

Year 9 Options 2023

Information Evening for Students, Parents
& Carers

Sara Jacobs
Deputy Principal

The Key Stage 4 Curriculum

The KS 4 curriculum consists of compulsory core subjects (GCSE & non GCSE) a guided option choice and two other 'free' options choices .

Students will study 9 subjects at GCSE or equivalent level

Key Stage 4 Core Curriculum

English

English
Language
GCSE

English
Literature
GCSE

Core GCSE Subjects

Key Stage 4 Core Curriculum

Maths GCSE

Core GCSE Subjects

Key Stage 4 Core Curriculum

Science in Year 9

Combined
Science

2 GCSEs

Separate
Science

3 GCSEs

Core GCSE Subjects

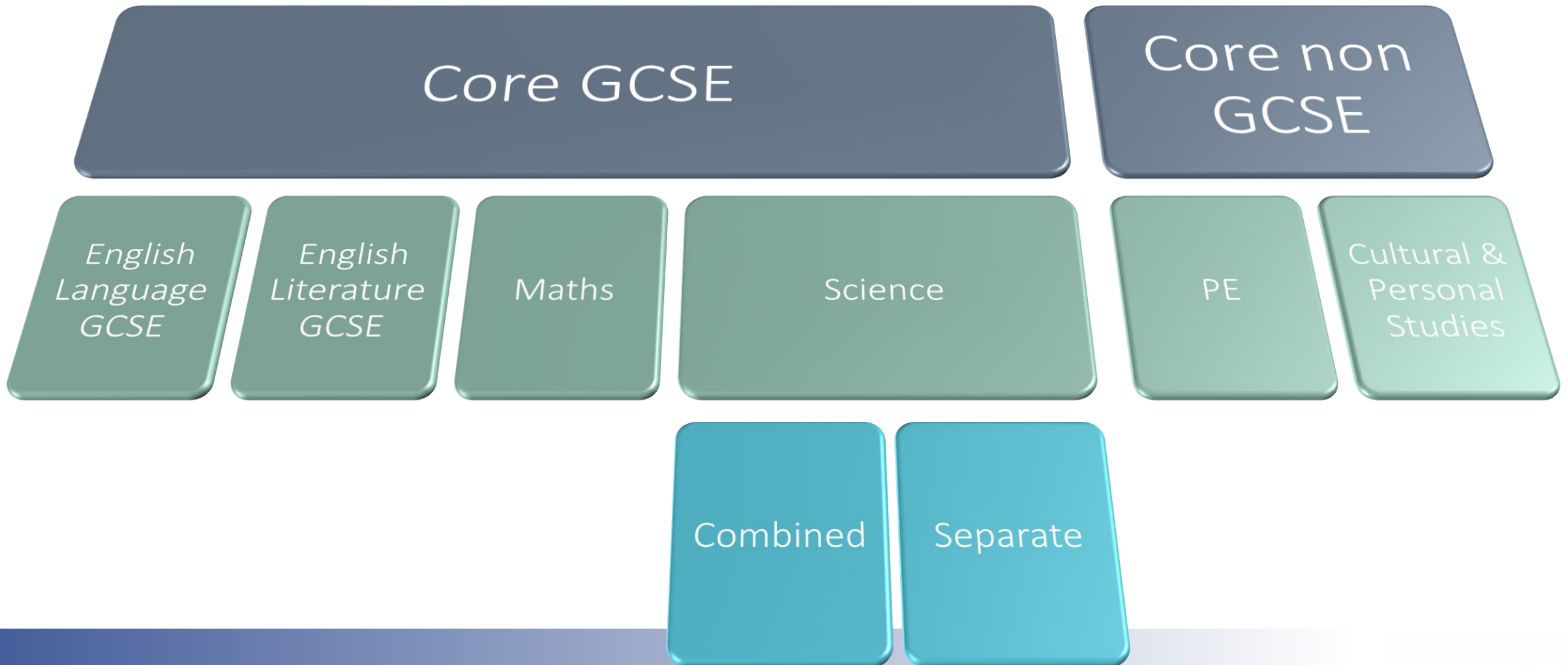
A Broad & Balanced Curriculum

Non examined core curriculum subjects

'Core'
**Physical
Education**

'Core'
**Cultural &
Personal Studies**

Key Stage 4 Core Curriculum



Option Subjects

Guided Option
Choice

History
GCSE

Geography
GCSE

Option Subjects

Guided Option
Choice

French
GCSE

Spanish
GCSE

Why study a Language?

Reason 1: The global tech industry is booming

‘I want a job in tech but employers want me to speak a second language.’ In this increasingly globalised world, languages have become like currency or stock - the more you speak, the higher your value rises.

Reason 2: Languages give students the edge

“Language skills are very sought after by employers,” says economist Pawel Adrijan. GCSE or A Level qualifications in languages open doors for traditional careers but also in digital marketing, social media and sales.

Reason 3: Languages open up the world

Learning any language can make us more successful working abroad and builds resilience and agility. It provides ‘cultural capital’. We’re living in the age of the soft skills, so being good listeners and communicators will give you the edge in networking and keep future options open.

