



YOUR CHOICES 2021 – 2023
KEY STAGE FOUR

Key Dates

- **Year 9 Reports sent home**
Monday 8th February
- **Year 9 Parents' Evening:**
Wednesday 10th February from 4.00pm to 7.00pm (virtual)
(Meet your subject teachers)
- **Year 9 Options Evening:**
Wednesday 24th February from 6.00-7.00pm
(Subject videos and parent presentation)
- **Deadline for Options Form:**
Friday 5th March

Wednesday 24th February – Options Evening

Presentation and options videos

The purpose of this evening is for parents and students to find out about the option process and the subjects available.

We strongly recommend that both you and your parents attend this event and you use the subject videos to gain a better idea of what each subject involves.



Additional Information

**The Options booklet will be mailed to your parents today
and is also on the school website**

A few paper copies will be available at school reception



<http://www.calderhigh.org.uk/about-us/curriculum/>

Your choices... what you need to know

- The subjects that students study in Years 10 and 11 will be a mixture of core subjects (that everyone follows), **one** core plus subject and **three** further optional courses, chosen to reflect each individual's strengths and interests.
- The Core consists of English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science and Core PE. Core + is either a Humanity (Geography or History) or a Language (French or Spanish).
- Students should consider curriculum choices with reference to the English Baccalaureate (EBacc) which encourages students to study **both** a Humanity and a Language. Whilst these are not compulsory subjects, the government describes the Ebacc as '*a set of subjects at GCSE that keeps young people's options open for further study and future careers*'.

Core					Core +	Options		
English Language	English Literature	Mathematics	Science	Core PE	Humanity or Language	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3

There are a lot to choose from!

- Art & Design
- Computer Science
- Design Technology
- Drama
- BTEC Engineering
- BTEC Enterprise
- French
- Geography
- Graphics
- BTEC Health and Social Care
- History
- BTEC Hospitality and Catering
- BTEC ICT
- Media
- Music Performance
- Photography
- Physical Education
- Religious Studies
- Science—Separate
- Sociology
- Spanish
- Textiles

Your choices... what you need to know

- If you choose Separate Sciences, this will take one of your three options.
- Students who choose to study GCSE PE, will also be required to take part in core PE
- Students can only choose one from Art & Design, Textiles and Graphics (this is because they are all the same qualification).
- Students are able to study both History and Geography; it is not an either/or option
- Students do not need to study a language, but these subjects are highly regarded in the world of further education and employment

Frequently asked questions

- Do I have to study a language?

No, but it could be useful in the future and is well respected

- Will I get to study all my chosen subjects?

We hope so, but it may depend on uptake. Most students do, but think about a reserve choice too!

- What happens if I don't like the subjects I have chosen?

You carry on. Make careful, informed choices now so you don't regret it later!

- If I don't know what I want to do when I leave school, how do I know what subjects to pick?

Most people are like this. Don't worry! Pick a broad and balanced range of subjects which close no doors – go with what you really enjoy.

Final top tips – Do's and Don'ts!!

Do:

- Choose subjects you like
- Choose subjects you are good at
- Think about a change – choose a new subject



Don't:

- Choose subjects because your friends are doing them
- Choose a subject because you like the teacher
- Choose a subject because it is easy in Year 9

Who can I talk to ?



- Any of your subject teachers. They will give you advice on what a GCSE or BTEC course involves.
- Mr Hussain – your Head of Year for more general concerns.
- Our careers adviser, Mrs. Walker elaine.walker@ckcareers.org.uk,