YEAR 9 PARENTS INFORMATION EVENING 2024

NONSUCH

HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

FORGING OUR PATHS; BUILDING THE FUTURE

WELCOME

MISS WRIGHT

DEPUTY HEAD, CURRICULUM

MR DAVISON HEAD OF YEAR 9

- CULTURE AND COMMUNITY
- GCSE OPTIONS
- SUPPORT AND SAFETY
- EXPECTATIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

YEAR 9 TUTOR TEAM

Mercury
Ms S Patterson

Venus
Miss S Collins

Mars
Miss R Cross Padden

Jupiter
Ms K Faerber

Saturn
Mr B Duncan

Neptune
Mrs N Jayaraj

Pluto
Mrs Khan

PASTORAL SUPPORT TEAM

Mrs Hart
Designated Safeguarding Lead

Ms Osborne
Assistant Head, Pastoral Acting DSL

Mrs Bond
SEND Co-ordinator

Mr Davison
Head of Year 9

PASTORAL TEAM

Ms Hicks
Pastoral Support Officer

Miss Campbell
ELSA

Ms Muhtaseb
Neurodiversity Mentor

Ms Weaver
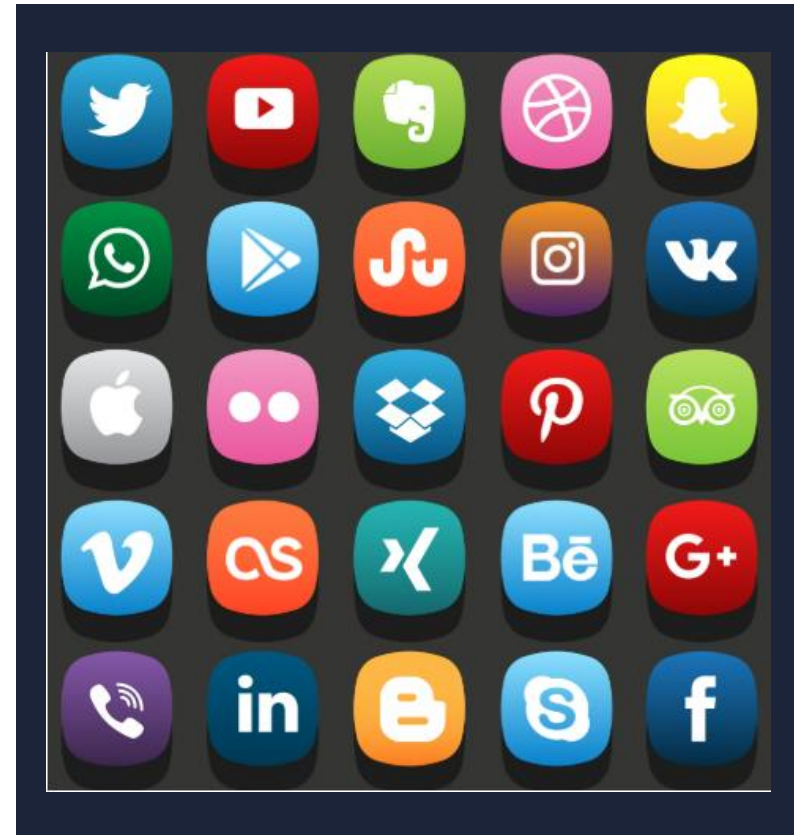School Counsellor

Ms Vargas-Clara
Child Wellbeing
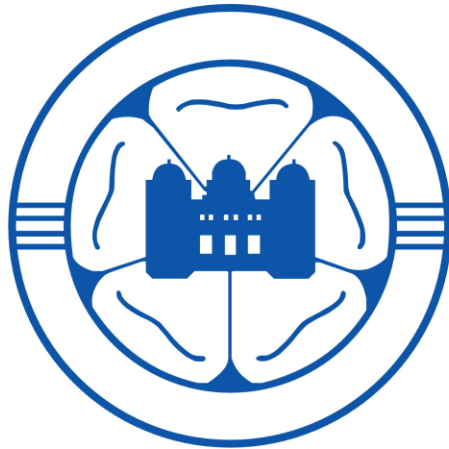Practictioner

Ms Idowu
Community School Nurse

Social Media

Is it kind?

