



# Guided Choices Booklet

## 2025-2027

### **My Guided Choices**

**Please read through this booklet carefully.**

**This booklet contains information on each of the subjects available to you in Year 10. If you would like further information on any of the subjects, please see the member of staff highlighted at the bottom of each page.**

**You need to select your guided choices using the paper form or the online form by Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March. Paper forms should be returned to Mr Sorrento. Alternatively, you can use the electronic form on our website.**

## Choosing A Path For Your Future

At Cliff Park Ormiston Academy, we work very hard to ensure all students reach their full potential. It is very important to us, therefore, that our curriculum delivers a rich and varied range of opportunities, thus producing successful students ready for the challenges of life in the 21st century.

Selecting options is an important part of the process. It is your opportunity to explore your interests, prepare for your future and to begin further studies that will flourish into success. It is essential, therefore, to carefully consider the option subjects you choose. Make the choice based on your interests, what you want your future to look like and, above all, what you enjoy.

This booklet outlines what you need to know to make an informed decision throughout this process. You have the opportunity to consider each course before making a decision on the wider curriculum you wish to pursue.

Please also speak to your Head of Year, Form Tutor and subject teachers, if you require any further information.

Mr Sorrento  
**Vice Principal**

## The Core Curriculum

Your curriculum in Years 10-11 will comprise of the following:

The CORE (compulsory) Courses
English
Mathematics
Science
Religious Studies
Core Physical Education
Option Subjects
You will also get to select three 'optional subjects'. One of these <b><u>MUST</u></b> be either History or Geography

## Careers (CEIAG) and Social, Moral, Spiritual & Cultural Education (SMSC)

As part of your core curriculum, you will continue to study PSHE alongside Religious Education.

This subject promotes SMSC and British Values by covering important topics such as sex education and by incorporating activities that are designed to encourage effective relationships.

Careers guidance is built into your Form Time programme and PSHE lessons. You will have access to one-to-one careers guidance with a qualified Careers Advisor and will have the opportunity to get involved in many of the activities we have planned with the University of East Anglia, local colleges, businesses and other organisations.

## The English Baccalaureate

The English Baccalaureate is designed to offer a broad set of academic subjects and will be awarded to you if you secure good (Grade 5+) GCSE passes in English, Mathematics, the Sciences, a Modern Foreign Language and a Humanity (History or Geography).

Cliff Park Ormiston Academy will ensure that the curriculum suits the needs of all students and offers a personalised provision enabling you to achieve success. We recognise that the English Baccalaureate is an important part of your progression to higher education and employment and have, therefore, ensured our curriculum provides you with the opportunity to achieve this qualification set.

We have identified, using performance data, students who we feel would benefit from following the English Baccalaureate in their future careers. These students will study core subjects (either Geography or History) and a Modern Foreign Language (either French or Mandarin). Students will then have one further option to choose from. This combination of subjects provides a broad and balanced curriculum and ensures that NO future pathway is closed to you. This combination of subjects is highlighted as desirable from the best universities and the business community. If you would prefer to not follow the English Baccalaureate or if you have not been identified and would like to follow this route, then you should discuss this with Mr Sorrento.

## Vocational Courses versus GCSEs

Each subject within this booklet is highlighted as being either a GCSE or vocational subject.

GCSE subjects are typically taught over two years with final examinations taken at the end of Year 11. Most GCSE subjects do not have coursework or controlled assessments.

Vocational courses typically have controlled assessments and/or examinations that are completed throughout Years 10 and 11.

## How Do I Choose?



- choose courses you know you will enjoy
- choose courses you are interested in
- choose a range of different courses, so that you have a broad base from which to choose your post-16 courses
- read the subject information on the next few pages very carefully
- ask the advice of your subject teachers, your tutor and our careers advisers
- discuss it with your parents
- **think very carefully** about the subjects you choose. It is very difficult indeed to change courses once you have started
- research and explore careers and find out what qualifications you will need.



