

A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide features several thick, curved arrows pointing upwards and to the right. The arrows are in various colors: purple, blue, yellow, and green. Each arrow has a dark circular dot at its base and a rounded, arrowhead-like end.

Year 9 Options Information Session for Parents and Carers

Mrs R Maxwell
Assistant Headteacher

WELCOME!



St. Wilfrid's
R.C. College

Overview

- What KS4 looks like at St. Wilfrid's
- Importance of options
- Our core subjects & types of qualification
- The options routes
- Choosing options – dos and don'ts
- Moving forwards
- Questions



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Key Stage 4 at St. Wilfrid's



“To provide all students with the opportunity to reach their potential and prepare them for post-16 education, employment or training.”



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Key Stage 4 at St. Wilfrid's



**Core
Subjects**

**Options:
GCSE**

**Options:
Vocational**



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Options – why do they matter?

- To ensure that students are equipped with the qualifications to move on and be successful
- To open doors to as many further/higher education and employment opportunities as possible
- To ensure that we build a range of transferrable skills by studying a variety of subjects



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Core Subjects

- GCSE Mathematics
- GCSE English Language & Literature
- GCSE Religious Education
- GCSE Combined/Triple Science
- GCSE History or Geography
- Core PE (not examined)



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GCSE Courses



- Graded 9-1
- Assessment is usually terminal in the form of examination papers
- There is a coursework component in a minority of subjects, which is usually completed under controlled conditions
- Require large bulks of knowledge to be recalled and understood



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Vocational Courses

- Graded using a vocational system (Distinction*, Distinction, Merit, Pass), one vocational grade is equivalent to a GCSE
- Assessment is usually a combination of portfolio work and terminal examination papers
- Often work-related, and are valued by further education institutions and colleges



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Curriculum Routes



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Route one: EBacc



Route one: EBacc

The desire of the government is to ensure both balance and academic rigour. The aim is to produce well rounded students, with skills in a broad range of curriculum areas.



Route one: EBacc

Core

- English Language & Literature
- Mathematics
- RE
- Science
- Core PE

*Successful completion of an aptitude test required.

**Only available to students who have studied Mandarin in KS3. All students who express an interest in Mandarin will be reviewed to ensure suitability for the course at KS4.

Options

- History
- Geography

Block A

- Spanish
- Mandarin**

Block B

- 2nd humanity
- Computer Science*
- Spanish (as a second language)
- Art & Design
- Design Technology
- Music
- BTEC Digital Information Technology
- BTEC Business & Enterprise
- BTEC Health & Social Care
- BTEC Sport
- OCR Cambridge National in Engineering Manufacture
- BTEC Tech Travel & Tourism

Block C

Route one: EBacc

Who is this route suitable for?

- **Based on a range of assessment data and feedback from subject teachers** we will identify which students are suitable for the EBacc route
- At St Wilfrid's all students who have this aptitude will be placed onto this route

Route two: Humanities



Route two: Humanities



This route combines core subjects, GCSE option subjects and vocational subjects:

- English Language & English Literature
- Mathematics
- Combined Science
- A humanities subject (History or Geography)
- Two other option subjects



Route two: Humanities

Core

- English Language & Literature
- Mathematics
- RE
- Science
- Core PE

*Successful completion of an aptitude test required.

Options



- History
- Geography

Block A

- BTEC Business & Enterprise
- BTEC Health & Social Care
- OCR Cambridge National in Engineering Manufacture
- BTEC Sport

Block B

- Art & Design
- Computer Science*
- Design Technology
- Music
- Spanish
- BTEC Digital Information Technology
- BTEC Health & Social Care
- BTEC Sport
- OCR Cambridge National in Engineering Manufacture
- BTEC Tech Travel & Tourism

Block C

Under Construction



The Building Careers
Programme



Background

- Rising housing costs.
- The Government has set an ambitious target to build 300,000 homes annually by the mid-2020s.
- The shortage of workers with relevant skills is one of the main constraints to increasing the pace of housing delivery in the UK.

Under Construction

Sunderland council has developed proposals with Sunderland College and the Ministry of Building Innovation and Education to create a £20 million state of the art industry-leading education and skills academy – Housing Innovation & Construction Skills Academy (HICSA).

Housing Innovation & Construction Skills Academy



mawsonkerr

Under Construction

The HICSA will promote the use of modern methods of construction in the delivery of high-quality new homes.

Internal visualisation



**NORTH EAST
INSTITUTE OF
TECHNOLOGY**

A banner with a black and yellow chevron pattern pointing to the right, with the text "Under Construction" written in white, bold, sans-serif font above it.

