



Year 9 into 10

Key Stage 4 Choices

2024 - 2026

INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS



The Pathways Process Key Stage 4 Choices

HELPING YOU CHOOSE

Choices made now have important implications for your future employment or educational opportunities. It is extremely difficult for you to change your subject choice once the courses have started owing to constraints imposed by both timetable and maximum possible group sizes. This booklet has been produced to help you and your parents make a wise choice of subjects and courses. In addition, the following make up the full process:

1. A dedicated website page to help explain the process to students, parents/ carers.
2. This Year's 9 into 10 Option choices subject booklet which gives information about the courses.
3. The Y9 Parents' Information Evening on **Thursday 25th January**.
4. Leading up to the options submission deadline, subject teachers will also discuss with you the various courses on offer and answer questions you may have. Subject areas will be able to explain their courses in more detail to students.
5. All Crawshaw, students have access to **Start Profile**, an online Careers platform. They have been using this in Enterprise lessons throughout Key Stage 3 and it has helped them to explore their own skills and aptitudes, as well as allowing them to research a range of different careers. There are a number of modules within the platform to help with GCSE choices.
6. Please log onto Start – Careers Information for Leeds (startprofile.com), and log in using your e-mail address (either your old or new address will work) and Start123 as your password. The areas of the platform that are particularly relevant are:
 - *GCSEs an overview of your options (startprofile.com)*
 - *Start - Activity: GCSEs, making your choices (startprofile.com) and Start (startprofile.com). Please e-mail your enterprise teacher or Mrs Wearing on wearingj@ca.rklt.co.uk if you have any questions relating to Start.*



THE KEY STAGE 4 CURRICULUM

The Key Stage 4 Curriculum consists of a compulsory 'core', in which every student must study the core subjects of English, Maths and Science – these are crucial subjects in which to gain GCSEs or other certificates. The core curriculum in these subjects will produce five GCSE grades (six for Separate Science students).

The 'core' also includes the **Applied Learning Specialism** subject that each student began at the start of Year 9. There are no changes to these subjects, and they do not form part of the options process.

The compulsory subjects

Subject	Number of GCSEs
English (Language and Literature)	2
Mathematics	1
Science	2 or 3 depending on pathway
Core PE	None - subject is not examined
Curriculum for Life (PSHE/RSE)	None - subject is not examined



The options subjects

In addition to the subjects listed above, students are required to study additional subjects to ensure their entitlement to a broad and balanced curriculum. Depending on the science pathway, students will have the following options:

Combined Science (most students) pathway

Must choose at least one of the following subjects

- GCSE Geography
 - GCSE History
- and two further subjects from a list of GCSEs and approved qualifications**

Separate (Triple) Science pathway

students may choose *two* further subjects from a list of GCSEs and approved qualifications

Choosing your options is probably the most important decision you have made in your academic life so far. You should take time to decide, do your own research, and discuss your choices with your teachers, parents and friends.

When you eventually decide what you want it should be for the **right reasons**. You should never select a course because you think it will be 'easy', or because your friends are choosing it, or because you do or don't 'like' a particular teacher.

Making mature, sensible choices now will set you up for success in the future.

Have the confidence to choose what's best for you and no one else.



THE CHOICES OPTION FORM

The online form is open from 8 am Friday 26th January to Monday 5th February (noon)

- Every effort will be made to give you your mix of choices, but additional preferences need to be indicated for a situation where a course cannot run because of low numbers, is oversubscribed, or where the chosen combination cannot be timetabled. Your preferences will be collected via MS FORMS. The Form will take you through the relevant steps. A summary of these is below.
- You are, therefore, asked to follow these steps:

SUBJECT LIST A - for Combined Science pathway students only

- Please indicate a 1st PREFERENCE and a 2nd PREFERENCE.

SUBJECT LIST B - for ALL students

- From the entire list, please indicate a single 1st PREFERENCE, a single 2nd PREFERENCE, a single 3rd PREFERENCE, a single 4th PREFERENCE and a single 5th PREFERENCE. If a subject is NOT chosen as one of these preferences, then please leave it blank.
- You can include the SECOND preference from List A (if appropriate) as part of these choices. Remember to consider how appropriate these choices are and that for some subjects, Faculty Leaders will decide on this.
- Please ensure that the subjects you have indicated preferences for do not clash with the Applied Learning Specialism you are currently studying and will be continuing with through to Year 11 (details are indicated in the Faculty notes pages of the subject information booklet).
- DO NOT SELECT YOUR CURRENT APPLIED LEARNING SPECIALISM COURSE AS AN OPTION ON THE FORM

OPTIONAL comments section

- If you have a strong reason for requesting a 1st preference course, please make this clear on your application form explaining why.
- Should you wish to make any further comment then there is space also for you to do so on the form before you submit.



ADDITIONAL NEEDS

Mr Thomas -SENCO

For students with additional needs please do discuss the options process with Mr Thomas before submitting the form. There may be a follow up communication with individuals later in the process.

Remember the advice given in this booklet.

- opt for a broad and balanced curriculum, with a choice of subjects and assessment types that will allow you to succeed.
- you already have one Applied Learning qualification that you are studying and will continue through to Year 11.

Be assured we will do everything we can to facilitate your main preferences; however, we will move to later preferences where this is not possible.