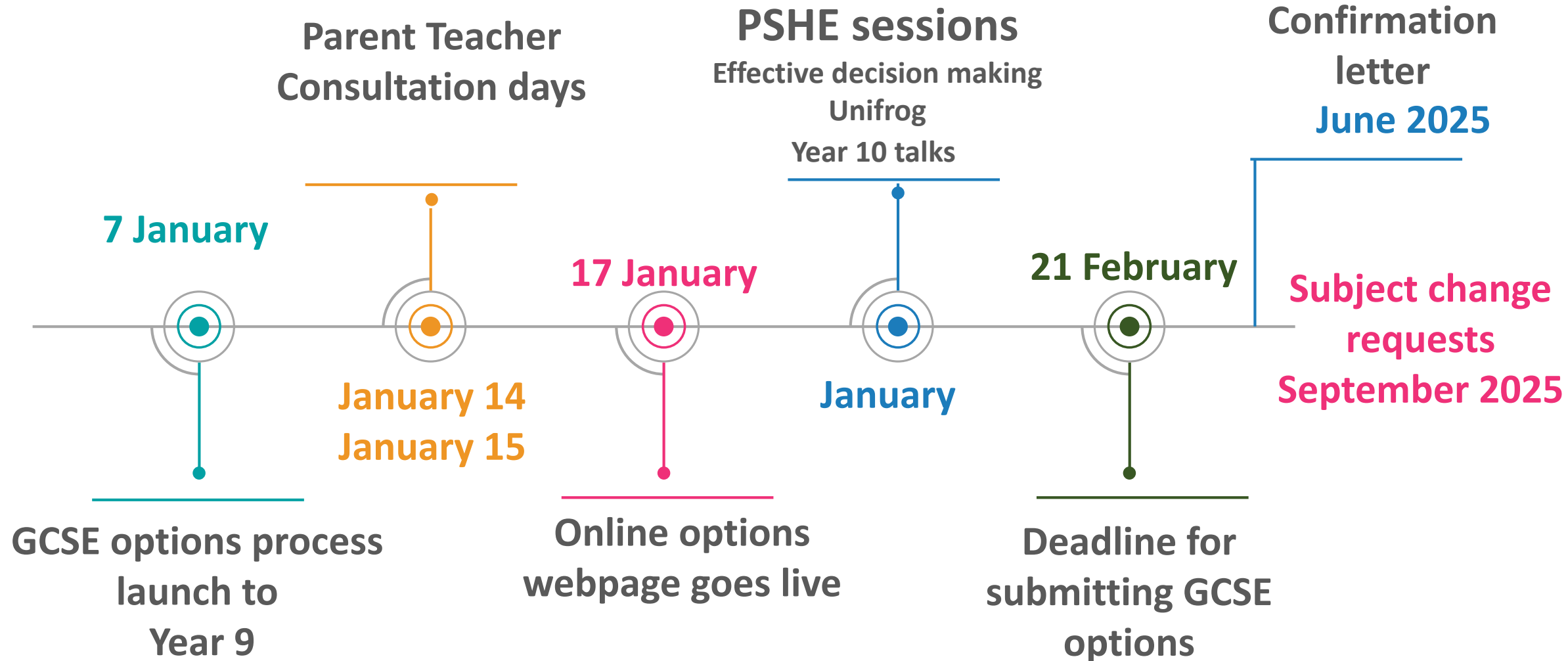**Is it necessary?**

Is it hurtful?