- choose a course simply because your friends have
- allow either like or dislike of particular teachers to influence your choice
- choose a course because you think it might be easy
- drop any subject you may require for entry to a particular occupation or course

***Details about courses are subject to change. We do our best to accommodate your choices, but it may be necessary to ask you to take reserve choices. We are offering a wide range of courses but may not be able to run them all. Decisions about which can run will be based upon numbers choosing them.***

## Art and Design (GCSE)

### **You will be learning about:**

Different artists (historical, modern and contemporary), designers and art cultures. You will have the opportunity to focus on the ones that interest you for example Robert Banksy, Pablo Picasso, Antony Gormley, Damien Hirst, Cartoon artists (Marvel comics and Walt Disney), Manga, Aboriginal, Egyptian, Stella McCartney, Vivienne Westwood and many more.

You will develop practical skills in a wide range of two and three-dimensional art materials and then focus on one or more materials of interest including drawing (pencil, colour pencil, pastel and mixed media), painting, sculpture, textiles, digital photography, printmaking (mono, lino and etching), computer aided design (Photoshop) etc. You will have the opportunity to work with local artists, visit local art industries and galleries.

### **How will this subject help me in the future?**

Art and Design develops your visual knowledge and practical skills as well as your critical understanding skills both in a spoken and written way. These are invaluable **life** skills and will support all careers, but especially art related ones such as animator, architect, artist, designer (computer, costume, textile, interior, landscape and web), film/TV director, hairdressing, illustrator, photographer, make-up artist, teaching, and many more.

### **Who should I ask if I need more information?**

Mr Cullen

## Photography (GCSE)

### **You will be learning about:**

Developing technical skills as well as learning to express yourself through the medium of photography. You will refine your compositional skills through photoshoots and editing techniques. Exploring the process and building an understanding of different photographers, exploring portraiture, location, studio, documentary and many other areas of study will be embedded throughout your design process. You will have the opportunity to focus on photographers that interest you for example Robert Frank, Richard Avedon, Man Ray and many more.

You will explore a wide range of photographic genres, techniques and processes. Students will also gain an understanding of a range of photo-editing techniques including the use of digital editing software such as Adobe Photoshop and hands-on manipulation techniques. They will be introduced to contemporary and traditional photography artists and cultures. As the course progresses students will grow in confidence and become more independent and will begin to specialise in their chosen area. You will have the opportunity to work with local artists, visit local art industries and galleries.

### **How will this subject help me in the future?**

Students may go on to study A level Photography or a similar appropriate qualification at local colleges or sixth forms. Students could go into higher education or study a hands-on apprenticeship. A career in photography could take many different formats; journalism, forensics, moving image, marketing, artist, freelance photographer, stylist, etc. The options available for students with a creative background is ever growing with the new technologies available.

### **Who should I ask if I need more information?**

Mr Costello

## Drama – Performing Arts (Vocational)

### **You will be learning about:**

The theatre styles of Naturalism, Epic and Physical Theatre. There will be a strong focus on exploring these three contrasting performance styles and practically applying the skills and techniques of practitioners and companies to your own practical performances. In addition to this there is a strong focus on researching the different roles required to create a professional production (Actors, Directors, Designers etc) and analyse the responsibilities of these roles through both theoretical work and practical work.

You will contribute to an ethos of skills development through taking part in a range of practical workshops and will be expected to develop the performance related skills of confidence, creativity, flair and technique in front of live audiences and must be prepared to be video assessed carrying out practical rehearsals and performances. In Drama you will have the opportunity to watch and work with professional theatre groups in order to develop your skills, with these experiences leading directly into your work in the classroom. You will also be required to take part in academy performances throughout the year.

