



The John of Gaunt School
A Community Academy

Year 9 Options Evening

KS4 2026-28



EQUA Mead
Learning Trust
Every Child, Every Chance

Importance of choice



We are currently preparing students **for jobs** that don't yet exist



Importance of choice



The John of Gaunt School
A Community Academy

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Using technologies
that haven't
been invented...



Importance of choice



In order to **solve problems** we don't even know are problems yet



Studying for jobs that don't exist!



Many of today's current trending jobs did not exist 10 years ago



Curriculum breakdown Examinations



Core: English, maths, **combined science**, RE (Also an option to gain a full GCSE in), PE & PSHE

Some students may have the opportunity to study separate sciences

4 Option subjects + 2 reserve options

Must select either Geography or History – you can choose both
Strongly recommend you select Spanish or French

Courses	Level 2						Level 1				U
	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G			
Legacy (old) GCSEs											
New GCSEs	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1		U
Vocational courses	D2*	D2	M2	P2	D1*	D1	M1	P1			Not Yet Achieved

No pathways but our expectations



- **If you are a Student aspiring to move onto sixth form and higher education (university)**
 - Broad and balanced range of mainly GCSE subjects
 - Consider the English Baccalaureate award: subjects that include a humanities subject a foreign language subject and the sciences
- **Students who are considering other educational pathways**
 - Broad and balanced range of GCSE and vocational equivalent courses
 - Must select a humanities subject
 - Some selected students will have a reduced timetable complemented with study support to ensure they are able to progress well in all their subjects.

Aspirational

Flexible

Supportive

No pathways, just choices



Free choice of subjects

- **Your child should consider their ability**
 - A steer toward a certain breadth of subjects to keep all future pathways open
 - Matching subjects to potential capability and future aspirations, including the English Baccalaureate for higher education
 - A curriculum with sufficient challenge

Aspirational

Flexible

Supportive

English Baccalaureate (EBacc)



The Ebacc is a certificate awarded to students who have shown a strong understanding in specific subjects.

- **It opens doors to exciting opportunities:**
 - Universities and employers love to see the EBacc because they know it means you've got a good foundation.
- **It helps you develop valuable skills:**
 - Like critical thinking, problem-solving, and communication – skills that are useful in any career!

The subjects:

- English language and literature
- maths
- the sciences including Computer Science
- geography or history
- A Modern Foreign language