Reason 4: Employers know language students are quick learners

Languages give you the edge because they're academically rigorous and challenging to learn and therefore not mastered by many. In applying ourselves to a second language, we improve our aptitude for study itself, especially our listening and communication abilities.

Reason 5: Languages boost confidence

Speaking a second language teaches you communication, presentation and soft skills that help you to connect to your audience more. All these transferable skills will give your overall confidence levels a boost, regardless of the scenario.

The English Baccalaureate (Ebacc)

The EBacc is a set of subjects at GCSE. To achieve the EBacc students need to achieve a Grade 5 or above in English, Maths, History or Geography, 2 Sciences and a Modern Foreign Language.

The EBacc

What are the advantages?

The EBacc offers a broad and balanced curriculum in a range of traditional “academic” subjects. Achieving a good grade in a Humanity and a Language on top of the core subjects demonstrates a wide range of skills and qualities, which are becoming increasingly important in the current global economic climate.

Key Stage 4 Options

*Guided
Option Choice*

Free Option
Choice

Humanity

Language

?

?

Name:	Tutor Group:
<p align="center">Guided Options</p> <p>To ensure students retain a broad, <u>balanced</u> and ambitious curriculum at Key Stage 4 all students are expected to select a Humanity and a Language. This combination of subjects ensures students develop a wide range of skills and attributes. It also ensures students have access to the widest range of options post 16. Students who achieve a grade 5 or above in Core subjects plus a Humanity and Language will have successfully achieved the English Baccalaureate (please refer to the options booklet for more information).</p>	

Please select either History or Geography. If you wish to take History <u>and</u> Geography you can select the second humanity in the free option choice section.			
Geography		History	

Please select either French or Spanish.			
French		Spanish	

If you wish to request to be disapplied from studying a Language, please tick this box. Please record the subject you would like to study in its place by selecting three subjects in the free options selection below.	
Please briefly explain why you would no longer wish to study a Language at KS 4	

Free Option Choices	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please select in order of preference If you wish to do Separate Sciences, you must choose this as <u>one</u> of your Free Option Choices. Only select a third option if you are requesting to be disapplied from studying a language 	
1	
2	
3	
Reserve choice	
I feel unable to make my choices and would like to request an interview: (please tick)	
Signed (student)	
Signed (parent/carers)	

What if studying a Language is not appropriate for my child?

Key Stage 4 Options

Free Option Choice

?

?

- Fine Art GCSE
- Photography GCSE
- Child Development Cambridge National Certificate
- Computer Science GCSE
- Creative Media Production BTEC L1/ L2
- Dance BTEC Technical Performing Arts
- Design & Technology GCSE
- Drama GCSE
- Enterprise BTEC L1/2
- Food Preparation and Nutrition GCSE
- French GCSE
- Geography GCSE
- History GCSE
- Hospitality and Catering WJEC L1/2
- Music GCSE
- Physical Education GCSE
- Sport Studies L2 Cambridge National Certificate
- Spanish GCSE
- Religious Studies GCSE

2 Free Option Choices

Alternative Curriculum Invitation only

ASDAN
Gateway

ASDAN
Land Based

Your 9 accredited subjects

English
Literature

Maths

Science

Guided
Choice

English
Language

Science

Guided
Choice

Free
Choice

Separate
Science

Free
Choice



The Key Stage 4 Curriculum

Factors to consider

A Broad & Balanced Curriculum

- 
- Fine Art GCSE
 - Art Photography GCSE
 - Music GCSE
 - Drama GCSE
 - Dance Technical Performing Arts

- 
- Separate Science
 - Computer Science GCSE
 - Design & Technology GCSE
 - Food Preparation & Nutrition GCSE

- 
- Geography GCSE
 - History GCSE
 - Religious Studies GCSE

- 
- French GCSE
 - Spanish GCSE

- 
- Physical Education GCSE
 - Sport Studies

- 
- Child Development
 - Creative Media Production
 - Gateway

Be aspirational & consider future choices

Assessment

- Examined at the end of the two year course
- Non Exam Assessment

- Art
- Art Photography
- Child Development
- Creative Media Production
- Dance
- Design & Technology
- Drama

- Enterprise
- Food
- French
- Hospitality & Catering
- Music
- PE
- Spanish
- Sports Studies

How to choose

Be an individual

- What do I enjoy?
- What am I good at?
- What will provide me with a good balance of subjects?
- What do I want / need to study in future A Levels / BTECs?

Poor reasons for option choices.....

- Your friends are going to take it
- You like the teacher
- Because you think it will be easy
- Because your brother/sister took the subject
- It is a new subject and you don't really know what it involves
- Because they have a cool trip to...

Do your research!

Name:	Tutor Group:
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Signed (student)	
Signed (parent/carer)	

Deadline for selecting choices is 9am Friday 24 February 2023

Interviews with students who require additional support or guidance will be available from 27th February 2023.

To contact me please email jacobss@clystvale.org