Your key focus areas will be:

- The roles and responsibilities of Actors, Directors and Designers
- Effective rehearsal, performance and audition techniques
- Exploring professional scripts and developing your knowledge of how to take a script from the page to the stage
- Skills development across three contrasting styles of performance
- Application of three contrasting theatre practitioners' styles and their influence on modern performance

### **How will this subject help me in the future?**

The Level 2 Drama qualification provides you with the necessary skills and knowledge to continue your Drama study at Level 3 at Post 16 establishments. The course provides you with the building blocks to progress into a career in performance and also develops the key social and interpersonal skills that will be essential in all future career paths. The course gives you the platform to develop your creative mind and group work skills which will ultimately be beneficial to long term personal development.

### **Who should I ask if I need more information?**

Miss Pacini



## Engineering (Vocational)

### You will be learning about:

- The world of engineering and how it impacts on our environment and lives
- Health and Safety in the workplace and the appropriate procedures and legislation
- Different sectors of engineering
- Working as a team to investigate new ideas or solve problems
- Designing and presenting ideas
- Communication, digital skills and business skills
- Manufacturing skills

You will learn how to use machinery and tools safely and correctly to make products.

The qualification includes 3 units of study to gain an understanding of engineering:

- Unit 1 Manufacturing Engineering Products – Practical and written report
- Unit 2 Designing Engineering Products – Design, CAD and written report
- Unit 3 Written Exam Element (Materials, properties, product analysis, manufacturing, mathematics)

Further information can be found on [www.wjec.co.uk/engineering](http://www.wjec.co.uk/engineering).

### How will this subject help me in the future?

Successful completion of the course will enable you to:

- Progress to a Level 3 Engineering course at college
- Apply for an Apprenticeship in a local industry centre
- Enter the world of work in an engineering company.

### Who should I ask if I need more information?

Mrs Milner

## Geography (GCSE)

### You will be learning about:

If you are interested in the world around you, then Geography is the subject for you! Geography is about the world we live in, its people & interactions, how the world is changing, and the impacts of human actions. The world in which we live is likely to change more in the next 50 years than it has ever done before. Geography explains why and helps to prepare you for those changes. Geography tackles the big issues of environmental responsibility, sustainability and our global interdependence. The topics include:

#### ***Global Geographical Issues***

- **Hazardous Earth** – the global climate system, climate change, extreme weather (tropical cyclones) and tectonic hazards
- **Development Dynamics** – global development and a case study of India, an emerging country
- **Challenges of an Urbanising World** – rapid urbanisation and global urban trends, and a case study of Mumbai, a megacity in an emerging country

#### ***UK Geographical Issues***

- **The UK's evolving physical landscape** – The changing physical landscape, coastal change and conflict, and river processes and pressures
- **The UK's evolving human landscape** – The UK's changing population and a case study of a major UK city
- **Geographical Fieldwork Investigations** – 2 fieldwork projects, Investigating coastal change and conflict, and Investigating dynamic urban areas

#### ***People and Environment Issues***

- **People and the Biosphere** – Biomes and resources provided by the biosphere
- **Forests Under Threat** – Tropical rainforests and the taiga biome, characteristics, threats and management
- **Consuming Energy Resources** – Energy resources, the reliance on fossil fuels, changing attitudes to energy and environmental issues
- **Making Geographical Decisions** – Decision Making Exercise involving an unseen Resource Booklet

### What skills do I need?

- Information recall and a willingness to revise – there is a lot of content to remember
- Motivation for reading and writing
- Evaluating schemes and projects
- Decision making skills, communication and effective team work
- Recognising links between aspects in the world surrounding us
- The ability to interpret statistics, maps, diagrams and photos

### Who should I ask if I need more information?

Miss Adcock

## Health and Social Care (Vocational)

### You will be learning about:

You will take part in 3 components. 2 will be completed under controlled conditions and 1 will be an external assessment which is set by Edexcel.