Choosing your own adventure

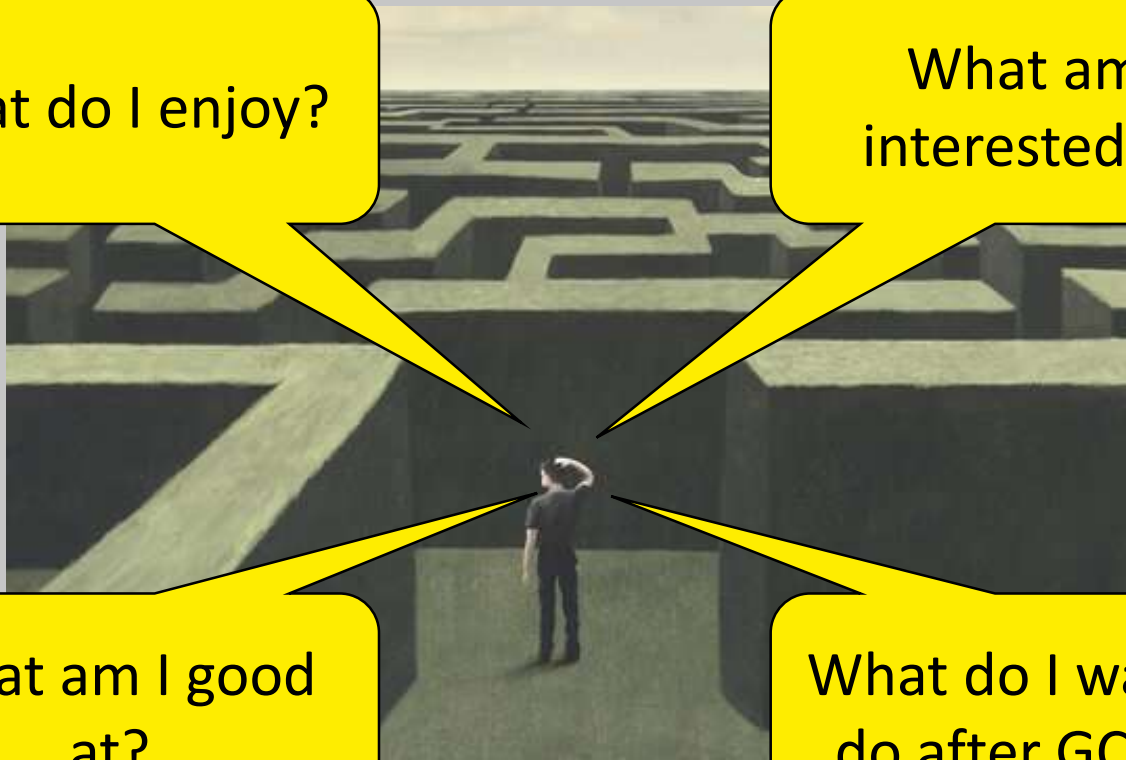


What do I enjoy?

What am I interested in?

What am I good at?

What do I want to do after GCSEs?



Choosing your subjects



Do NOT make your choices based on:

- The subjects your friends choose;
 - there is no guarantee you will be in the same class as them.
- A particular teacher;
 - there is no guarantee that teacher will teach you in the subject
- What your parents chose;
 - you have your own talents and interests and should be guided by those.
- What you think will be the easiest subjects;
 - there is no such thing and hard work will be needed no matter the path that you take.

Consultation and decisions - Selecting subjects



Brian Francis (Careers advisers)

Student & parent/carer meetings

- Student face-to-face meetings during school hours over the next fortnight
 - (book via email or tutor)
- careers@jog.equamead.org tel. 01225 762637 ext. 0274

Mrs Baines (Director of Post 16)
Mr Roberts (Assistant Headteacher)

Aspirational

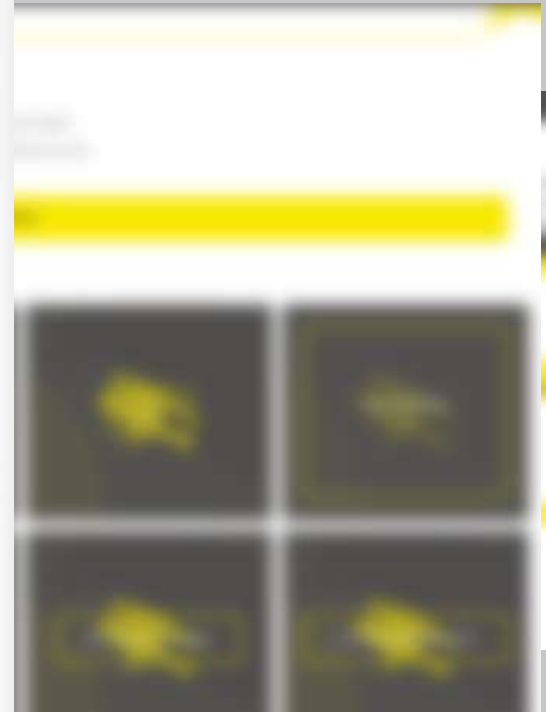
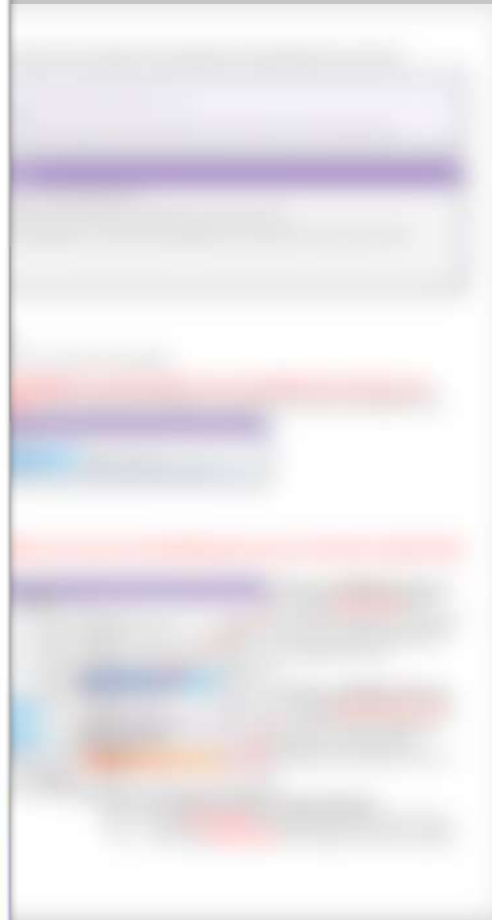
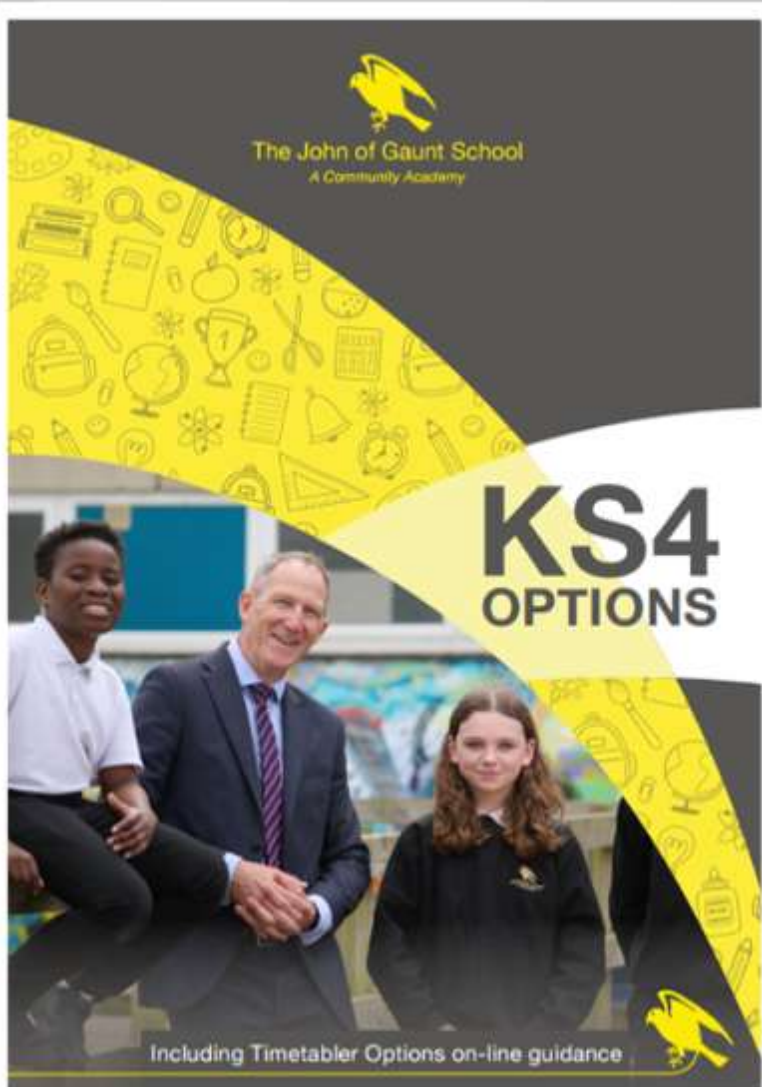
Flexible