GCSE
Curriculum

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FORGING OUR PATHS; BUILDING THE FUTURE

JANUARY 2025 - JUNE 2025
GCSE OPTIONS key milestones

Parent Teacher Consultation days

PSHE sessions
Effective decision making
Unifrog
Year 10 talks

Confirmation letter
June 2025

7 January

17 January

21 February

January 14
January 15

January

Subject change requests
September 2025

GCSE options process launch to Year 9

Online options webpage goes live

Deadline for submitting GCSE options

What subjects do they study in KS4?
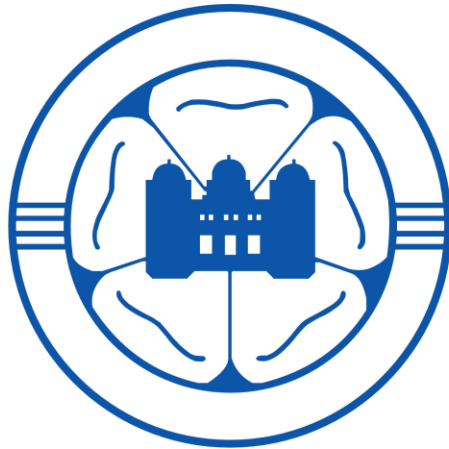
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FORGING OUR PATHS; BUILDING THE FUTURE

An outstanding curriculum for all

Broad and balanced offer

- Something for everyone
- Specialization choices
- Challenging and engaging
- Building on prior knowledge
- Skills for life
- Encouraging diversity
- Building character and confidence
- Building global awareness

GCSE OPTION SUBJECT CHOICES

- History

- Geography

- RS (converts short course to full course)

- French

- Latin

- German

- Spanish

- Astronomy

- Computer Science

- Photography

- Physical Education

- Food Technology

- DT Textiles*

- Product Design*

- Fine Art

- Music

- Drama

* students cannot study both GCSE Product Design and DT Textiles

WHAT WILL THE TIMETABLE LOOK LIKE?

If you opt to study FULL course GCSE RE

50 sixty minute-lessons on two-week cycle

Periods	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
																																					OPTION 1													
10/11	Ma	Ma	Ma	Ma	Ma	Ma	En	En	En	En	En	En	En	En	Chem	Chem	Chem	Chem	Bio	Bio	Bio	Bio	Phy	Phy	Phy	Phy	MFL	MFL	MFL	MFL	PE	PE	PE	PE	RS	RS	RS	RS	Study	Study	OPTION 2				OPTION 3				PHSCE	PHSCE

If you opt to study HALF course GCSE RE

50 sixty minute-lessons on two-week cycle

Periods	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
10/11	Ma	Ma	Ma	Ma	Ma	Ma	En	En	En	En	En	En	En	En	Chem	Chem	Chem	Chem	Bio	Bio	Bio	Bio	Phy	Phy	Phy	Phy	MFL	MFL	MFL	MFL	PE	PE	PE	PE	RS	RS	OPTION 1				OPTION 2				OPTION 3				PHSCE	PHSCE

Core offer: Science, Maths & English

No setting

- Students across all classes will study exactly the same GCSE content
- One top tier of students (approx. 60 students). This group are taught at a faster pace so that they can study Certificate of Maths
- English: All the same texts
- All of our students are entered for the higher tier examinations

Core offer: RS

Full course RS (1 GCSE) – select 2 more GCSEs plus two study periods. Ten GCSEs studied in total

Short course RS (0.5 GCSE)- select 3 more GCSEs. Ten and half GCSEs studied in total

