Biology, Chemistry and Physics)
GCSE Short Course Religious Studies (Year 10)
 - **Optional Studies:** GCSE Language Option Choice
GCSE Humanity Option Choice
GCSE Free Option Choice 1
GCSE Free Option Choice 2
(to include 'Third Science if chosen)
- Total Qualifications: 9 GCSEs, 1 Short Course GCSE**

KS4 Curriculum

- Every student to take **nine** in total comprising **five** Core GCSE's and **four** Option GCSE's *plus a short-course Religious Studies GCSE completed in Year 10*
- Only required to take **one** Modern Foreign Language GCSE but can take two
- Required to study **History or Geography** GCSE, but can take both
- Each student can choose **2 Free Option Subjects**
- New courses last year were **Computing** and **Sociology**
- **This year BTEC Health and Social Care**
- All GCSEs assessed on a **linear** basis at the end of Year 11; **no coursework** for non-practical subjects

Provisional GCSE Option Subjects 2018-2020

You should choose 4 of the following subjects
(to include 1 Language Option and 1 Humanity Option):

Free Options (2)

Art & Design
Business
Computing
Drama
Food Preparation and Nutrition
French
Geography
Graphic Products Technology
BTEC Health and Social Care
History
Music
Physical Education
Sociology
Textiles Technology

Language Options (1)

French
German
Italian
Russian
Spanish

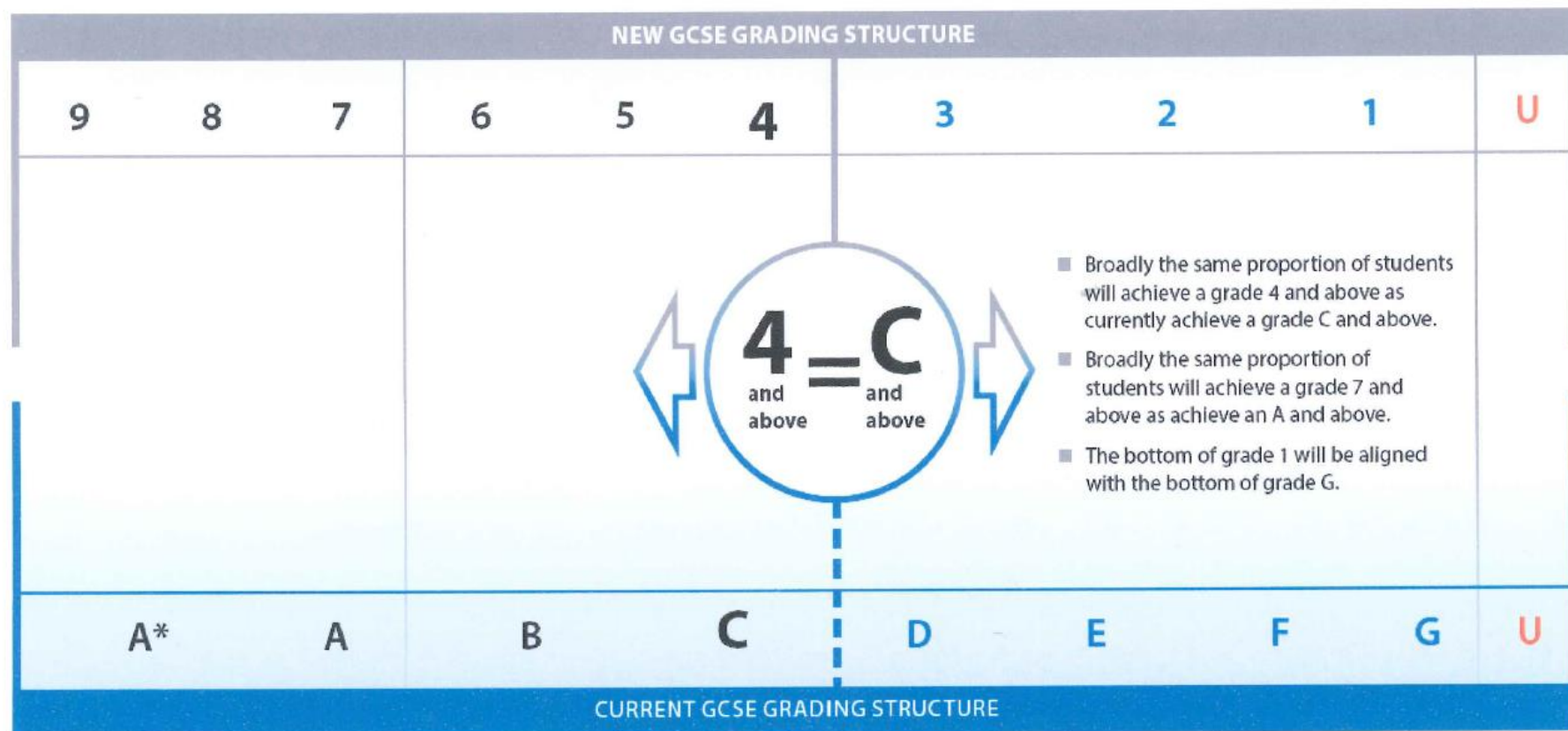
Humanity Options (1)