Supportive

Your options booklet including Options on-line guidance



Remote option process through SIMS Options on-line.



Your options booklet including Options on-line guidance



Remote option process through SIMS Options on-line.

COMPLETING YOUR KS4 OPTIONS ON-LINE

Choosing your Subjects

Now that you have signed in, you can select your options.
You may choose only one from Geography or History from the humanity list (scroll down to the bottom of the page).

You can select the other subject, if you wish from the KS4 Level 2 qualifications list.
To help there is a link to a help guide as well as a link to the Options pages on our school website.

T.O.O.L.S

Teacher Options On-Line System



The John of Gaunt School Yr 9 GCSE Pathway 1

To leave without making any choices: [Log out](#)

Choices for:

Extra information: [Click here](#) for an example/instructions. [Click here](#) for course information.

Step 1 of 3

[Start](#) > [Choice 1](#) > [Free choice \(with reserves\)](#) > [Confirmation](#)

Students are offered a broad range of academic and vocational subjects that meet the EBacc requirements. Students MUST select one humanity subject. It is strongly recommended that students select a foreign language on the next screen.

- Geography (26)
 History (16)

[Next](#)

This will be recorded as Choice option number 1.

Step 4

Choosing your remaining subjects and reserves.

A further three subjects can be chosen and two reserves (back up) from the KS4 level 2 qualifications list.

Step 2 of 3

[Start](#) > [Choice: History](#) > [Free choice \(with reserves\)](#) > [Confirmation](#)

Now enter your 3 choices by entering 1, 2, 3, 4 at the box by your chosen subjects.

