



Year 8 Guided Choices 2024

Welcome!

Dream Big - Do Your Best- Give Back



Introductions

Carolyn Tipler: Deputy Headteacher, Learning and Standards

Adam Dickinson: Assistant Headteacher: Year 9 progress

David Weekes: Guided choices process/Timetetable lead

Adam Snow: Assistant Headteacher: Year 8 progress

The aim of this evening:

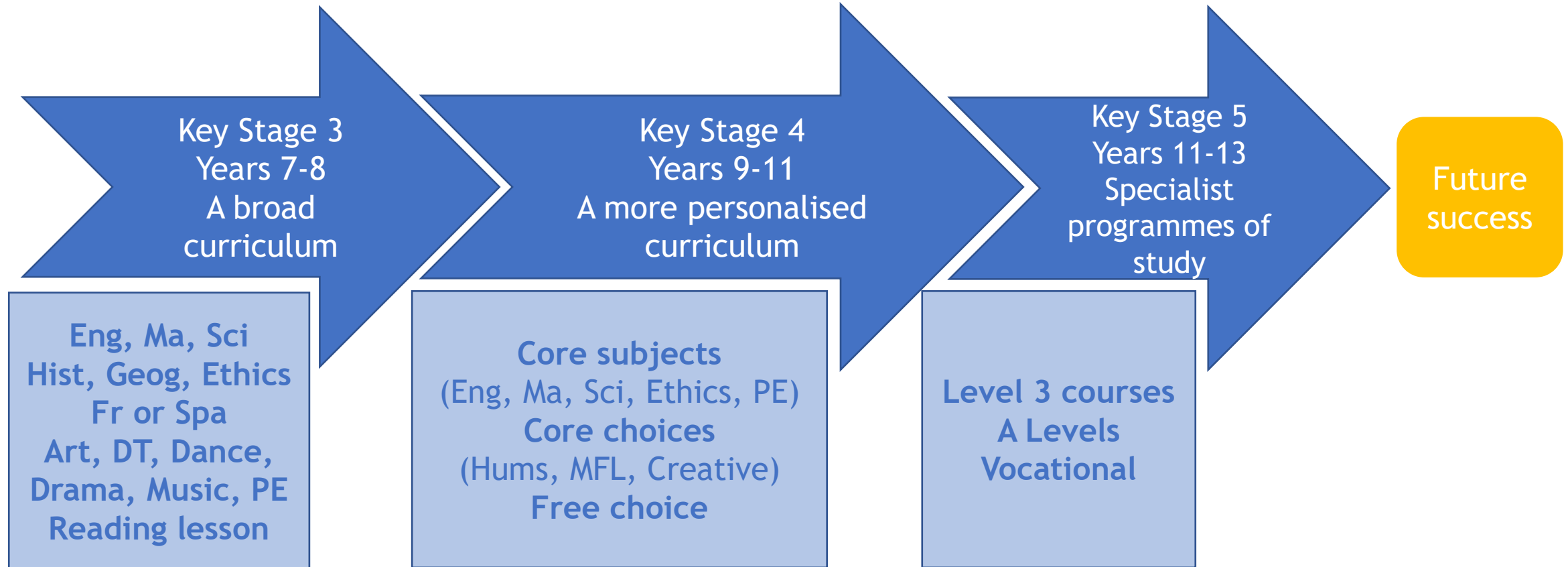
- To talk you and your children through the Key Stage 4 curriculum (Years 9-11)
- To explain the Guided Choices process which will inform that curriculum
- To give you an opportunity to find out more from individual subjects
- To provide you with an opportunity to see where your children learn!

The vision for our curriculum

At Gordano school, we are ambitious for all students to experience, develop and secure the knowledge, skills and attitudes that will allow them to progress with curiosity and confidence through school and beyond. Our definition of the curriculum is *‘the entire planned learning experience’* (Waters, 2017). Our aim therefore in planning and implementing both the taught and wider curriculum is to develop lifelong learners, with the agency and desire to positively contribute to the various communities to which they belong.

We cannot predict the knowledge and skills that will be needed in the future. We can however equip students with essential, ‘powerful’ knowledge across a breadth of subject discipline, along with the skills, attitudes and dispositions that will enable them to apply, adapt and build on this knowledge in the future.