LIMITED SPACES

GCSE DT TEXTILES
Limited to 20 spaces

GCSE Food Preparation
40 spaces

CERTIFICATE IN FURTHER MATHS

1. What is the Certificate of Further Maths?

2. Why is it studied?

3. Who studies it?

4. If my child does not study it, does that mean she cannot go on to study A Level Maths and A Level Further Maths?
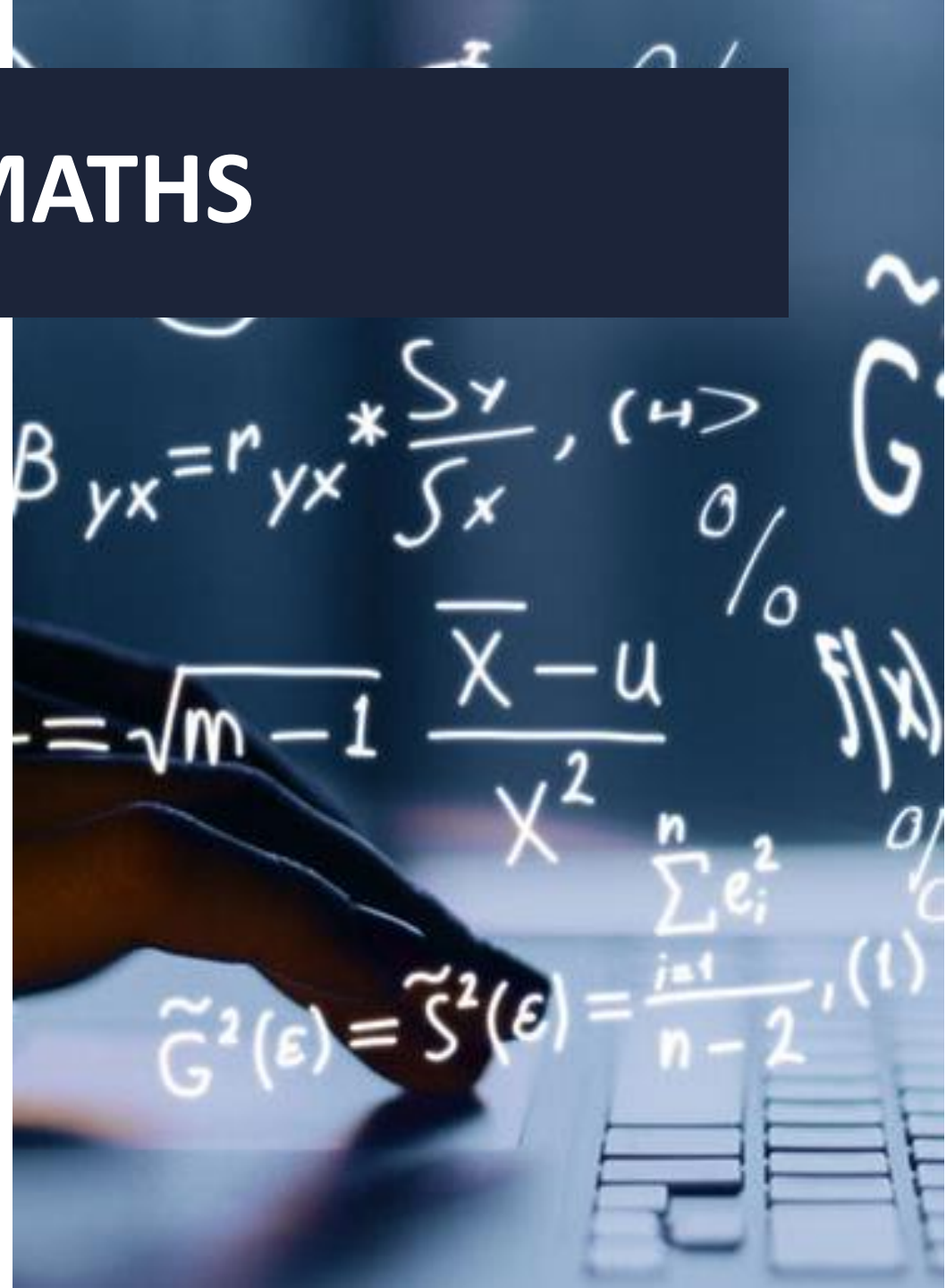
HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT YOUR CHILD

- Discuss future aspirations.
- Work backwards- career, degree, A levels
- What do they enjoy?
- **Avoid selecting what you think they should be studying**
- Review the GCSE course guide together
- Sixth form prospectus- A level entry requirements
- Career Advisor
- Unifrog
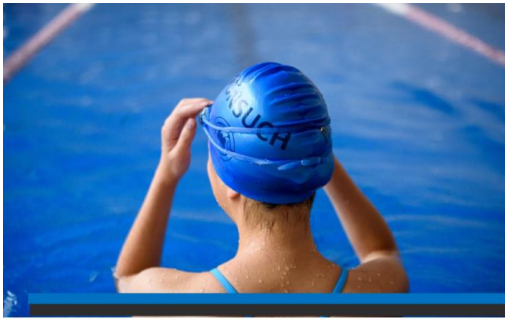
GCSE Computer Science

Examination Board: AQA
Examination: 100%

Why study GCSE Computer Science?
If you found yourself with more questions than we covered in KS3, or love that feeling of success when a program finally works, then Computer Science is for you.

