



OUTWOOD ACADEMY BISHOPSGARTH YEAR 8 GUIDED PATHWAYS



Year 8 into 9

Years 9-11 Guided Pathway Information

Continuing the Five Year Curriculum Journey

We are pleased to attach the Guided Pathway information booklet for Years 9-11 at Outwood Academy Bishopsgarth.

At Outwood Grange Academies Trust we firmly believe that all children, irrespective of their starting point, are entitled to a broad and balanced curriculum which will enable them to succeed both whilst at the academy and beyond. It is our intent that the experiences we provide our students through our wider educational offer, and specifically our curriculum offer, drives our Trust vision Students First: raising standards and transforming lives. To that end, at Outwood Academy Bishopsgarth we are delighted to offer an innovative curriculum, which enables all students within our academy to fulfil their potential and develop the all-important knowledge, skills and qualities which will serve them well in later life.

Students as they move from Year 8 into Year 9 at Outwood Academy Bishopsgarth, have their first main point of choice within their 5 year educational journey with us. The use of Year 9 in this way is one of the hallmarks of our curriculum. This, along with the permanent, supernumerary subject specialist directors of English, maths, science, humanities, modern foreign languages, computer science and the arts, who work across all of our academies, are key to helping the teachers within each academy to add the maximum value that we can, to your child's education. In addition to these important subject specialists, we also deploy specialists in Special Educational Needs & Disabilities and Attendance; regular attendance, especially throughout Years 9-11, is critical to your child's success.

There are a number of opportunities over the next few years for students to personalise their curriculum pathway, the main ones being:

- Choice of Creative Experience subjects – **chosen in January of Year 8**, to start in Year 9
- Choice of Health and wellbeing course – **chosen in January of Year 8**, to start in Year 9
- Choice of main Guided Pathway qualifications – **chosen in January of Year 9**, to start in Year 10
- Choice of one further Guided Pathway course for most students – **chosen in January of Year 10**, to start in Year 11 (information about this will be shared in Year 9 and again in Year 10)

These elements are a further feature of our flexible Guided Pathways curriculum for Years 9-11; which, alongside a core entitlement, make up the broad and balanced range of subjects on offer.

Furthermore, we fully support the entitlement that students have to study the group of qualifications which the government calls the English Baccalaureate (EBacc): English, mathematics, sciences, one humanities subject (geography or history) and a modern foreign language. To both support attainment in this important group of subjects and promote a broad and balanced curriculum for your child, we require all students to study either geography or history at GCSE. For many students it will be appropriate that they also study a modern foreign language subject so that they can attain the Full EBacc which, increasingly, higher education establishments are looking for: these subjects are also an excellent foundation for those who wish to go on and study A Levels in the 'Facilitating Subjects' (biology, chemistry, English, geography, history, maths, modern and classical languages, physics). It is possible to study both geography and history alongside a modern foreign language if a student wishes. We will advise you if we believe that your child should be following the Full EBacc route and as always, provide specialist independent careers advice to ensure that you have access to impartial support during this process. We will revisit this in a year's time, ahead of the main Guided Pathway qualification choices.

We understand that this is a crucial time and the choosing of, particularly, qualification courses is very important. You will find further information about support available to you in this booklet and through attending a virtual information evening on Tuesday 19th January at 5pm.

Whatever your son or daughter is hoping to study, and then do in later life, I am sure that you will find the Guided Pathway process helpful, in the full knowledge that our sole aim is to put Students First: raising standards and transforming lives.

Making the Choice

In general terms what does the curriculum look like?

The timetable week contains 25 x 1 hour periods; plus, Tutor time.

	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Core	English 4 hrs Maths 4 hrs Science 3 hrs Geography 1 hr History 1 hr MFL 2 hrs PE 2 hrs RE/LIFE 2 hrs Digital Literacy 1 hr	English 5 hrs Maths 4 hrs Science 4 hrs PE 1 hr RE/LIFE 1 hr	English 5 hrs Maths 4 hrs Science 6 hrs PE 1 hr
Creative Experience subjects	Choice of two subjects <i>Subject one 1 hr</i> <i>Subject two 1 hr</i>		
Health and wellbeing course	Choice of one subject <i>Subject one 3 hrs</i>	<i>Continuation on 4 hrs #</i>	
Guided Pathway qualifications	Subject one is either > history or > geography	Choice of two subjects <i>Subject one 3 hrs</i> <i>Subject two 3 hrs</i>	<i>Continuation on 3 hrs each</i>
Further Guided Pathway course			Choice of one course <i>Course one 3 hrs</i>

Course completed at the end of Year 10

Creative Experience Subjects (Chosen in January of Year 8, to start in Year 9)

Students to choose two subjects (plus two reserves) from this list
Art Music Computing Food Textiles

(There will be an opportunity to review these choices during the Autumn Term of Year 9 and if necessary different subjects can be taken for the Spring Term of Year 9)

Health and wellbeing Course (Chosen in January of Year 8, to start in Year 9)