Your child's Curriculum Journey



Understanding the Guided Choices



- From Year 9, students will study subjects that will prepare them for a successful future
- It's essential that they continue to study a range of different subjects, particularly because students are starting KS4 in Year 9
- It's important that they have some choices

The subjects that students will study in Year 9 - 11 fall into three groups; Core Subjects, Core Choices and Free choice

1. Core Subjects

English, Maths, Science *Triple Science will begin in Year 10*
Core PE, Ethics

2. Core Choices*

1. History or Geography
2. French or Spanish
3. Creative Choice (from the Creative Arts, DT courses or PE) *For the majority of students.

3. 1 Free choice

- A second Humanities subject, a second Creative Art or DT, Social Sciences, PE or Computing subject
- Twilight RE (additional subject)
- This includes vocational choices as well as GCSEs

Why a Creative, a Humanities and a Language?

- ✓ Curriculum variety in terms of subject content and ways of learning
- ✓ A broad view of the world through different and diverse perspectives and cultures
- ✓ Critical thinking
- ✓ Development of memory
- ✓ Improved concentration
- ✓ Self-expression
- ✓ Transferrable skills

- The EBacc is a set of subjects at GCSE that **keeps young people's options open for further study and future careers**. These subjects are considered essential to many degrees and are held in high regard by employers.
- A student will achieve the EBacc if they achieve a **Grade 5 or above in English Language, Mathematics, 2 Sciences, a Modern Foreign Language and History or Geography** (6 specific GCSE qualifications in total).
- UCL Institute of Education study showed that **studying EBacc subjects provides students with greater opportunities in further education and increases the likelihood that a pupil will stay on in full-time education**.
- Sutton Trust research reveals that **studying the EBacc can help improve a young person's performance in English and Maths**.
- Most students will follow an EBacc curriculum for these reasons. However **we are rightly proud of the achievements of all our subjects and all our students**, whether part of the 'EBacc' or not.

Choices available

GCSEs	Vocational (BTEC/ Cambridge National)
Creative Arts: Art, Art-Photography, Dance, Drama, Music	
Computing	Creative I-Media
DT: Food prep and Nutrition, Product/Graphic Design, Textiles	Construction (Level 1 only: guided by student support)
Humanities: Geography, History, Religious Studies (Twilight)	Travel and Tourism
Languages: French, Spanish	
Physical Education	Sports Science Uniformed Services (guided by student support)
Social Sciences: Business, Psychology	Health and Social Care

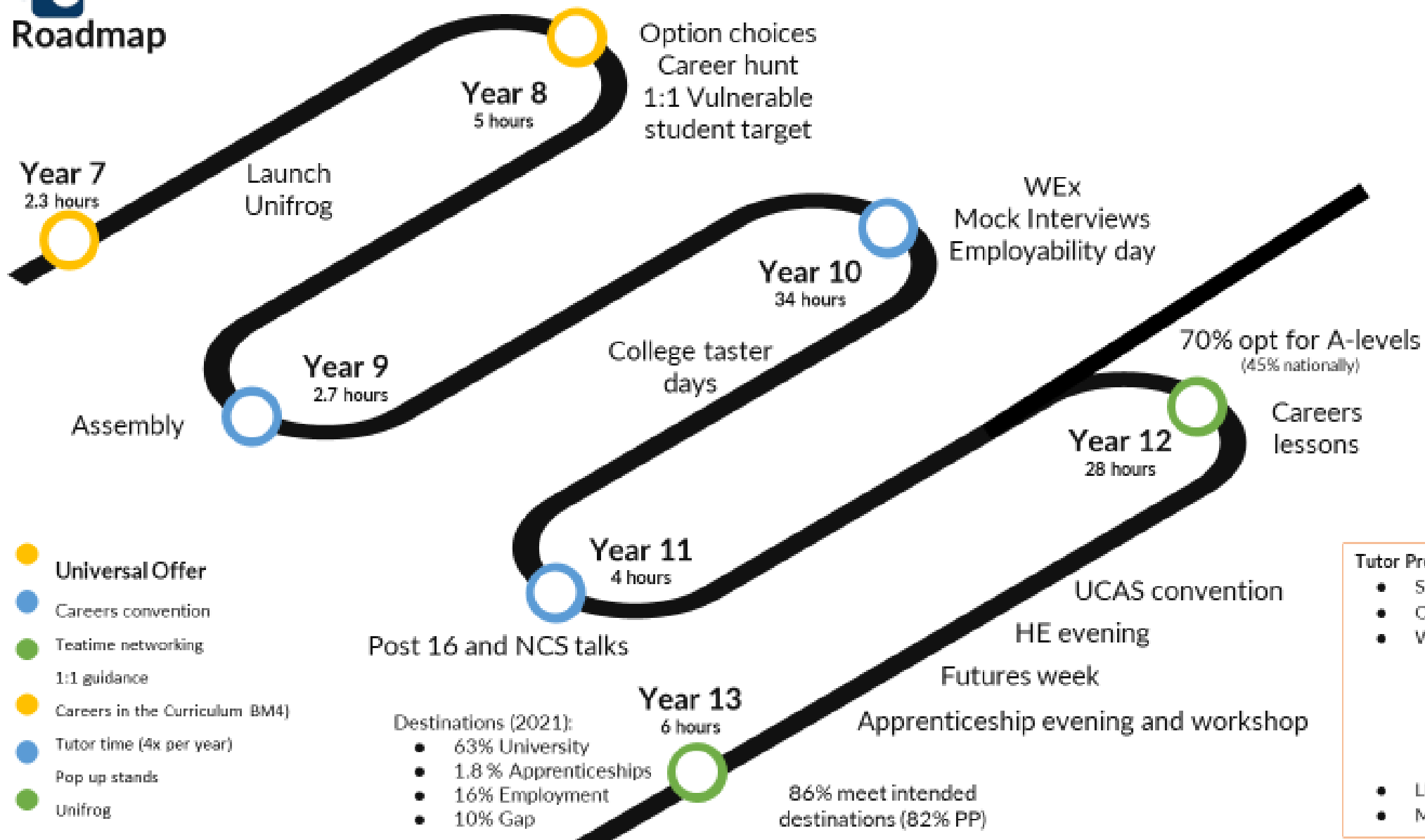
Unavailable subject combinations: Art and Textiles, Business and Psychology (if studying the full core curriculum)