The Tech Award gives learners the opportunity to develop applied knowledge in the following areas:

- the life stages and key characteristics in the physical, intellectual, emotional and social (PIES) development classifications and the different factors that can affect an individual's growth and development
- different life events and how individuals can adapt or be supported through changes caused by life events
- health and social care conditions, how they can be managed by the individual and the different health and social care services that are available
- the barriers and obstacles an individual may encounter and how these can be overcome
- the skills, attributes and values required to give care and how these benefit the individual
- how factors can affect an individual's current health and wellbeing
- how physiological indicators and an individual's lifestyle choices determine physical health
- the use of the person-centred approach

### How will this subject help me in the future?

Health and Social Care is a good subject to take if you are organised, conscientious and are enthusiastic about a career in the health services. This subject leads well into the college courses and onto further education. It will suit you if you are interested in or looking at professions such as nursing, care work, midwifery, teaching, social work, or working with disabilities or childcare.

### Who should I ask if I need more information?

Mrs Kemp

## History (GCSE)

### You will be learning about:

**Medicine in Britain c1250 – present.** This unit examines change and continuity over 8 centuries. Where do our ideas about the cause and treatment of disease, anatomy, physiology, methods of surgery, public health and the training of medical practitioners come from? How were they different in the past and what factors caused them to change? We also examine British medicine on the western front during World War One.

**Early Elizabethan England 1558-88.** This unit examines Elizabeth's problems on her accession and the pressures she faced during her early reign. We examine how Elizabethans grappled with poverty and homelessness, religious fanaticism and relations with Europe: issues that are as relevant now as they were nearly 500 years ago.

The American West 1835-1895. This unit is an in-depth study of the settlement of the American West. It looks at the impact that settlers had on the development of the United States, as well as the impact on the Native Americans as the indigenous people of the continent. You will study the reasons why people migrated and the conflicts it created.

**Weimar and Nazi Germany 1918-39.** This unit examines the impact of German democracy following the First World War. We learn how and why this democracy was destroyed by economic circumstance, political trickery and Hitler's Nazi Party. We also investigate Nazi policies before the Second World War and the impact they had on ordinary Germans.

### How will this subject help me in the future?

History teaches you about the world you live in by building up an understanding of the world in other times, under different (or sometimes similar) circumstances. In short, studying History allows you to be a citizen of the world. For this reason alone, it is worthwhile pursuing.

History is also very useful in any career that requires good communication, the ability to argue, spot trends and question and analyse significance such as journalism, law, accountancy or politics.

Students should know that the study of History requires a lot of reading and success in this subject is measured through three examinations at the end of Year 11. The questions mostly consist of essays, which is nothing to fear as long as you are prepared in advance and are willing to work hard independently and as part of a team.

### Who should I ask if I need more information?

Mr Mills

## Hospitality & Catering (Vocational)

### **You will be learning about:**

This qualification is made up of 2 units. Unit 1 is a written exam worth 40% of your overall final grade. Unit 2 is a combination of coursework and cooking, you will be set a brief by the exam board and plan, prepare, present and evaluate 2 chosen dishes.

Unit 1: The Hospitality & Catering industry.

You will learn about the hospitality and catering industry, the types of hospitality and catering providers and about working in the industry. Learn about health and safety, and food safety in hospitality and catering, as well as food related causes of ill health

Unit 2: Hospitality & catering in action.

You will learn about the importance of nutrition and how cooking methods can impact on nutritional value. Learn how to plan nutritious menus as well as factors which affect menu planning. You will learn the skills and techniques needed to prepare, cook and present dishes as well as learning how to review your work effectively.

You will have one theory lesson and one practical lesson per week, and you will develop a range of skills which are attractive to employers, colleges and universities including: communication, confidence, learning independently, organisation, problem solving, research, self-discipline, stamina, taking on responsibility and time management.

### **How will this subject help me in the future?**

This is an ideal course to give you the skills and knowledge needed to work in the Hospitality, Catering and Leisure Industries, which are major employers in Norfolk and East Anglia. This course will support applications and progression onto catering and leisure courses at the local FE colleges.