Studying Computer Science gives you a deeper understanding of topics you have met already as well as a few new ones. Key computing concepts and the fundamentals of computer programming are recovered and extended through Visual Basic.Net which also helps you make the step towards industry-standard programming languages.

What are the benefits of GCSE Computer Science?
AQA have designed this specification to address industry concerns about "a lack of skills" in the Computer Science field and to provide an academically rigorous, valuable qualification. Nearly every employment sector will have some element of Computer Science involved and if you understand enough to be able to explain it to others, then you will find many companies that will want you to be able to translate between the technical teams and the delivery teams.

Perhaps you are more technically minded, in which case this course gives you the grounding you need to develop your skills in whichever programming language you end up using.

The classes are designed to help develop your knowledge and logical thinking, while encouraging you to explore your inquisitive nature to develop independent learning and problem-solving skills. The programming tasks introduce you again to a set of basic concepts and translates them from KS3 programming languages into Visual Basic.Net before applying them to a programmable solution as a team or individually. It lays the groundwork for learning, working and living in an increasingly digital world but does **not** aim to teach you how to use computers or software as this would fall into the IT specification.

Being digitally literate is important for the future, but being able to create the systems that will improve our existence requires Computer Science. If you love programming, and you are interested in what is going on inside a computer, or how data moves seemingly effortlessly across the world, Computer Science is for you.

Theory Topics:
As well as learning practical skills, you will study how and why computers work which then affects how we write the programs that interact with them. With some overlap from Physics, you will discover the micro world of how images appear on our screens, why telephone waiting line music always cuts out, what is inside the black box of a computer and why are Gaming computers so expensive? What is the internet? When we save to "the cloud" where does it really go? Is my digital data truly safe anywhere and what can I do to reduce my risk of cyber-attack? How do we get computers and printers to talk to each other? What impact are we having on our fragile planet through our use of Computer Science? What is the impact on humanity and is it heading in the right direction?

Support for Learning:
You will be issued with a textbook specifically written for the AQA GCSE qualification. Lesson content and additional learning materials are provided via

SharePoint and Teams, so that you can access, revisit or review content whenever you wish. Most homework will also be set, submitted, marked and returned using Teams or in your exercise book. At the end of each unit, we would offer short-term peer mentoring if you struggled with the content. You will be asked to sit a second test at the end of this to measure improvement or identify further need for support.

We recommend having access to a Windows-based computer for the course so that there are no compatibility issues with the software we use. Whilst we try to keep to online software, we may have to use programming software which requires loading onto a computer. As such, it is assumed that you will have primary or equally shared access to a computer at home that can have software installed or will work during Twilight sessions.

Theory Assessment (100% of the GCSE assessment)
At the end of Year 11 you will sit two written examinations. The papers consist of a mix of multiple choice, short-answer, longer-answer and extended response questions. The first paper assesses programming (with hand-written questions set in Visual Basic), practical problem solving and computational thinking skills and the second assesses your theoretical knowledge.

Practical Assessment
Throughout the course, you will rediscover the programming concepts covered at KS3 and look at more data structures. These skills will be assessed as we go along, building up in complexity. Paper 1 assesses your programming logic and understanding of structures, using a combination of pseudocode, flowcharts and Visual Basic. This is a handwritten assessment, and students need to be prepared to put in the practice outside of lessons both in computer-based and hand-written coding. There is no NEA assessment in this course.

Other opportunities
There are always plenty of clubs to be led by students and the Computer Science Department is always open to ideas if there is an area you feel particularly passionate about. We usually have year 10s running our Cyber Club for KS3, and we also open applications for CS mentors around the Autum half term.