Geography
History

Third Science (* if eligible)

New GCSE Grading Structure

Grading the New GCSEs in 2017



Option Choice Constraints

- At least **1 Language Option** (only choose German, Italian, Russian or Spanish if studied in Yr 9)
- At least **1 Humanity Option**
- **Third Science, only if eligible** - counts as one of your Free Options
- Only **1 of the 3 Technology** courses can be chosen
- Please choose a **Reserve Free Option**

**Return Indicative Choice Form by
Friday 2nd February **at the latest****

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Headteacher: Mr M. Warren

8th January 2018

Dear Yr 9 Parents/Carers

GCSE Options 2018-2020

As mentioned in my recent letter inviting you to attend the GCSE Option Forum on 24th January 2018, you will be asked to specify by the start of next half term which GCSE subjects your daughter would definitely like to study at Key Stage 4 in addition to the Core Curriculum. Details of all the subjects studied in the Core Curriculum, as well as those offered as Option Choices, are given in the Year 9 Options Booklet which I have distributed again with this letter, which you may wish to bring with you if you are planning to attend the Forum. It is also available to view on the website.

Your daughter will be asked to choose at least **one** Modern Foreign Language and at least **one** of the Humanity subjects (defined as History and Geography) in order that she will be eligible to qualify for the English Baccalaureate introduced by the Government. She will also choose **two** other subjects to study at GCSE from the attached list of courses, which could include an additional Humanity or Modern Foreign Language(s), if desired. A small number of students, however, will be advised at their senior management consultation, which will take place over the next ten days, that they are eligible to make slightly different curriculum choices from this if they wish.

All students will study the following Core GCSE Curriculum:

English Language	Mathematics
English Literature	Religious Studies (short GCSE course)
Science	Physical Education (non-examination)

Your daughter is being asked to choose **four** other subjects from the attached list to study at GCSE, which should comprise one Modern Foreign Language Option, one Humanity Option and two Free Options (unless she has been advised otherwise, as mentioned above). In order to structure the option blocks in a way that will allow as many students as possible to be able to select their 4 preferred subjects from the four blocks, we are asking you to **indicate** your daughter's 4 preferred GCSE option choices on the attached form, following the GCSE Option Forum on Wednesday 24th January and your daughter's consultation with a senior member of staff. These choices should be written **in order of preference**, together with a Free Option reserve choice, from the list of subjects given at the top of the form. Once all these Option indications have been received, the subjects will be allocated to four option blocks for timetabling purposes. Your daughter will receive these blocks in early February, when she will be asked to confirm her choices.

One subject is **not** available to all students as a Free Option choice, namely, Third Science. Your daughter can only choose this subject if she has been informed by her Science teacher that she is eligible to take three separate Science GCSEs. Girls may only take **one** of the two Technology subjects (Graphic Products and Textiles). She may only choose German, Italian, Russian or Spanish as a Modern Foreign Language Option if she has studied it previously in

Reply Slip

✂.....

Name

Form

GCSE Option Choice Indications **(to comprise 1 Language Option, 1 Humanity Option and 2 Free Options) in order of preference:**

1.....

2.....

3.....