Students to choose one subject from this list
Child Development (Cambridge National Certificate) Sport Science (Cambridge National Certificate)

(There will be an opportunity to review progress on this course during the Autumn Term of Year 9)

Guided Pathway Qualifications

(Chosen in January of Year 9, to start in Year 10)

The courses which students can choose from, to start in Year 10, are provisionally:

Students to choose two subjects (plus two reserves) from these lists	
Students will need to choose at least one subject from this list of Humanity EBacc subjects	Art and Design (GCSE) Geography (GCSE) German (GCSE) Child Development (Cambridge National Certificate) History (GCSE) Hospitality and Catering (Vocational Award) Music (BTEC Tech Award) Sport Science (Cambridge National Certificate)
History (GCSE) Geography (GCSE)	

Please note, we will be asking for only draft choices for these now. This is purely for our information to help with future planning and students will make their firm choices in a years' time.

Child Development

Course Details

Qualification	-	Cambridge Nationals
Exam Board	-	OCR
Method of Assessment	-	50% examination and 50% controlled assessment

Course Information and Structure

Throughout this course students will gain an understanding of the development norms from birth to five years and the stages and benefits of play. They will also gain knowledge of, and skills in, developing activities to observe development norms in children up to the age of five through their coursework. This will include researching, planning and carrying out activities with a child and observing and evaluating these activities, as well as comparing the child to the expected development norms.

All students will study three mandatory topics as follows:

- Health and well-being for child development
- Understand the equipment and nutritional needs of children from birth to five years
- Understand the development norms of a child from birth to five years.

Unit R018: Health and well-being for child development

Unit R019: Understand the equipment and nutritional needs of children from birth to five years

Unit R020: Understand the equipment and nutritional needs of children from birth to five years

Assessment

Unit R018: Written paper - 1 hour and 15 minutes – 80 marks

Unit R019: Centre assessed tasks OCR moderated Approx. 7-10 hours – 60 marks

Unit R020: Centre assessed tasks OCR moderated Approx. 7-10 hours – 60 marks

Student Comment

“I really enjoy learning about how children develop and the discussion work we take part in to help us be able to express our opinions in a more informed way.”

Progression Routes

Cambridge Nationals in Child Development is the ideal preparation for life and a whole range of career opportunities. It can lead to Apprenticeships in Health & Social Care, Children and Young People’s Workforce or Early Years Education (Levels 2 & 3). In addition to these it can lead to Cambridge Technical Award in Health & Social Care (Levels 2 & 3) and GCE Psychology (Level 3)

Advice and Guidance - For further information you should speak to Ms Bloom

Sports Studies

Course Details

Qualification - Cambridge National Award in Sport Studies

Exam Board - OCR

QAN Code - 600/5123/1

Method of Assessment - 25% external assessment and 75% controlled assessment.

Course information and structure

All students should show some interest in the subject and will be expected to take part in all of their practical lessons.

The course is divided into 4 units which include Developing sport skills (practical), Contemporary issues in sport (exam based), Sports leadership and the influence media has on sport.

You will have the opportunity to not only demonstrate your practical skills but to lead your own session to help others develop their practical skills.

Progression Routes

Don't think that the only job you can do with a P.E qualification is to be an athlete or to become a P.E teacher.

There are lots of careers that start from a sporting background such as Sports therapist, Sports journalist, a Personal Trainer, Sports Coach, a Sports Marketing person and a Sports development officer.

Some students have used this qualification to go onto College and study Public Services or have applied to go straight into the Armed Forces.

There are plenty of opportunities out there when completing a Sports course!

Advice and Guidance - Year 8 students

You should choose Sport Studies because you enjoy P.E lessons and want to learn more about Sport. Sport Studies will not all be about practical lessons so be prepared for theory lessons too!

Creative Experience Subjects

The following pages provide information about the Creative option choices:

- Art
- Music
- Computing
- Food
- Textiles

All students will pick two of these courses (plus reserve choices). These subjects will be studied in year 9 for 1 hour per week to provide students with a rich curriculum as well as being able to make informed choices for their KS4 qualifications

Art

Art and Design gives you the skills and knowledge to create personal and imaginative work. You can choose to focus on a specialist area of study from a variety of exciting processes and media to suit your individual interests and abilities. This can lead to focussing on your own personal interests whether that is painting portraits to producing exotic fashion costumes or designing futuristic architecture. If you have an adventurous, creative and enquiring mind and are excited by shaping, making and creating then this is the opportunity for you!

Music

Music in Yr9 will involve three clear areas of study:

1. Performance - you will be encouraged to develop your skills as an instrumentalist or singer.
2. Composition - you will learn how to start composing your own music from scratch, through the study of many different genres, and record them either using more traditional methods, or with technology.
3. Listening and appraisal - you will learn how to talk about music, its techniques and its theoretical side by studying lots of different styles of music, from lots of different eras.

All of the above areas will contain some assessment throughout the year, but the main focus of the entire year is to encourage students to become better musicians, to gain a greater love of music and to open up their creative potential.

