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# Year 9 GCSE Subject Preferences



**Kingsthorpe College**

ASPIRATION | RESPONSIBILITY | RESPECT | CARE

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**#TeamKC**



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# Y9 Subject Preferences

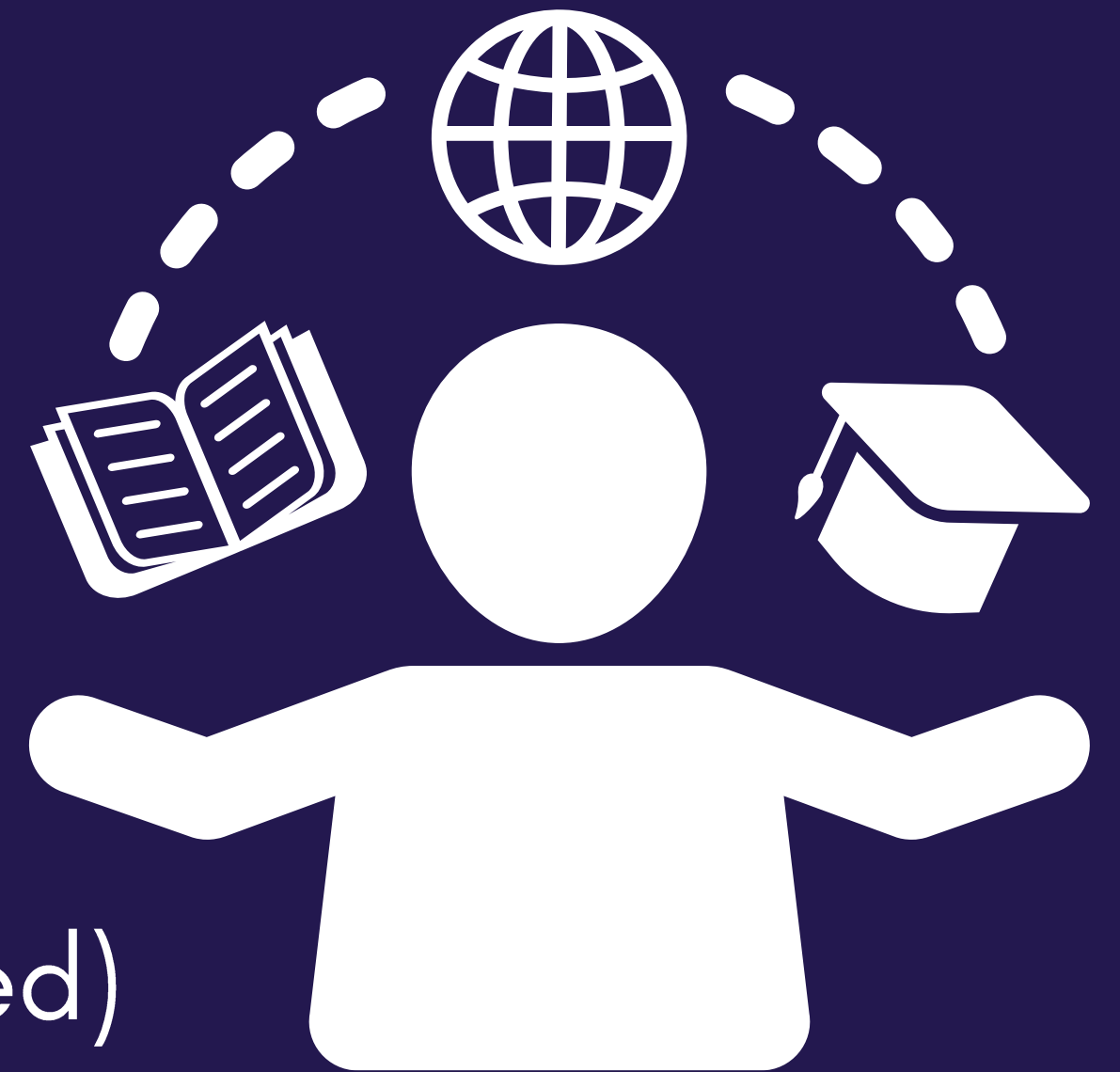
- You are at a very exciting time in your school career.
- You are about to make some very important decisions about which courses to take in Years 10 and 11.
- We want to help you make the right choices.

**Dream Big. Work Hard. Stay Humble.**

# THE CORE CURRICULUM

All students must take the following:

- English Language
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- Science – Combined or Triple
- Core PE, RE and PSHE (non examined)



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# PATHWAYS

Students can take one of two pathways

- Pathway 1 – The Ebacc Pathway
- Pathway 2 – The KC Central Curriculum
- In both pathways, students must choose at least one option from either History or Geography (or both)
- These pathways have been devised based upon various factors including CATs scores, reading levels, current progress and attendance.

