

DISCOVER

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GUIDED CHOICES 2026

We believe that every child...

- should be able to fulfil their potential.
- should have access to the qualifications they need to move on to college, training or apprenticeships.



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The CORE (compulsory) Courses
English
Mathematics
Science
<i>Religious Studies and PSHE</i>
<i>Core Physical Education</i>
3 Option Subjects
Humanity (Geography or History)
Two 'guided choices'



Subjects and Qualifications

- **Vocational** awards are **work-related qualifications** suitable for a wide range of students. Typically, students need to complete controlled assessments and examinations throughout the two years.
- **GCSEs** are more traditional qualifications assessed solely by exam at the end of Year 11.
- Both types of qualification are considered “high value” and accepted by employers and further educational establishments across the country.



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OPTION P	OPTION Q	OPTION R
History	Art	Engineering
Geography	Drama	Health and Social Care
French	Engineering	Hospitality
Mandarin	Geography	Photography
Health and Social Care	History	Religious Studies
Sport	Media Studies	Sport
	Music	Travel and Tourism
	Travel and Tourism	Triple Science

Each option subject is taught for 6 periods a fortnight.

The English Baccalaureate

- The English Baccalaureate is awarded to any student who secures good (Level 5+) GCSE passes in English, Mathematics, Science, a language (French) and a humanity (History or Geography).
- This full combination of GCSEs at grades 5 or above will entitle you to a certificate recording your achievement.
- We will be discussing this route with identified students.



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Guided Choices Booklet 2026-2029

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 will be asked to pick your 3 preferred options. This will enable Mr Sorrento to construct final option blocks. You will then be asked to pick your finalised FIRST choice and SECOND choice for each option block. This can be completed either on the paper copy or online. Details to follow.

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 industries and galleries.

Why will this subject help me in the future?

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

Should I ask if I need more information?

When



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Things to think about



- 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 very carefully
- ask the advice of your subject teachers and Form Tutor
- discuss it with your parents