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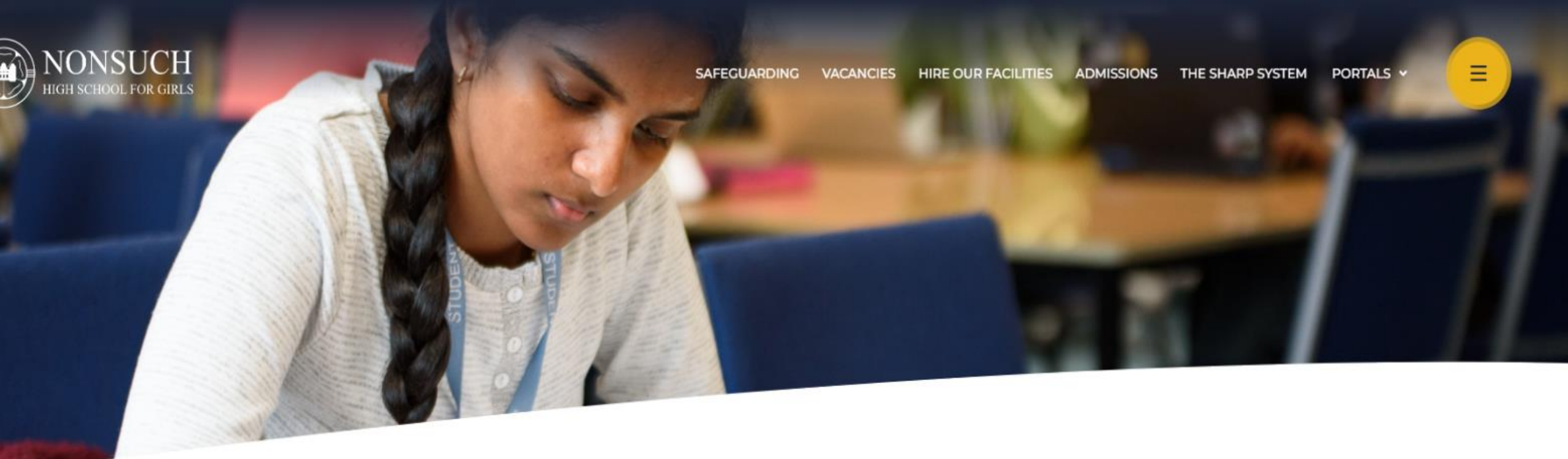
HOME → SIXTH FORM → SIXTH FORM CURRICULUM OFFER

Sixth Form Curriculum Offer

We offer a wide choice of A Levels and strongly encourage students to take a breadth of subjects. In the table below, are the A level subjects currently being studied by our students.

Art	French	Music
Biology	Geography	Physical Education
Chemistry	German	Physics
Computer Science	Government & Politics	Product Design
Drama	History	Psychology

The **minimum** requirement for entry to the Sixth Form at Nonsuch High School for Girls is an average point score of 6 over their best eight GCSE subjects and a grade 6 in English (either Lang or Lit) and Mathematics.

Subject	Exam Board	Criteria
Art & Design: Fine Art	AQA	Minimum of a grade 7 in GCSE Art or portfolio seen (if Art GCSE not taken)
Biology	OCR	Minimum of a grade 7 in GCSE Biology
Chemistry	OCR	Minimum of a grade 7 in GCSE Chemistry
Computer Science	AQA	Minimum of a grade 7 in GCSE Computer Science or a grade 7 in Mathematics if Computer Science GCSE not taken
DT: Product Design	AQA	Minimum of a grade 7 in GCSE Product Design or portfolio seen (if Product Design GCSE not taken)
Drama	AQA	Minimum of a grade 7 in GCSE Drama or by audition (if Drama GCSE not taken)
Economics	Pearson	No additional requirements
English Literature	AQA	Minimum of a grade 7 in GCSE English Language or Literature
French	Pearson	Minimum of a grade 7 in GCSE French
Geography	AQA	Minimum of a grade 7 in GCSE Geography
German	Pearson	Minimum of a grade 7 in GCSE German
History	AQA	Minimum of a grade 7 in GCSE History
Latin	OCR	Minimum of a grade 7 in GCSE Latin