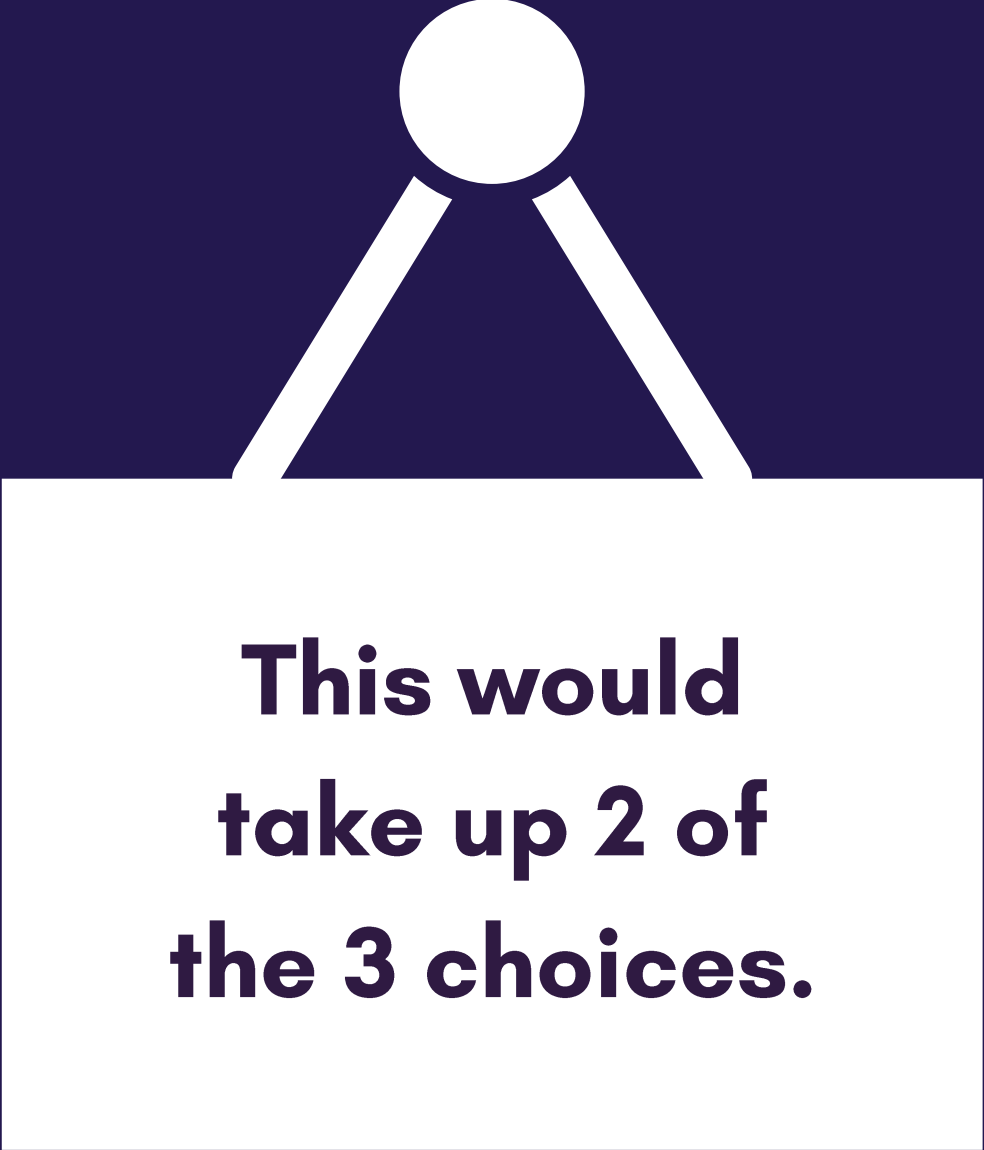
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# PATHWAY 1 - THE EBACC

An extra qualification gained through the taking of the following subjects:

- English
- Maths
- Science
- A Language – French/German
- History or Geography



**This would  
take up 2 of  
the 3 choices.**

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# PATHWAY 2

# THE KC CENTRAL CURRICULUM

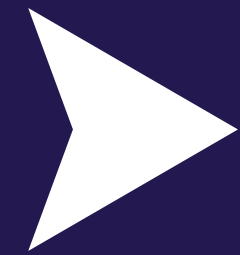
Every student will choose at least one from History or Geography.

This allows 2 other subject preferences

90% of the cohort are expected to take pathway 1 or 2.