Being in Year 9 is brilliant!

We ask students to start preparing now, to:

- ✓ Establish good habits in relation to homework and independent reading
- ✓ Secure a strong work ethic in all subjects:
 - ✓ To give you a good foundation in subjects you're continuing with
 - ✓ To make the most of subjects you'll finish at the end of this year

Know that even if you're continuing with a subject you're not that keen on/confident in, it will be okay! **We will support you.**



- Universal Offer
- Careers convention
- Teatime networking
- 1:1 guidance
- Careers in the Curriculum (BM4)
- Tutor time (4x per year)
- Pop up stands
- Unifrog

- Destinations (2021):
- 63% University
 - 1.8% Apprenticeships
 - 16% Employment
 - 10% Gap

- Tutor Programme**
- Skills
 - Options
 - World of work
 - STEM
 - Languages
 - Green
 - Challenge stereotypes
 - LMI
 - Making Applications

Where to get further information

- Subject stands this evening (including student Support in CR1)
- Class teachers
- Careers team and UNIFROG
- Tutors and Heads of House
- Guided choices booklet on the school website (go to "students" tab, and then Guided Choices page)
- The Senior team
- Other students already following courses

What's next?

Date	Event
Friday 15th/22nd March	Taster Sessions in Health and Social Care, Business Studies and Psychology
Week beginning Monday 18th March	Guided Choices Booklet available on the school website (subject information) Guidance letters issued to parents: Applica open for choices Guidance/support available as required
Friday 19th April	Deadline for submission of choices through Applica
April/May	Guided choices checking with Heads of Houses, Tutors, Senior Team and Careers team as needed.
Term 6	Guided choices allocations confirmed as early as possible in term 6.

Making Choices


- Our next letter home (week beginning 18th March) will include:
 - Guidance on the choices each student will need to make
 - Information on HOW to make the choices.
- Students who work with student support will have already started conversations about their curriculum pathway, so will receive guidance as appropriate.

Submitting Choices through Applica

Select your preferred subjects

Click on the subjects you would like to choose from the list below, you will rank them in order in the next step.
Any rules you need to follow when choosing are shown on the right.

Available subjects	Your choices	All criteria
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art and Design <input type="checkbox"/> Biology <input type="checkbox"/> Business Studies <input type="checkbox"/> Chemistry <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Science <input type="checkbox"/> Design Technology <input type="checkbox"/> Economics <input type="checkbox"/> English Literature <input type="checkbox"/> French <input type="checkbox"/> Further Mathematics	1. Art and Design	<input type="radio"/> You have made 1 choice. You'll need to select 5 more subjects. <input type="radio"/> Subjects in this group must be chosen together: Art and Design / Spanish <input checked="" type="radio"/> Only one from this group of subjects can be chosen: Art and Design / Biology

 Rank your preferences

Thank you for attending this evening!

We are available to answer questions now.

Please visit as many of the subject areas as you can and enjoy seeing the school site.