### **Who should I ask if I need more information?**

Miss Harris

## Media Studies (GCSE)

### You will be learning about:

As a GCSE Media Studies student, you will analyse how media products like TV programmes and music videos use images, sounds, language, and representations to create meaning. You will learn about the media industry and how the industry affects how media products are made. You will investigate media audiences, exploring who are the people who watch, read and consume the products, and considering how different people might be affected by media products differently, and why. You will study lots of different media forms, such as:

- Television
- Online Media
- Advertising
- Film Marketing
- Magazines
- Newspapers
- Music Video
- Radio
- Video Games

Assessment will consist of both examinations (70%) and a controlled assessment (30%).

### How will this subject help me in the future?

You will practice a range of skills which will equip you for progression to A Level study. They will also help you hugely in other areas such as Film, English, Humanities and Social Sciences. Looking further ahead, over one hundred universities offer courses in Media, Communications and Cultural Studies in the UK. An A Level in Media Studies helps you to move towards these courses, as well as to those in a range of other areas. If university isn't for you, there is a huge array of career opportunities in the media, and it's an industry that is growing very quickly.

If you are interested in the idea of a career in TV and film production, advertising, journalism, interactive media, and digital marketing, technical production, special effects, web design and post-production, then studying Media at GCSE level is a great place to start.

### Who should I ask if I need more information?

Mr Sorrento or Mr Dodimead

## Modern Foreign Languages (GCSE)

### You will be learning about:

Students are able to study **French** or **Mandarin** at Cliff Park Ormiston Academy. Both language courses are split into four elements:

- Speaking
- Listening
- Reading
- Writing

You will be exploring a number of different themes, developing your vocabulary in each. Languages require students to learn 'a little and often' in order to become confident linguists. With this in mind, a strong work ethic and the ability to work independently are key. Class participation is vital as it will help you develop your confidence necessary to tackle the Speaking Examinations. We value every effort.

### How will this subject help me in the future?

By taking a language at GCSE you'll have amazing skills and a valuable talent that's applicable to almost everything you do - so, it's quite a handy subject. A language GCSE builds on what you've already learnt in years 7, 8 and 9 and you probably know more than you think. By taking a language GCSE, you don't just learn the language, you get to find out about other people, countries and cultures so it is an interesting and varied subject that opens doors to working across the world.

### Who should I ask if I need more information?

Mrs Green or Miss Qiang

**PLEASE NOTE:** *Students may be invited to opt for a language as part of the English Baccalaureate.*

## Music (Vocational)

### **You will be learning about:**

The Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award in Music Practice is ideal for learners that are a pre-16 student working at level 1 or level 2 and would like to find out more about the music industry. This course offers a practical introduction to life and work in the music industry. The Tech Award gives learners the opportunity to develop knowledge and technical skills in a practical learning environment. Learners will develop key skills, ranging from rehearsing to experimenting with technology, equipment and instruments. They will also develop an understanding of the music industry.

This course is different from studying GCSEs, as, by taking part in different types of practical vocational activities, it gives learners the opportunity to apply their knowledge, skills and the techniques learned in practical ways.

Once learners have completed the qualification, they will have developed valuable knowledge, practical skills and a wider understanding of the music industry. This qualification will allow learners to develop their knowledge and skills through practical and creative application in a vocational context, and by responding creatively to a commercial brief. Since they will be developing skills across a number of disciplines – such as music creation, production and performance – they will have a better understanding of whether the music industry is for them and, if so, which part of it they might want to study further.

### **How will this subject help me in the future?**

If learners decide to go on to further study of music, they could progress to a Level 2 Technical Certificate or to a Level 3 programme, such as A Levels, a T Level or a BTEC National, either on its own or in combination with A levels.

### **Who should I ask if I need more information?**

Mrs Johnson



## Sport (Vocational)

### **You will be learning about:**

BTEC TECH AWARD in Sport is a vocational qualification designed for people interested in sport and recreation. This qualification will make you consider the reasons people take part in sport, how to encourage them to do so, roles of officials and how to help participants improve their performance and fitness level.