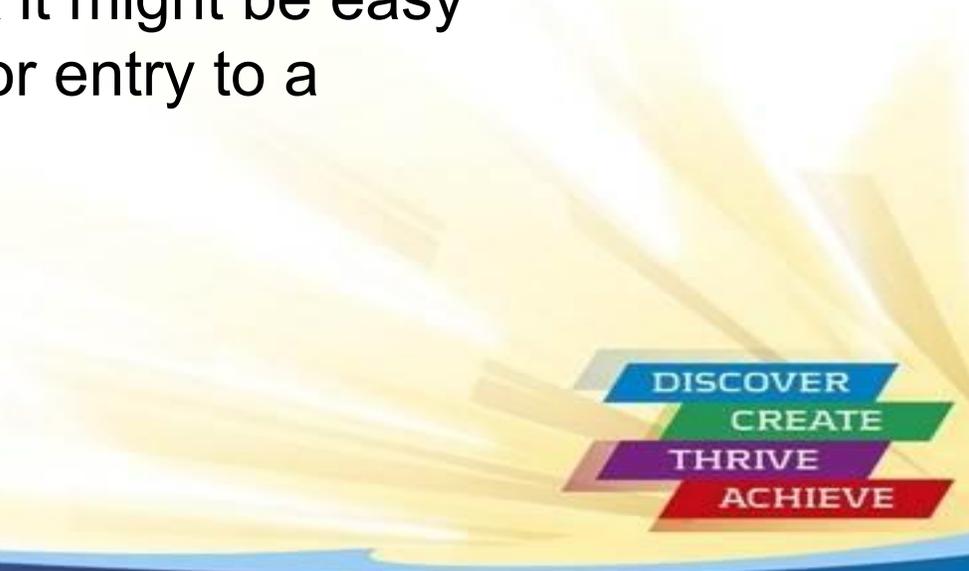


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Things to think about



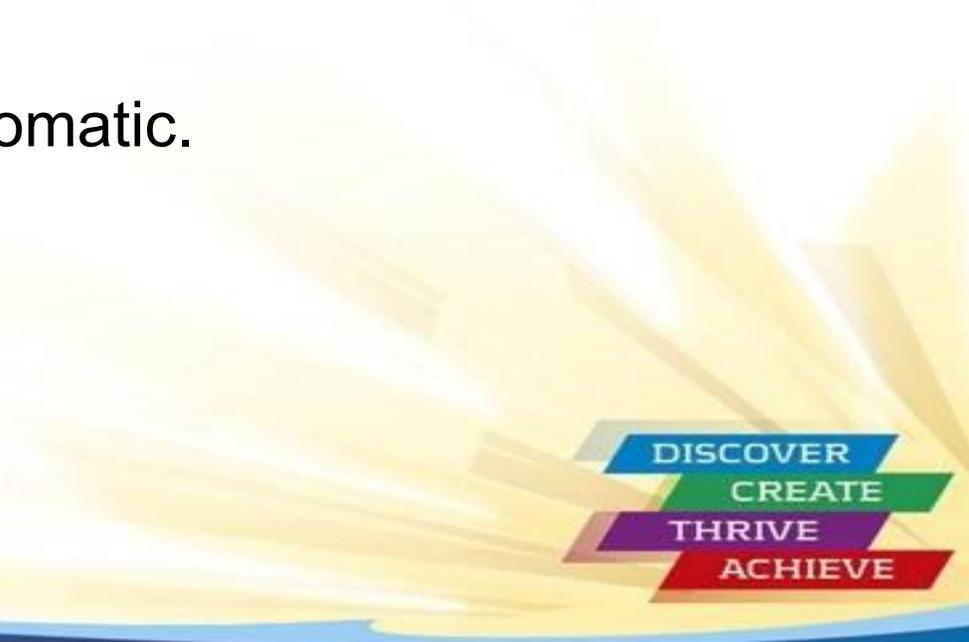
- choose a course simply because your friends have
- allow either you 'like' or 'dislike' of particular teachers to influence your choice
- choose a course because you think it might be easy
- drop any subject you may require for entry to a particular occupation or course



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Cautionary Note

- We will not let students take courses that are unsuitable, this is not to make them miserable but to ensure they are given the best opportunity to succeed.
- We cannot guarantee that everybody will get their first choice.
- Entry to examination courses will not be automatic.



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The Form

OPTION P	OPTION Q	OPTION R
History	Art	Engineering
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Mandarin	Geography	Photography
Health and Social Care	History	Religious Studies
Sport	Media Studies	Sport
	Music	Travel and Tourism
	Travel and Tourism	Triple Science

Remember: Students **MUST** pick History or Geography as one of their option choices. Students may study both subjects if they wish.

Please pick a **FIRST** choice and a **SECOND** choice from each of the Option Blocks above and write them below. Please remember, although all effort will be made to do so, we cannot guarantee you will get all of your first choices.

OPTION P	OPTION Q	OPTION R
1 st choice	1 st choice	1 st choice
2 nd choice	2 nd choice	2 nd choice

Student Name: _____ Form: _____

Signed by student: _____

Signed by parent: _____

Before you get this form, I would like to see which three subjects each of you would **IDEALLY** like to do.

Next week, you will complete an online form in your Form Group, selecting three subjects.

I will use this to construct the three blocks.

You **must** take History or Geography.

You can then pick two other subjects.

<p>Tuesday 10th March 2026</p>	<p>Pupil Assembly – students will receive their Option Booklets at this time and find out more about subjects that have not yet encountered.</p> <p>There will also be an opportunity for students to have 15 minute ‘taster’ sessions for subjects they have not experienced in Years 7-9. These include Media Studies, Sociology, Travel and Tourism and Health and Social Care.</p>
<p>Thursday 12th March 2026</p>	<p>Year 9 Parents’ Forum (6pm) This is a chance for parents to find out about the options process. Individual invites will be sent by Mr Sorrento.</p>
<p>Friday 20th March 2026</p>	<p>Students will have a taster session for 4 subjects they have not yet experienced: Sociology, Travel and Tourism, Media Studies and Health and Social Care. These will take place Period 4 for X Band and Period 5 for Y Band. Students should discuss their option choices over the weekend.</p>
<p>Monday 23rd March 2026</p>	<p>Students will be asked to select the 3 subject they would like to take in an ideal world. History or Geography must be selected as one of these.</p>
<p>Friday 27th March 2026</p>	<p>Students given finalised option blocks. Students will pick a FIRST and SECOND choice for each block.</p>
<p>Friday 17th April 2026</p>	<p>Options completed by students either online or by paper form.</p>
<p>Friday 24th April 2026</p>	<p>Students receive their provisional option choices</p>

Extra Support

<https://cliffparkoa.co.uk/curriculum/ks4-guided-choices>



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Any Questions?