Subject	Exam Board	Criteria
Mathematics	Pearson	Minimum of a grade 7 in GCSE Mathematics
Mathematics (Further)	Pearson	A grade 9 in GCSE Mathematics and must be taken alongside Mathematics and with 4 A Levels
Music	Pearson	Minimum of a grade 7 in GCSE Music or a Grade 5 or above in Music Theory and a Grade 6 or above in an instrument is required (if Music GCSE not taken)
Physical Education	AQA	Minimum of a grade 7 in GCSE PE or evidence of sporting, dance or coaching competence (if PE GCSE not taken)
Physics	OCR	Minimum of a grade 7 in GCSE Physics
Politics	Pearson	No additional requirements
Psychology	AQA	No additional requirements
Philosophy & Ethics (RS)	OCR	No additional requirements
Spanish	Pearson	Minimum of a grade 7 in GCSE Spanish

*Students who have studied combined science and wish to study either Biology, Chemistry or Physics need a minimum of one grade 7 and one grade 8 and are advised to study one science only.

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Year 9 Options Process

We offer a very broad range of subjects at Key Stage 4.

Our offer for 2023-25 includes English Language and Literature, Mathematics, Triple Science, a half course in Religious Studies and a modern foreign language. All students study for at least ten GCSE qualifications and some opt to study for ten and a half.

The optional subjects are:

CURRICULUM

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION IN THE CURRICULUM

ASSESSMENT (STUDENT PROGRESS & REPORTING)

YEAR 9 OPTIONS PROCESS   ›

CAREERS EDUCATION

LEARNING RESOURCE CENTRE

EXAMINATIONS

FILLING IN THE ONLINE FORM

Step 1 of 3

Start > Choice 1 > Free choice > Confirmation

Choose ONE of the following Subjects:

○ German (De)
● French (Fr)
○ Spanish (Sp)

Next

FILLING IN THE ONLINE FORM

Step 2 of 3

Start > Choice: French > Free choice > Confirmation

- The numbers 2,3 and 4 are not showing order of preference.

- Short course RS does not need to be selected.

- In the example to the right, this student has selected three GCSE options.

- The system knows that this student will then study short course RS.

- Submit.

- Request for an email confirmation.

Please enter your 3 choices by entering 2, 3, 4 in the box by your chosen subjects.

Subject	Choice	
Photography (Ap)		
Fine Art (Ar)		
Astronomy (As)		
Computer Scienc (Cs)	2	
German (De)	3	
Drama (Dr)		
French (Fr)	Already selected	
Geography (Gg)		
History (Hi)		
Latin (La)		
Music (Mu)		
Product Design (Pd)		
Phyiscal Educ (Pe)		
Religious Study (Rs)		
Spanish (Sp)		
Food Prep (Tf)		
Textiles (Tx)	4	

Submit   Reset this form

MRS IVANA O'BRIEN

Careers Advisor

obrien-i@nonsuchschool.org
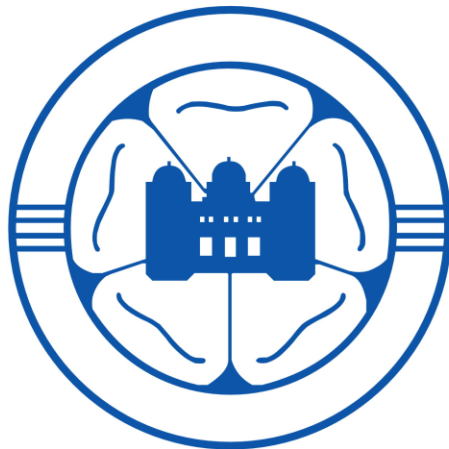
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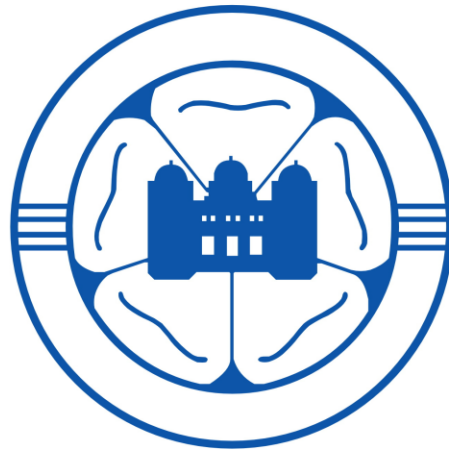
REMINDER