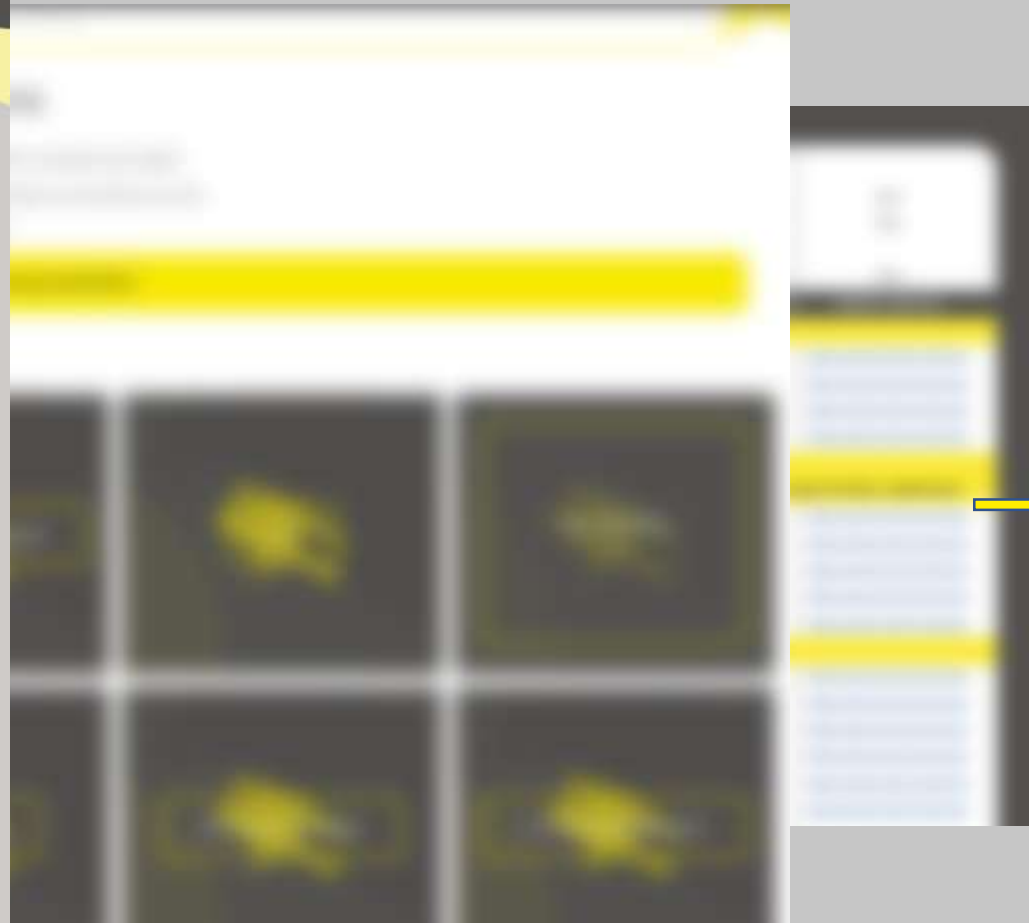
To mark your Reserve choice, add 'R' to that subject.

To mark your Second reserve choice, add 'S' to that subject.

Subject	Choice
Art (A)	<input type="text"/>
Business Stud (B)	<input type="text"/>
Child Development (C)	<input type="text"/>
Civics (CI)	<input type="text"/>
Citizenship (C)	<input type="text"/>
Creative Media (CM)	<input type="text"/>
Computer Science (CS)	<input type="text"/>
Design (D)	<input type="text"/>
Economics (E)	<input type="text"/>
Engineering (EN)	<input type="text"/>
Food Prep (FP)	<input type="text"/>
French (F)	<input type="text"/>
Geography (G)	<input type="text"/>
History (H)	Already selected
Health & Social (HS)	<input type="text"/>
Media Studies (MS)	<input type="text"/>
Music (M)	<input type="text"/>
Physical Education (PE)	<input type="text"/>
Religious Stud (RS)	<input type="text"/>
Spanish (S)	<input type="text"/>
Sports Science (SS)	<input type="text"/>
Textiles (T)	<input type="text"/>

[Submit](#) [Reset this form](#) [Close this form](#)

35



Your options booklet including Options on-line guidance



Remote option process through SIMS Options on-line.

HOME > CURRICULUM > KS4 OPTIONS

KS4 Options

Enjoy listening to what staff have to say about each subject.