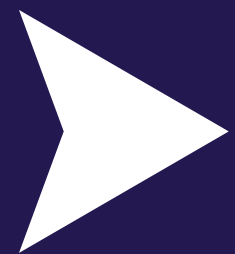
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# PATHWAYS

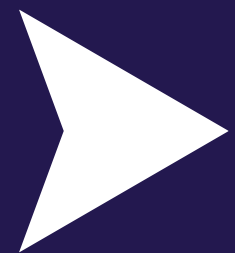


We will email students with suggested subjects based on their current performance, attendance and CATs test scores – however the choice is yours!

# TYPES OF QUALIFICATION

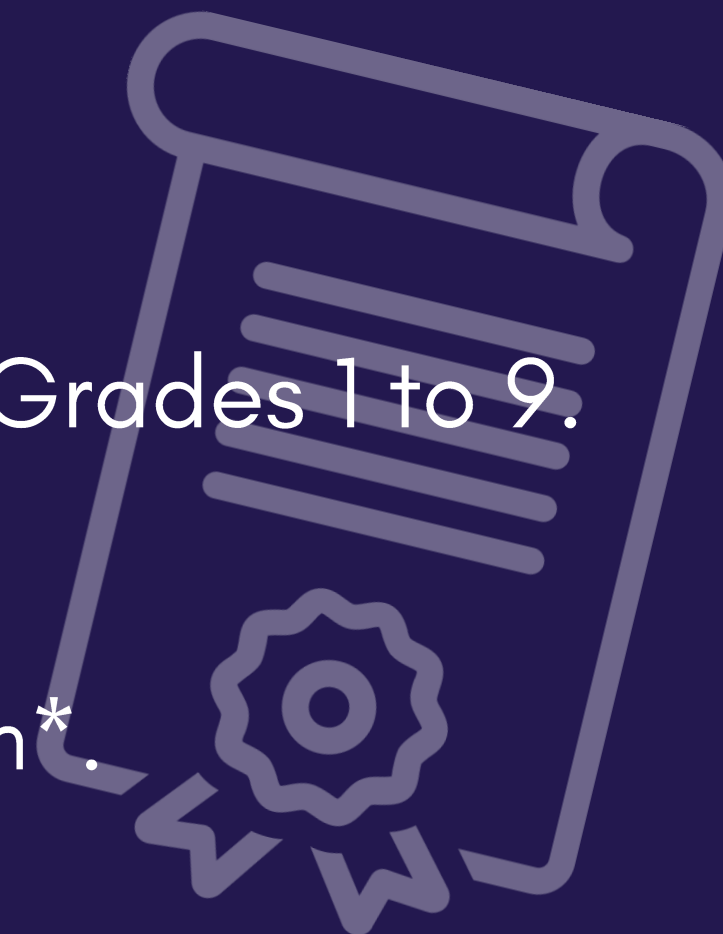


GCSE – General Certificate of Secondary Education – Grades 1 to 9.



VOCATIONAL – Graded as Level 1 Pass – Level 2 Distinction\*.

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# DIFFERENCES BETWEEN COURSES

## Vocational

- 3 units studied over 2 years.
- 1 exam sat at the end of Year 11.
- 2 internally assessed units where content is taught and applied to an assignment brief in controlled conditions.
- Students will be aware of their grades for each unit as they progress through the course.
- A mixture of theoretical and practical learning.
- Every unit assessment throughout the 2 years counts towards the final grade.

## GCSE

- Assessed through exams at the end of the course.
- Content is taught across the 2 years of study.
- Content has to be retained and revised for exams at the end of Year 11.
- The number of exams you will sit will be dependent on the subject.



# SUBJECTS YOU CAN CHOOSE

<b>Ebacc Subjects</b>
<b>Modern Foreign Languages French or German</b>
<b>History</b>
<b>Geography</b>
<b>Computer Science</b> (Must be in the top 2 sets in Maths)

<b>Open Subjects</b> (A maximum of 2 subjects may be chosen)	
<b>GCSE Subjects</b>	<b>Vocational Subjects</b>
<b>Art &amp; Design - Fine Art</b>	<b>Enterprise</b>
<b>Photography</b>	<b>Dance</b>
<b>Philosophy &amp; Ethics</b>	<b>Drama</b>
<b>Sociology</b>	<b>Health &amp; Social Care</b>
<b>Music - GCSE</b>	<b>iMedia</b>
<b>Art &amp; Design - Textiles</b>	<b>Sport Science</b>

# SCIENCE PATHWAYS

- At Kingsthorpe College we offer two science pathways at GCSE: Combined Science and Triple Science.
- **What is Triple Science?**
- Triple Science consists of 3 single GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.
- **What is Combined Science?**
- Students also study all 3 sciences, however, there is less content. It is the equivalent of 2 GCSEs.



