

Year 9 KS4 Options Evening 27th February 2025

Whilst you wait please look through the options booklet where there is lots of information regarding choosing your options



YEAR 9 OPTIONS

KEY STAGE FOUR COURSES 2025 - 2027
A guide to help you make the right decisions in your chosen subjects



Please scan the QR code to access:

- Course Information Booklet**
Provides information on the options process and details of every course.
- Subject Videos**
Teachers and students give you a description of what it is like to study every course.

In the name of Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

Heavenly Father,
be with us as we live, learn,
and **grow together**.

Inspire in us a spirit of
respect, understanding, affection, and humour,
so that all **know** that they are
valued, loved, and cherished.

With **Mary as our guide**,
encourage us to **be more like Jesus**,
today and every day.
Amen



St John Bosco, pray for us.

ROOTED IN **COMPASSION** ROOTED IN **FORGIVENESS** ROOTED IN **SERVICE** ROOTED IN **GRATITUDE**



Year 9 KS4 Options Evening 27th February 2025

- Core curriculum
- KS4 Qualifications
- English Baccalaureate
- Career progression
- Options process



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Who decides what is taught at KS4?

The **Government** still prescribes a National Curriculum at Key Stage 4 and this, along with performance measures, determines a significant proportion of what is taught at Key Stage 4.

The Core Curriculum

English (Language and Literature)

Mathematics

Science

Religious Education (we are a Catholic school)

Physical Education (not a qualification unless chosen as an option)

Curriculum for life (delivered during form time)

Key Stage 4 Qualifications

All qualifications are Level 1/2 which means you can achieve a Grade 9 - 1 (or equivalent) in all.

All our Key Stage 4 qualifications are worth the equivalent of one GCSE (except Science) and can lead to further study within the Sixth Form or a college.

GCSEs

All GCSEs are linear – this means that the examinations are taken at the end of the course.
Grades are 9 - 1

Vocational courses

A vocational course is assessed both through work completed in class as well as some exam element at the end of the course
Grades are Distinction - Pass

Key Stage 4 GCSE grading

| NEW GCSE GRADING STRUCTURE | CURRENT GCSE GRADING STRUCTURE |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 9 | A* |
| 8 | |
| 7 | A |
| 6 | B |
| 5 | |
| 4 | C |
| 3 | D |
| 2 | E |
| 1 | F |
| | G |
| U | U |

GOOD PASS (DfE)
5 and above = top of C and above

AWARDING
4 and above = bottom of C and above

What is the English Bacculaureate?

The English Bacculaureate was introduced as a performance measure in the 2010 performance tables.

It is not a qualification in itself.

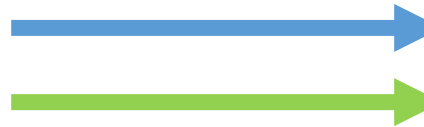
The measure recognises where pupils have secured a grade 5 or better across a group of academic subjects:

- English (both Language and Literature)
- Mathematics
- Two Sciences
- History or Geography
- A “Language” (we offer Spanish)

Options - all students choose 3 options

All students must choose **at least one** of...

It is recommended that many students who aspire to go to university study this...



| |
|-----------------------------|
| GCSE Geography |
| GCSE History |
| GCSE Spanish |
| GCSE Art |
| GCSE Business |
| Voc. Child Development |
| GCSE Computer Science |
| Voc. Construction |
| Voc. Creative iMedia |
| Voc. Dance |
| GCSE Design Technology |
| Voc. Drama |
| Voc. Food and Hospitality |
| GCSE Geography |
| GCSE Graphics |
| Voc. Health and Social Care |
| GCSE History |
| GCSE Music |
| GCSE Physical Education |
| GCSE Separate Sciences |
| GCSE Spanish |
| Voc. Sport |

The following combinations are not permitted:

- GCSE Computer Science **and** Voc. Creative iMedia
- GCSE PE **and** BTEC Sport
- GCSE Art and GCSE Graphics

**Unfortunately we are unable to offer
Photography this year**

No course is guaranteed to run – but if a viable number choose it we will run it.