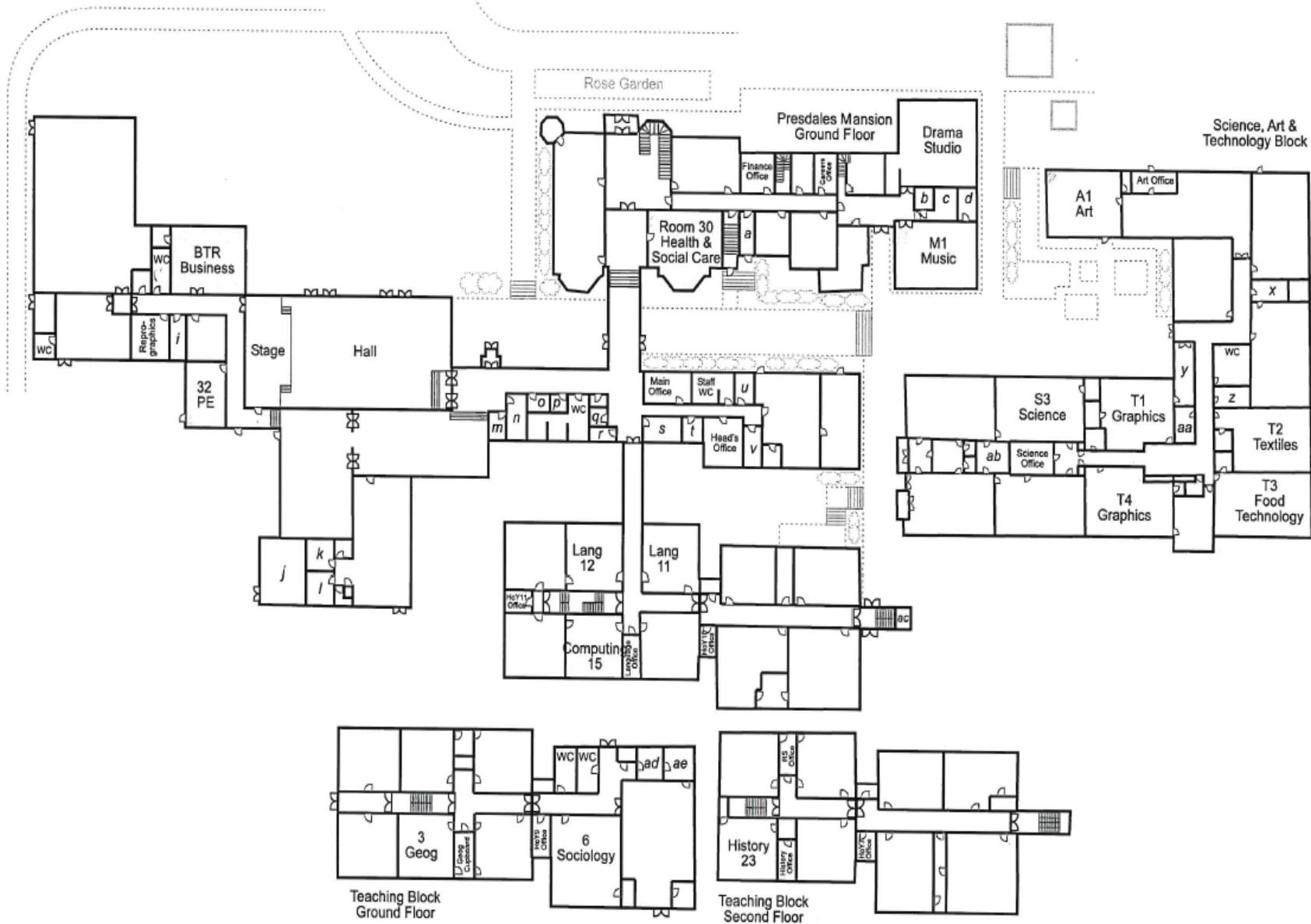
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Reserve: Free Option.....

Signed by Parents/Guardians.....

TO BE RETURNED BY Friday 2nd February 2018 to Mrs Stephenson

Presdales School Whole School Map



GCSE OPTION FORUM 2018

ENJOY YOUR DEPARTMENTAL VISITS