# SCIENCE PATHWAYS

- **Who is eligible to study Triple Science?**
- Assessments will take place throughout year 9 to decide on the best pathway for each student
- **What about A-level science?**
- Students who wish to study A-level sciences can access A-levels through either the Triple or Combined Science pathways.
- Their final GCSE grades must meet the college's entry criteria for the subject of their choice.



# ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

- Careers and Aspirations booklet so you can consider some of the career choices available to you.
- Tutor Drop-In Sessions with Mrs De-Wit and Miss Gilligan to answer any questions and support in completing the online form.

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# SUBJECT PREFERENCE FORM

Identified pathways for students will be indicated on your electronic subject preference form.

- To opt for Computer Science, students must be in either sets 1 or 2 in Mathematics.

Students cannot choose:

- Both **Computer Science** and **iMedia**.
- You can only pick 1 **Art and Design** course.

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# MAKING THE RIGHT CHOICE

- Do you like the subject?
- Will you do well at the subject?
- Do you know what the course involves?
- Will it help you in the future with your chosen career?
- Will it keep your options open regarding courses you might want to do in the future?
- Are you choosing it because your friends have chosen it?
- **Choose wisely – unable to change subjects after Sept.**

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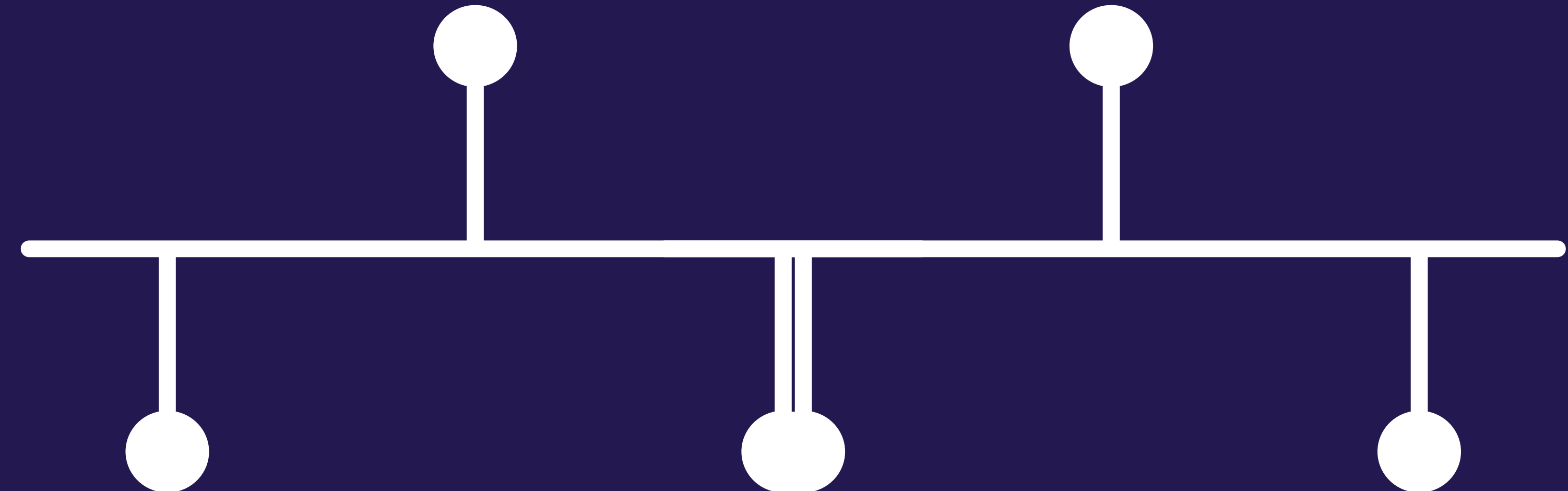
# TIMELINE

## Week beginning 18<sup>th</sup> February

- Subject booklet shared with parents/carers/students.
- Careers and Aspirations booklet shared with parents/carers/students.

## Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December

- Y9 parents evening – individual appointments with subject teachers
- Online form will open after this.



## Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November

- Y9 Subject Preference Assembly

## Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November

- Y9 Subject Preference Evening 6.00pm.

## Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January

- Subject Preference deadline – 3pm.

EVERYTHING IS POSSIBLE

# KINGSTHORPE COLLEGE



WE WILL ACHIEVE THIS THROUGH OUR CORE VALUES OF

**Aspiration, Responsibility, Respect and Care.**

THESE VALUES WILL BE SHOWN DAY TO DAY WHEN WE

**Dream Big, Work Hard and Stay Humble.**