Friday 17th January 2025
Online registration opens

Friday 21st February 2025
Online registration closes

PSHE & RSE

Personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education

- Transition to Year 9

- Active Citizenship

- Living in the wider world

- Personal safety

- Health and wellbeing

Relationships and sex education (RSE)

- (RSE) is compulsory for all secondary school pupils

"PSHE education isn't just another school subject. It's a chance to give every child and young person an equal opportunity to develop the skills and knowledge they need to thrive now and in the future."
The PHSE Association

HOW WILL I BE KEPT INFORMED OF MY CHILD'S PROGRESS?

Year 9 Parents' Consultation Evening online

Tuesday 14th January (16:00 – 19:30)

Wednesday 15th January (13:10-15:30)

Assessment period
6-8th **May.**

ENRICHMENT AND TRIPS

- Activities Week summer term w/c 23rd June 2024

- We encourage all our students to attend at least one club a week.
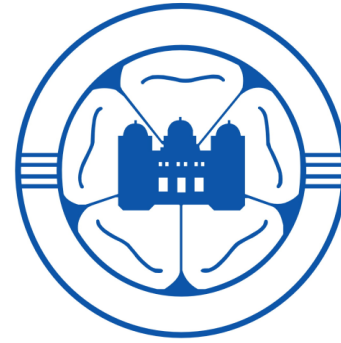
Study Skills for Y10
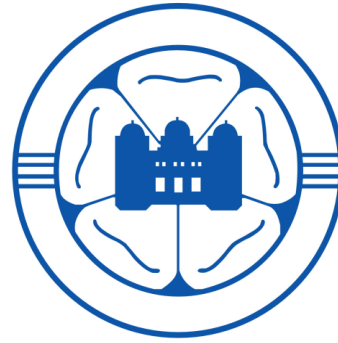
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FORGING OUR PATHS; BUILDING THE FUTURE

- Be organised
- Little and often
- Try different styles
- Ask for help!

- Clear communication
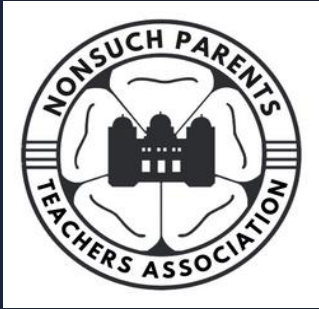- Support
- Mentoring
- Feedback
- Parental support

PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT

- School review

- Expertise / resource

- Donation

NONSUCH

HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

FORGING OUR PATHS; BUILDING THE FUTURE

NHSG
PTA

Supporting our
daughters
and our school

@nonsuchpta
fb.com/nonsuchhighschoolpta

200+ Club

The PTA raised

All funds raised to
benefit our daughters

Preloved
Uniform

Walking
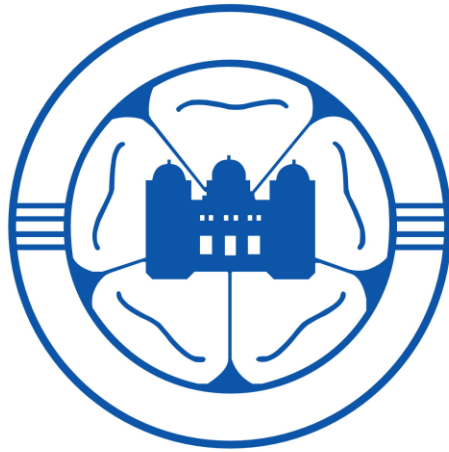Challenge
£2,013

Christmas
Raffle

Year 7
Welcome Event

Refreshment
Sales

Quiz Night

Amazon Smile
&
Easyfundriasing

Doughnut Day