Under Construction

The vision

- Opportunity for our students to gain essential Construction and Digital skills, putting them on the front foot with the region employers, and help close the skills gaps in the construction sector.
- This pioneering partnership between an FE college and school – The Building Careers Programme.
- Equipping the region's young talent with the academic and practical skills needed to progress into relevant careers in the Construction employment sector
- Next generation of Construction Managers, Surveyors and Architects.
- Partners who have already committed to the programme include Sir Robert McAlpine, and Faithful and Gould.

Under Construction



- The key aspects of The Building Careers Programme are:
 - Preparing students for work by ensuring they learn in an environment which mirrors work rather than study.
 - Innovative delivery of teaching, learning and assessment through project based learning and inspirational use of learning technology
 - Supporting students with meaningful careers advice, and high quality work experience.
 - Development of the skills that students need to gain employment.



Cohort

- First pilot group to be made up of 10-15 pupils directly from St. Wilfrids in Year 10.
- 3 days at St. Wilfrid’s RC College – (Monday, Wednesday and Thursday – 08:45 to 15:10).
 - GCSE’s in...English Language, English Literature, Maths, Combined Science, Geography or History.
- 2 days at Sunderland College – (Tuesday and Friday - 09:00 to 16:15).

	09:00 - 10:30	Break (15 mins)	10:45 – 12:15	Lunch (45 mins)	13:00 – 14:30	Break (15 mins)	14:45 – 16:15
Tuesday	BTEC Construction Certificate		BTEC Construction Certificate		BTEC Construction Certificate		Employability skills Project focus
Friday	BTEC Construction Certificate		BTEC Construction Certificate		Tutorial session (including PSHE)		Sports Leaders Award



Qualification

BTEC International Level 2 Qualification in Construction
(Certificate – 2x GCSE equivalent)

The Qualification has 4 mandatory Units:

1. Construction Technology
2. Exploring Health, Safety and Welfare in Construction
3. Construction and Design
4. Exploring carpentry and Joinery

The optional Units selected are:

1. Exploring Surveying
2. Construction Drawing Techniques

These optional Units contain an increased element of Digital Construction leading seamlessly to progression into further and higher education, apprenticeships and employment.

A banner with a black and yellow chevron pattern pointing to the right, containing the text "Under Construction" in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

Under Construction

Whilst at Sunderland College...

Within the two days at Sunderland College:

- Tutorial session
- Sports Leaders Award
- Employability skills sessions including:
 - Project work
 - Interview preparation / practice skills
 - CV writing
 - Careers advice / research techniques
 - Visits / External speakers
 - Work Experience preparation.
- A designated area for the 14-16 learners to go during social times.
- School pastoral systems still apply at the college (Behaviour/attendance).
- Travel – Pop card bought for students.
- Uniform - STW uniform in school / Workwear at Sunderland College



Directing our students along the best path

It is essential that students embark on a path that not only allows them to reach their potential, but also offers them the opportunity to progress their learning post-16.





Directing our students along the best path

To this end, through careful assessment and evaluation, we will steer the students towards a path that fulfils this aim. We use a range of data to support us in making this decision:

- Performance in languages
- Prior attainment
- KS3 modular assessments
- Performance in core subjects
- Professional judgement of teaching staff



Aspiration for all students at St. Wilfrid's

- A minimum of 5 grades at or above level 5 or equivalent including English & Mathematics
- Grade 6 or better in subjects that students wish to study at A-Level
- Merit or better in vocational subjects that students wish to study at A-Level



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Choosing your options - *do choose* courses if...

- They fit your interests
- You think you will enjoy them
- They go well with your other courses
- They link to a career aspiration that you have
- Will support you to continue studying post-16
- Will help you meet entry requirement for
courses post-16



Choosing your options - *do not choose* courses if...

- It's just because your friends are choosing the same ones
- You think it will be easier than another course
- You like the teacher that you have now



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Options: communication

- Your child's options route will be communicated via text on Friday 25th March.
- This text will include a link to the options choices form, to be submitted via Google Form.
- Options booklets, containing all course information, will be distributed to students on Friday 25th March and can be found online.
- If you have any queries regarding options please contact your child's Head of House in the first instance.



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Options: next steps



- Read the options booklet for your child's allocated pathway.
- Have in-depth discussions about the subjects that your child might like to choose, using the information provided in the options booklet to help.
- Research the different courses online.
- Think about what might be needed for post-16 study.



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Options: key dates

- Options booklets – distributed Friday 25th March.
- Options forms – link will be sent via text on Friday 25th March.
- Options forms must be submitted via Google form by Friday 29th April.
- Confirmation of options will follow via letter. Letters will be sent shortly after May half term.



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Have a lovely evening

*If you have any questions,
please don't hesitate to ask*



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