

# Year 9 Pathways

## 14-16



Create Your Future

Be who you are, become who you aspire to be

# Opportunities for Year 10 and 11

- Choose some of the subjects you will study at GCSE
- Exciting new subjects
- Work with specialist equipment, resources and facilities
- More time to study the subjects you really enjoy
- Take on leadership roles
- Consider your future study and career

# Subjects

- Business
- Computer Science
- Fine Art
- Graphic Art
- Photography
- Drama
- Music
- Music Technology
- Construction
- Design Technology
- Food Preparation & Nutrition
- Textile Design
- Film Studies
- Media Studies
- Geography
- History
- Religious Studies
- French
- German
- Health & Social Care
- PE
- Sports Studies

# What is the Pathways Process?

- Everyone is allocated a Pathway using the assessment data collected in year 9
- The best opportunity for success
- Ensures that the curriculum you study is broad and balanced
- Ensure you have the best grounding/biggest range of options available to you for post 16 and beyond
- We provide support to enable you to make informed decisions about your next steps

# GCSE grading

- Grades 1-9 (where 9 is the highest grade)
- Grade 4 is considered a 'standard pass'
- Grade 5 is considered a 'strong pass'
- In addition to GCSEs we offer other GCSE equivalent qualifications such as BTECs and Cambridge Nationals

# English Baccalaureate (EBacc)

- English Language and English Literature
- Maths
- The Sciences
- A language (At Belper School this would be French or German)
- Geography or History

**“The EBacc is a set of subjects at GCSE that keeps young people’s options open for further study and future careers.”**



Department  
for Education

# Year 10 & 11 Core Curriculum

All students, regardless of their allocated Pathway, study

- GCSEs in maths, English language, English literature and the Sciences
- Core PE and PSHE

# Guided Learning Pathways

- All students follow a Pathway with a core and 3 other subject blocks
- All students follow a bespoke curriculum that best supports their learning
- Affords most students the opportunity to attain the English Baccalaureate (EBacc)

# Orange Pathway

- Leave school with 8 or 9 GCSEs (or equivalents)
- Study the Core: GCSE English Language, GCSE English Literature, GCSE Maths, GCSEs in Science, Core PE and PSHE
- Either Geography or History
- Either French or German
- Any one additional GCSE subject
- Students will attain the EBacc

# Purple Pathway

- Leave school with 8 or 9 GCSEs (or equivalent)
- Study the Core: GCSE English Language, GCSE English Literature, GCSE Maths, GCSEs in Science, Core PE and PSHE
- Either Geography, History, French or German
- Any two additional GCSE subjects
- Can attain the EBacc

# Blue Pathway

- Study the Core: GCSE English Language, GCSE English Literature, GCSE Maths, GCSEs in Science, Core PE and PSHE
- A bespoke range of GCSEs and other qualifications in consultation with SENDCO

# Science GCSEs

- Students study either Combined Science (two GCSEs) or Separate Sciences (three GCSEs)
- This is decided in the summer term

# Making decisions

- I am good at a subject
- I enjoy the subject
- I'm looking forward to finding out more
- I like the way the assessment is structured
- It's linked to a career I am interested in
- It's linked to a subject I would like to study in the sixth form
- I have found out as much as I possibly can about what is involved in this subject



# Making decisions

- I like/dislike the teacher
- My friend is studying the subject
- I'm not interested but I think it will be easy
- Haven't found out exactly what the subject involves or how it is assessed



# Next steps...

- Attend the Pathways Evening and find out as much as you possibly can
- Speak to teachers about your choices – you can do this in normal school time as well as at the Pathways Evening
- Let us know if you are worried or unsure. There's lots of help available
- Make sure you think carefully about your choices. **You will be asked to choose a reserve subject and this may be used**

# Next steps...

- The Pathways booklet is now available on the school website
- The Pathways form opens on Bromcom on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026
- The deadline for the form to be submitted is Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2026
- Students will all have a 1:1 conversation about their allocated Pathway and subject choices with either their Head of Year or a member of the Leadership Team in the two weeks beginning 9<sup>th</sup> March 2026
- Students will be informed of the subjects they have been allocated early in the summer term



Curriculum Introduction

Subjects

Classroom Expectations

Knowledge Organisers

Homework

Learning Support

ACCESS

Literacy & Reading

Personal, Social and Health  
Education

Relationships and Sex Education

Enrichment

Careers Service

British Values

Year 9 Guided Learning Pathways

Year 7

Year 8

Year 9

Year 10

Year 11

Sixth Form

# Filling in the form on Bromcom

The information for how to do this will be emailed to Parents/Carers

We will show students how to do this in school

If you have any problems accessing the form, please let us know

# Who can I ask for help?

- Students can speak to their tutor, subject teachers, me or Lydia
- 1:1 interview
- The school website
- For parents, email: [helperschool@helperschool.co.uk](mailto:helperschool@helperschool.co.uk)

# Year 9 Guided Pathways Evening

