

# KEY STAGE 4 OPTIONS EVENING

*Excellentia per fidem, per scientiam, per adiuvatum*



**St. Wilfrid's**  
R.C. College

# KEY DATES



## 13<sup>th</sup> March

- Introduction to the option pathways and KS4 subjects

## 19<sup>th</sup> March

**Year 9 Parents' Evening**  
Opportunity to speak to subject teachers

## April [start]

1-1 pupil support

## 17<sup>th</sup> March

**PSHE Pupil Assembly**  
Option pathway booklets

## 27<sup>th</sup> March

### Complete option choices

- Scan the QR code in your options booklet to return your choices
- You must select a 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> choice for option B and C

## April – May

Pupils' options choices will be confirmed



# MAKING THE RIGHT CHOICE

## GCSE

- 9-1 system
- Terminal examinations
- Controlled assessment

New grades	Old grades
9	A*
8	A
7	
6	B
5	C
4	
3	D
2	E
1	F
	G
U	U



# MAKING THE RIGHT CHOICE

## VOCATIONAL

- Rigorous qualifications
- Grading system: Distinction\*, Distinction, Merit, Pass
- One vocational qualification is equivalent to one GCSE qualification
- External exams and controlled assessments

Vocational grade	D2*	D2	M2	P2	D1	M1	P1
GCSE equivalent grade	8.5	7	5	4	3	1.5	1



# OPTION PATHWAYS

## PATHWAY 1

ENGLISH  
MATHS  
SCIENCE [COMBINED]  
RE  
CORE PE

HISTORY  
GEOGRAPHY

SPANISH

SELECT ONE  
OPTION

## PATHWAY 2

ENGLISH  
MATHS  
SCIENCE [COMBINED]  
RE  
CORE PE

HISTORY  
GEOGRAPHY

VOCATIONAL  
OPTION

SELECT ONE  
OPTION



# PATHWAY 1

## EBacc (English Baccalaureate)

The English Baccalaureate (EBacc) is a set of GCSE subjects that the UK government encourages pupils to take to keep their future education and career options open. It is not a separate qualification but a way to recognise pupils who achieve a good grade in a specific combination of subjects.

English	Mathematics	Science	MFL [Spanish]	History or Geography
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# PATHWAY 1

## CORE SUBJECTS

ENGLISH

MATHS

SCIENCE  
[COMBINED]

RE

CORE PE

## OPTION A

HISTORY  
OR  
GEOGRAPHY

## OPTION B

SPANISH

## OPTION C

- SECOND HUMANITY
- GCSE SEPARATE SCIENCES
- GCSE COMPUTER SCIENCE
- GCSE ART AND DESIGN- FINE ART
- GCSE ART AND DESIGN- PHOTOGRAPHY
- GCSE DESIGN TECHNOLOGY
- GCSE MUSIC
- GCSE BUSINESS STUDIES
- GCSE FILM STUDIES
- BTEC HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE
- BTEC SPORT
- OCR CAMBRIDGE NATIONAL IN ENGINEERING MANUFACTURE
- OCR CAMBRIDGE NATIONAL IN CREATIVE IMEDIA
- BTEC TRAVEL AND TOURISM



# PATHWAY 1

## OPTION C

- SECOND HUMANITY
- GCSE SEPARATE SCIENCES
- GCSE COMPUTER SCIENCE
- GCSE ART AND DESIGN- FINE ART
- GCSE ART AND DESIGN- PHOTOGRAPHY
- GCSE DESIGN TECHNOLOGY
- GCSE MUSIC
- GCSE BUSINESS STUDIES
- GCSE FILM STUDIES
- BTEC HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE
- BTEC SPORT
- OCR CAMBRIDGE NATIONAL IN ENGINEERING MANUFACTURE
- OCR CAMBRIDGE NATIONAL IN CREATIVE IMEDIA
- BTEC TRAVEL AND TOURISM

Pupils must select one 'first choice' option  
from option C.

On the options form pupils must also select a  
'reserve choice' option.





# COMBINED OR SEPARATE SCIENCES

## 2 OPTIONS

- Combined Science [2 GCSEs]
- Separate Sciences [3 GCSEs] – this would be your Option C choice.

## SEPARATE SCIENCES

- All pupils can choose to study separate sciences as part of their option choices [pathway 1 and pathway 2]
- Separate sciences also have a higher and foundation tier of entry
- Access higher education in the field of medicine, engineering, biochemistry and more



# OPTION PATHWAYS

## PATHWAY 1

ENGLISH  
MATHS  
SCIENCE [COMBINED]  
RE  
CORE PE

HISTORY  
GEOGRAPHY

SPANISH

SELECT ONE  
OPTION

## PATHWAY 2

ENGLISH  
MATHS  
SCIENCE [COMBINED]  
RE  
CORE PE

HISTORY  
GEOGRAPHY

VOCATIONAL  
OPTION

SELECT ONE  
OPTION



# PATHWAY 2

## CORE SUBJECTS

ENGLISH

MATHS

SCIENCE  
[COMBINED]

RE

CORE PE

## OPTION A

HISTORY  
OR  
GEOGRAPHY

## OPTION B

- GCSE BUSINESS STUDIES
- BTEC HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE
- OCR CAMBRIDGE NATIONAL IN ENGINEERING MANUFACTURE
- BTEC SPORT
- OCR CAMBRIDGE NATIONAL IN CREATIVE IMEDIA
- GCSE COMPUTER SCIENCE
- GCSE MUSIC
- GCSE SPANISH

## OPTION C

- SECOND HUMANITY
- GCSE SEPARATE SCIENCES
- GCSE ART AND DESIGN- FINE ART
- GCSE ART AND DESIGN- PHOTOGRAPHY
- GCSE DESIGN TECHNOLOGY
- GCSE FILM STUDIES
- BTEC HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE
- BTEC SPORT
- OCR CAMBRIDGE NATIONAL IN ENGINEERING MANUFACTURE
- BTEC TRAVEL AND TOURISM



