

Year 9 Options

The subjects and qualifications you study over Years 10 and 11 will affect how you spend your time during your next two years at King Edward VI Handsworth School for Girls. It could also help set you up for the career or college course you want later on.

How do I choose?

To help you decide what to study in Years 10 and 11, start by asking yourself what you enjoy doing and what you're good at.

Think about:

- what you're interested in: it could be other cultures and languages, writing projects, helping people, being outdoors or designing things
- what types of activity you enjoy most - working things out and thinking them through, practical activities or artistic options like painting, drawing or performing music
- what you're like at home, as well as in school - what skills have you developed following outside interests?

There are some subjects so important that everyone has to take them, but you still have options in Year 9.

Some top tips.....

Get as much information as you can so you choose well.

Ask for help from your teachers, Pupil Achievement Leader or Mrs Connor our careers advisor.

If you have a firm career idea, research it and choose your options accordingly. Remember, no qualification is ever wasted.

You don't have to have a career in mind at this stage – you just need to choose subjects and courses that will give you plenty of choice later on.

Choose subjects that you enjoy!

How do jobs relate to subjects?

Download the document called 'How Careers Relate to School Subjects' from the list at the foot of this page to see a list of job titles arranged by school subjects - remember, often these links are not set in stone, but do give you some ideas about where particular school subjects could eventually lead.

Where can I get help and advice?

The choices are yours, but most people look for advice on important decisions. There's plenty available, but you should do as much as you can yourself to research all the options.

Parents, carers, family and friends probably know you best, so talking to them can help you work out what might suit you. But remember that they won't always know a lot about careers or courses you're interested in. If you're planning to work towards a particular career or college course, don't be put off just because it means taking a different direction from friends or family members.

Subject teachers know exactly what studying a subject in Year 10 and 11 involves, and can advise whether it's right for you.

Mrs Connor (Careers Advisor) can guide you towards advice about which subjects and qualifications are useful for particular careers. Mrs Kendall or your Pupil Achievement Leader can

answer any questions about the Herschel options process itself. You will also have an opportunity to talk to some older students who have studied the subjects in which you are interested.

Mrs Connor, the school careers adviser, will be at Parents/Options Evening for you to ask any questions. We also have our annual Careers Fair just before the GCSE option choices are due.

Further reading?

Useful websites

Click on the links below for some external help and advice on choosing your options from some independent websites. Which University considers the impact your GCSE choices can have on your future degree courses.



Studential.com

Which? University

PLEASE PUT THE HOW SCHOOL SUBJECTS RELATE TO CAREERS ON THIS PAGE AS WELL