



Foundation Year (Year 9) Options Presentation

Aims



- To outline key national developments influencing the curriculum at TBSHS
- To outline the structure of the Year 9 curriculum and subsequent Key Stage Four curriculum in Years 10 and 11
- To introduce the courses available
- To summarise key dates within the options process

National Context



Key Stage 4:

- Introduction of 'linear', harder GCSE courses
- Additional content in most subjects (+30%)
- Assessed predominantly through exams – less coursework
- New grading structure: A*-G replaced by 9 (top) to 1 (lowest) ; top grade 9 will be harder to achieve than A*!
- Literacy assessed across many subjects not just English

Name the Subject

4.4 Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar (SPaG)

Spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG) will be assessed against the following criteria:

Level	Performance descriptor	Marks awarded
High performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Learners spell and punctuate with consistent accuracy.• Learners use rules of grammar with effective control of meaning overall.• Learners use a wide range of specialist terms as appropriate.	3 marks
Intermediate performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Learners spell and punctuate with considerable accuracy.• Learners use rules of grammar with general control of meaning overall.• Learners use a good range of specialist terms as appropriate.	2 marks
Threshold performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Learners spell and punctuate with reasonable accuracy.• Learners use rules of grammar with some control of meaning and any errors do not significantly hinder meaning overall.• Learners use a limited range of specialist terms as appropriate.	1 mark
No marks awarded	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The learner writes nothing.• The learner's response does not relate to the question.• The learner's achievement in SPaG does not reach the threshold performance level, for example errors in spelling, punctuation and grammar severely hinder meaning.	0 marks

Accuracy



Across all subjects, literacy (the accuracy of the work) is important.

Spoken or written communication needs to be as accurate as possible in school, in the workplace and in life.

When we write things: under pressure in examinations, to a time limit and without planning, it is EASY to make mistakes. Our wonderful brains are often way ahead.

Proofreading could eliminate BASIC LITERACY errors.

Why should we proofread?



- Pride in our own work should be paramount and proofreading before submitting the work is another way that you can demonstrate that you are proud of the work that has been completed.
- Proofreading offers you the opportunity to check that your work makes sense.
- Proofreading offers you the chance to check your literacy and make corrections.
- By spending two or three minutes reading your work again and actively redrafting sentences, changing spellings, checking paragraphs, you will make a difference to the outcome of that piece because it could be more:
 - accurate – as you will correct any mistakes
 - cohesive- as you may have changed a sentence
 - academic- as you may find an opportunity to include subject specific terminology which will demonstrate your learning.

New GCSE Grading



NEW GCSE GRADING STRUCTURE									
9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	U
<p style="text-align: center;">4 = C and above and above</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Broadly the same proportion of students will achieve a grade 4 and above as currently achieve a grade C and above.■ Broadly the same proportion of students will achieve a grade 7 and above as achieve an A and above.■ The bottom of grade 1 will be aligned with the bottom of grade G.									
A*		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U

The new “good pass” grade will be a 5!

National Context



Key Stage 4:

- Students have to continue in education or training up to age 18, and to continue to study English and/or Maths if they do not attain a 4 or 5 grade in Year 11

National Context



Key Stage 5:

- Progressive introduction of linear A Levels
- Courses no longer modular with the AS counting towards the A level
- Withdrawal of some 'duplicating' courses
- Post-16 funding cuts

Summary



Key Stage 4:

- A time of unprecedented change
- Rightly or wrongly, the net effect of government policy is to drive schools towards a more traditional, academic curriculum. Government aspiration that 90% of students study the E-Bacc.
- Current Year 8 will have all GCSE's on the new 9-1 scale

TBSHS changes



- We have retained a two year Key Stage 3 but have reverted back to a two year Key Stage 4. Year 9 will become a GCSE Foundation year where students will learn the skills they require to successfully complete their GCSEs in Years 10&11
- Students will narrow down the number of subjects they will study in Year 9 but will make their final GCSE subject choices to continue studying in Year 10



What Can I Choose to Study in Year 9 and Beyond?

Core Curriculum – Year 9



In Year 9 all students will continue to study the following subjects:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- A modern Foreign Language
- Computer Science
- Physical Education
- Citizenship

Foundation Choices – Year 9



Choose 2 from

Geography

History

Religious Studies

Choose 2 from

Art

Business Education

Design Technology

Drama

Music

Core Curriculum – Year 10 & 11



In Year 10 all students will continue to study the following subjects:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- A modern Foreign Language
- An Humanity
- Physical Education
- Citizenship

GCSE Choices - Year 10 & 11



Two additional choices. The choice of GCSE subjects may change, but at present, we envisage offering the choice of:

- A second Modern Foreign Language (French or German)
- A second Humanity (Geography, History or RS)
- Art
- Business Studies
- Computer Science
- Design Technology
- Drama
- Music
- Physical Education
- Separate Sciences – Biology, Chemistry, Physics

GCSE Choices - Year 10 & 11

- Further twilight choices may include
 - Latin





Advice When Making Your Choices

Keep your options open



- Do what you enjoy and are good at
- Keep an eye on post 16 choices – entry requirements are available on the school's website

Do nots!



- Do not choose a subject because all your friends have chosen it.
- Do not select an option because you feel you get on well with a particular teacher.
- Do not select a subject because you think it is easy.
- Do not select the subjects for your child!

Do!

- Speak to your teachers.
- Talk to your tutor.
- Ask students in Year 9.
- Find out as much information about each course as you can.
- Use the internet;
 - www.tbshs.org
 - www.youthconnexions-hertfordshire.org



Timeline



- Information Evening – 7th February
- Information Assemblies - 31st January - 7th February
- Work with Tutors – week beginning 5th February
- Parents Evening – 22nd February
- Foundation Options Deadline – 14th March
- Timetable Construction starts - April
- Option Choices Confirmed – June/July