# PATHWAY 2

## OPTION B

- GCSE BUSINESS STUDIES
- BTEC HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE
- OCR CAMBRIDGE NATIONAL IN ENGINEERING MANUFACTURE
- BTEC SPORT
- OCR CAMBRIDGE NATIONAL IN CREATIVE IMEDIA
- GCSE COMPUTER SCIENCE
- GCSE MUSIC
- GCSE SPANISH

## OPTION C

- SECOND HUMANITY
- GCSE SEPARATE SCIENCES
- GCSE ART AND DESIGN- FINE ART
- GCSE ART AND DESIGN- PHOTOGRAPHY
- GCSE DESIGN TECHNOLOGY
- GCSE FILM STUDIES
- BTEC HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE
- BTEC SPORT
- OCR CAMBRIDGE NATIONAL IN ENGINEERING MANUFACTURE
- BTEC TRAVEL AND TOURISM

- Pupils must select one 'first choice' option from option B and C.
- On the options form pupils must also select a 'reserve choice' option for both option blocks.
- Pupils **must not** select the same option in block B a block C

# GCSE FILM



## COURSE OVERVIEW

This course is designed to harness your enthusiasm for film, introducing you to a diverse range of cinematic experiences. You'll study significant films from around the world, exploring their historical, cultural, and technological contexts. This course is perfect for pupils who love films and want to learn how films are made, why they're important, and how they tell stories. Plus, you'll get to create your own film scene or script; making this the perfect option choice for creative film fanatics!



# PATHWAY 3



PATHWAY  
3

ENGLISH  
MATHS  
SCIENCE [COMBINED]

GEOGRAPHY

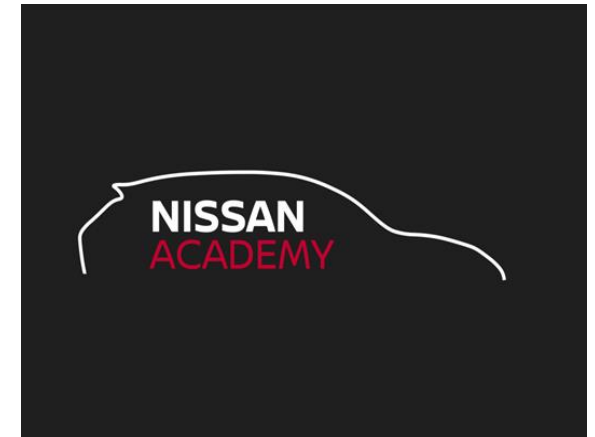
GENTOO TRADES  
ACADEMY

NISSAN SKILLS  
ACADEMY



# PATHWAY 3

- Hands-on learning in real-world settings
- Project-based learning using cutting-edge technology
- Development of essential employment skills
- High-quality career guidance and work experience







# GENTOO TRADES ACADEMY

- Formerly The Building Careers Programme, now sponsored by Gentoo
- £20M investment in Sunderland College HICSA, opening September 2025
- **Key features:**
  - Fully functional house for hands-on training
  - Cutting-edge equipment to address construction skills gap

gentoo



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# GENTOO TRADES ACADEMY

- **Year 1:** BTEC Level 2 Tech Award (Construction & Built Environment)
- **Year 2:** City & Guilds Level 2 Technical Award
- **Digital Passport includes:**
  - 360° Immersive Hub
  - Drones in construction
  - Building Information Modelling (BIM) & CAD
  - 3D printing & robotics



# NISSAN SKILLS ACADEMY

- Launched with Nissan in response to success of the Building Careers Programme
- Direct access to Nissan's Sunderland plant (6,000+ employees, 400,000+ cars/year)
- Provides unmatched industry experience in engineering & advanced manufacturing



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# NISSAN SKILLS ACADEMY

- **Small class sizes** (12 students per group)
- **Current cohorts:**
  - Year 11: 13 students (11 boys, 2 girls)
  - Year 10: 13 students (10 boys, 3 girls)
- **Year 1:** Cambridge National Level 2 in Engineering Manufacture
- **Year 2:** Cambridge National Level 2 in Engineering Design



# WORK EXPERIENCE

- 40 hours/year of employer-led support in Construction & Engineering
- Course design input & PPE/uniforms provided
- Guaranteed interview for a Nissan or Gentoo apprenticeship upon completion



# PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

- **3 Days at St. Wilfrid's:**
  - Focus on GCSEs [English, Maths, Science, Geography]
- **2 Days at Sunderland College:**
  - Practical learning in Construction or Engineering



# LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

- Sports Leaders Award & Tutorial Sessions
- Employability skills workshops (CV writing, interview prep, career advice)
- Work experience & national projects (e.g., retro-fit project with George Clarke)
- Travel & Uniforms:
  - Students manage their own travel (Pop card system for reimbursement)
  - St. Wilfrid's uniform for school days, branded workwear for college



# PATHWAY 3 APPLICATION

- **Step 1:** Application form & personal statement
- **Step 2:** Taster day with assessment activities
- **Step 3:** 15-minute interview discussing goals & motivation

# WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?



1) Complete the form using the QR code



2) Gentoo trades academy or Nissan skills academy

**You must complete the pathway 2 option form**

3) You must submit a reserve choice [we will speak to you about the need to use your reserve choice]

## COMPLETE YOUR OPTION CHOICES BY THURSDAY 27TH MARCH

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# SUPPORT

- Options booklet
- Parents' evening: Wednesday 19th March
- Advice
  - Subject teachers / leaders
  - Form tutors
  - Miss Tennet



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