Computing

During Year 9 you will develop your understanding of Computer Science and build upon skills gained during the previous two years. The course will begin with an introduction to the Google Suite of applications and explore an eSafety topic. You will then develop your practical programming skills using Small Basic and Python. Theory lessons will cover all aspects of data representation including Images & Sound. In addition to this you will undertake two Digital Literacy projects to equip you with the skills needed for your Key Stage 4 qualifications.

Food

Students will use this year to improve and develop their practical skills in the kitchen, exploring different catering skills such as basic kitchen skills, chopping, boiling, frying etc. Students will become proficient in making pastries, doughs, breads, savoury meals and working with a range of commodities from across the breadth of food groups.

The learning will be centred around different real-life scenarios which will put their learning and skills into the real world of hospitality and they can see the outcomes and how they can use their skills to be successful when qualified.

Textiles

Design and Technology will explore the practical skills used in GCSE. This will be centred around textiles. There are three areas all with a different theme looking at skills demonstration, project making and the fundamentals of fashion and textiles.

The year will focus on your practical skills and making sure you have the skills to be successful in the GCSE and help you to develop your own way of working and designing around this creative subject.

Terminology that may help you and your child

Core	These are compulsory subjects: English, maths, science, PE, RE/Life
Guided Pathway Choices	There is an element of choice about which of these subjects to study
Level 1	GCSE grades 3-1 or equivalent
Level 2	GCSE grades 9-4 or equivalent With grades 5+ being classed as strong pass grades
Level 3	'A' Level grade A*-E or equivalent
GCSE	A course graded 9-1. These are assessed mainly or solely by examination (see individual subject guides for further information)
BTEC Technical Award / OCR National	Vocational qualifications, graded pass/merit/distinction/distinction*, and equivalent to a GCSE. Larger portfolio/coursework based elements, with some assessment by exam (see individual subject guides for further information). Designed to equip students with applied knowledge and associated practical skills; and closely aligned with the world of work
Facilitating Subjects	The Facilitating Subjects are: maths, English, sciences (including computer science), geography, history and modern foreign languages. Please see link below regarding the value placed on these subjects
Full EBacc (EBacc = English Baccalaureate)	For students to study the Full EBacc they must take GCSEs in maths, English, at least two sciences, one of history or geography and a modern foreign language

<https://www.informedchoices.ac.uk/>

What sort of future planning should students be doing?

Where possible, if students have a goal to aim for, this can help focus their choice of courses. Having said that, we fully understand that many students will either not have a career path planned out or may change their plans. Our curriculum has the flexibility to accommodate this and we would also encourage students to choose a broad range of subjects and qualifications over Years 9-11, to keep their future options open.

Attainment 8

The government has set a new Level 2 Threshold measure called Attainment 8. Attainment 8 is starting to become part of the admissions criteria for some further or higher education establishments and employment. A student's Attainment 8 score not only indicates their average grade, it also demonstrates performance across a range of subjects. It expects students to have achieved best possible grades in:

- GCSE Maths and GCSE English
- Any three GCSE qualifications from the Sciences, geography, history or modern foreign languages
- A further three qualifications which can be either BTEC Technical Award/OCR National, GCSE or other approved qualifications

We will therefore support students in the core curriculum and through their Guided Pathway choices to achieve this threshold.

What if students cannot do their chosen course?

We build the Guided Pathway subject blocks based on student choices rather than ask them to pick from pre-determined blocks, so we hope that the courses offered will be available to all the students who want them but we will ask you to give us alternative/reserve choices.

Despite every effort to give all students their preferred choice, this may not always be possible. Alternatives may have to be considered if:

- Too many students opt for a particular course
- Too few students select a particular course
- We wish to advise a better range of courses to meet a student's needs
- Combinations of courses are chosen which don't work once the blocks have been created

We will write to you in the summer term to confirm your choices.

Can students change their mind?

We always do our best to ensure that all students' choices can be matched but please bear in mind that students who submit choices after the deadline may not find it possible to be placed on their first choice courses. As soon as the options deadline has passed, work begins on timetabling. Alterations to choices may not be possible from this point onwards.

Once a decision has been made and a course begun, it is extremely difficult to make any changes. It is therefore essential that time and thought be given to the combination of courses to be taken.

What support is available to help decide which Creative Experience subjects and Health and wellbeing courses to take?

1. Subject staff will be available at the Year 8-9 Guided Pathway Evening on 19th January 2021 to discuss courses
2. A careers advisor will also be available in the final 2 weeks of January with appointments available
3. Students are welcome to discuss course choices in relation to their future career plans and current level of performance with subject and pastoral staff during the academy day, over the next few weeks

Deadline for Year 8 into 9 choices forms to be submitted:

Wednesday 29th January 2021

Choices will be collected via a Google Form.

Just a reminder that we will be collecting student's choices for the following:

- Creative Experience subjects – two subjects
- Health and Wellbeing course – one course
- Guided Pathway qualifications – two qualifications; these will only be draft choices at this stage