### **You will be learning about:**

The BTEC TECH Award in sport is split into three units. Two units will be assessed through course work and one unit through an external exam:

#### **Component 1: Preparing Participants to Take Part in Sport and Physical Activity:**

You will explore the different types and provision of sport and physical activity available for different types of participants, barriers to participation and ways to overcome these barriers to increase participation in sport and physical activity. You will also research equipment and technological advances in a chosen sport or physical activity and how to prepare our bodies for participation in sport and physical activity

#### **Component 2: Taking Part and Improving Other Participants Sporting Performance:**

You will investigate the components of fitness and their effect on performance, take part in practical sport, explore the role of officials in sport and learn to apply methods and sporting drills to improve other participants' sporting performance.

#### **Component 3: Developing Fitness to Improve Other Participants Performance in Sport and Physical Activity:**

You will be introduced to and develop an understanding of the importance of fitness and the different types of fitness for performance in sport and physical activity. You will also develop an understanding of the body and fitness testing.

### **How will this subject help me in the future?**

- You can continue your studies at college and into further education
- You can use your skills and knowledge in the world of work, sport and leisure
- You will have gained the knowledge to pursue a healthy lifestyle

### **Who should I ask if I need more information?**

Miss Briggs

## Travel and Tourism (Vocational)

BTEC Travel and Tourism is a vocational qualification designed for people interested in the travel sector. This qualification will sharpen your skills for employment or further study.

### **You will be learning about:**

The BTEC Travel and Tourism course is split into three units. Two units will be assessed through controlled assessment and one unit through an external exam:

#### **Component 1: Travel and Tourism Organisations and Destinations:**

You will investigate travel and tourism organisations in the UK, their ownership, aims, key products and services, and how they work together. You will explore the role of different consumer technologies within the travel and tourism industry.

Understanding the different types of tourism and different types of visitors and investigating the features that appeal to those visitor types.

#### **Component 2: Customer Needs in Travel and Tourism:**

You will investigate how organisations use market research to identify travel and tourism trends and identify customer needs and preferences. Applying their understanding by exploring how specific needs are met by organisations.

#### **Component 3: Influences on Global Travel and Tourism:**

This unit you will explore the different factors that may influence global travel and tourism, and how travel and tourism organisations and destinations respond to these factors. By examining the potential impacts of tourism at global destinations and how destinations can manage the impacts of tourism and control tourism development to achieve sustainable tourism.

### **How will my subject help me in the future:**

Travel and Tourism opens doors to careers such as a travel agent, working as cabin crew, Tourist information representatives or to study the subject at college or university. You could gain travel experience through voluntary work overseas or in a work placement at a travel company.

### **Who should I ask if I need more information?**

Mr O'Brien

## Triple Science (GCSE)

### You will be learning about:

Do you really like science? Do you want to study it in more depth and detail? You do not need to study triple science in order to go on to study science subjects at 'A' level. However, triple science allows you to study biology, chemistry and physics in more detail and sit examinations in all three disciplines separately.

In biology, you will study the structure and function of the human body and plants in more depth and develop a deeper understanding of DNA, genetics and evolution.

In chemistry, you will study analytical techniques, material science and carbon chemistry in more detail as well as considering the impact chemistry has upon the world around us.

In physics, you will study the main concepts of space, forces, energy and radioactivity in more detail, as well as considering the role of waves for detection and exploration purposes.

### How will this subject help me in the future?

Science allows you to develop and use many critical thinking skills that we use every day. It allows you to understand how the world around you works and to answer some of the questions facing society today. It shows analytical, practical and academic skills that are all transferrable to any course or career path you choose after year 11.

### Who should I ask if I need more information?

Mr Considine

**PLEASE NOTE:** *Students opting for Triple Science must have a predicted grade of 5 or above in Science.*