THORNLEIGH

SIXTH FORM

Thornleigh Sixth Form is proud to host the only Catholic Post-16 provision in Bolton.

Our Key Stage 4 course offer is designed to provide clear progression routes into Post-16 education, ensuring students can continue their studies in a familiar and supportive environment.

While most students choose to stay at Thornleigh for their Post-16 education, some may pursue alternative routes.

Under national education policy, all students currently in Year 9 must remain in education or training until the age of 18.

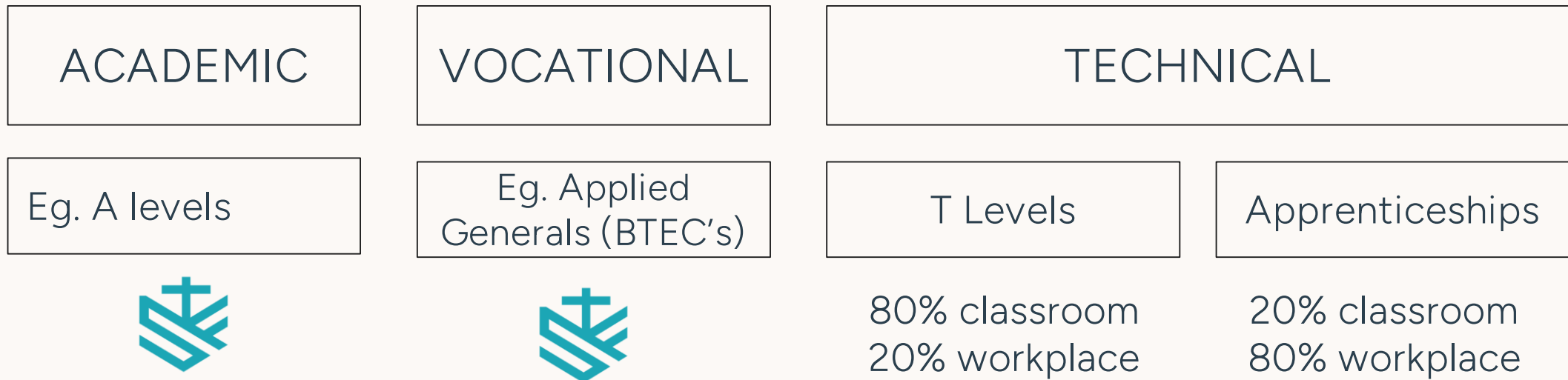


THORNLEIGH

SIXTH FORM

The Post-16 Landscape

Young people in England can currently choose between four options at the age of 16:



It's never too early to start thinking about how subject choices link to future careers and further study.

Nationally, any student who does not achieve at least a Grade 4 in GCSE English and/or Maths must continue to study these subjects until they turn 18 or achieve a passing grade. This applies to all students, regardless of their chosen pathway.

To find out more about Post-16 and Post-18 information, visit [INFORMED CHOICES](#)

To discuss choices further this evening.....



What happens next?

Home



School



Church



Playground



Thornleigh
Salesian College

Visit the subject stands in the hall and gym.
Talk to subject staff.
Read the KS4 courses information booklet.
Watch the course videos using the QR code.



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Home

School

Church

Playground

Discuss things at home

Do your own research

Think about what suits you

**Do not make choices based on teachers or what
your friends are choosing**



10th March – 14th March

Individual Consultation Meetings either face to face or via school cloud.

Discuss KS4 option choices with your child's form teacher or a member of the year team.

The link to submit Options choices will be emailed out prior to this meeting.



Tuesday 25th March

Final day for option choices to be completed online

[Home](#)



[School](#)



[Church](#)



[Playground](#)



Thornleigh
Salesian College