Choosing GCSEs and planning ahead: how Careerpivot can help

Key Stage 3 – How to use Start

Options Evening presentation

KS4 Options Booklet

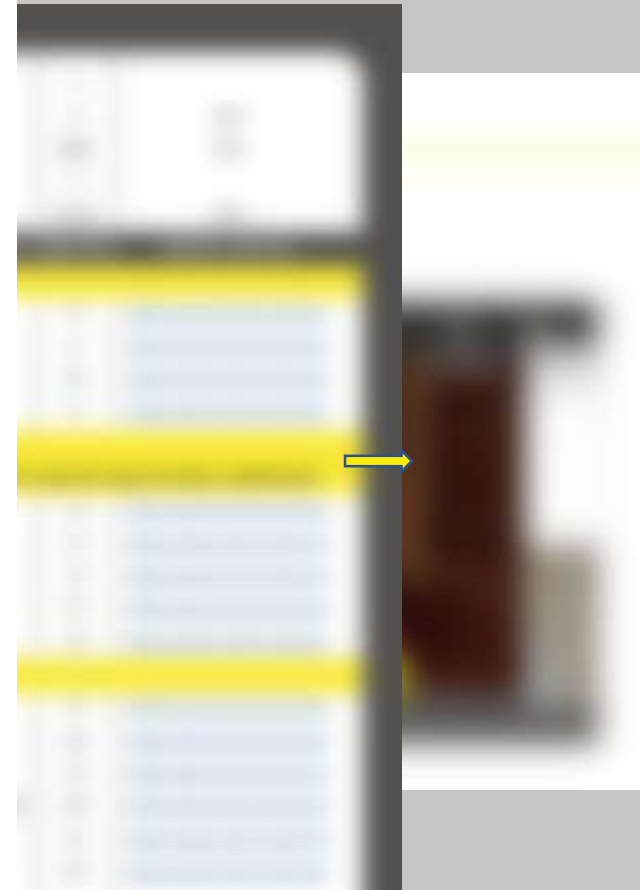
Art

Art Textiles

Astronomy

Business Studies

Child Development



Your options booklet

including Options on-line guidance



Remote option process through SIMS Options on-line.

Welcome		3	
Options process time line		4	N/A
'Need to know' information, advice & guidance		5&6	N/A
Your careers team, welcome & contact details		7	
SIMS options on-line guidance and support		33-37	N/A
Subject	Qualification	Page link	Website video link
Compulsory Core subjects			
English language	GCSE	8	Hold control & left click here
English literature	GCSE	9	Hold control & left click here
Mathematics	GCSE	10	Hold control & left click here
Science (combined)	GCSE	11	Hold control & left click here
Ebacc subjects			
[*either geography or history must be selected, a language is required to gain the Ebacc qualification]			
Computer science	GCSE	12	Hold control & left click here
French	GCSE	13	Hold control & left click here
Geography*	GCSE	14	Hold control & left click here
History*	GCSE	15	Hold control & left click here
Spanish	GCSE	16	Hold control & left click here
Optional subjects			
Art	GCSE	17	Hold control & left click here
Business Studies	GCSE	18	Hold control & left click here
CPLD	OCR nationals	19	Hold control & left click here
Citizenship	GCSE	20	Hold control & left click here
Creative Imedia	OCR nationals	21	Hold control & left click here
Drama	GCSE	22	Hold control & left click here
Economics	AQA	23	Hold control & left click here
Engineering	Technical award	24	Hold control & left click here
Food preparation & nutrition	GCSE	25	Hold control & left click here

HOME > CURRICULUM > KS4 OPTIONS > COMPUTER SCIENCE

Computer Science

Computer Science
The John of Gaunt School
IF statement
THEN
COMPUTER SCIENCE GCSE
Watch on YouTube
Copy link

Your options booklet including Options on-line guidance



Remote option process through SIMS Options on-line.

CORE: ENGLISH LITERATURE

Contributes to the EBacc qualification if a language is chosen

COURSE CONTENT

Read, understand and respond to a wide range of classic and modern texts

The aim is to encourage students to:

- develop knowledge and skills in reading, writing and critical thinking.
- through literature, develop culturally and acquire knowledge of the best that has been thought and written.
- read widely for pleasure, and as a preparation for studying literature at a higher level.

ASSESSMENT

Paper 1: written exam
[40% of the overall grade]

1 hour 45 minutes
Section A: One question on a Shakespeare play
Section B: One questions on a 19th-century novel
 For both sections you will need to answer in detail about an extract and then write about the play/novel as a whole.

Paper 2: written exam
[60% of the overall grade]

2 hours 15 minutes
Section A: Modern texts - answer one essay question from a choice of two studied modern prose or drama texts.
Section B: Poetry - answer one comparative question on one named poem printed on the paper and one other poem from their chosen anthology cluster.
Section C: Unseen poetry - answer one question on one unseen poem and one question comparing this poem with a second unseen poem.

EXAMINING BOARD SPECIFICATION LINK

[AQA GCSE English Literature](#)

WHO TO CONTACT FOR FURTHER GUIDANCE

Ms Gilvin, Director of learning: ggilvin@jogschool.org
 Mrs Johnson, Co Director of learning: njohnson@jogschool.org
 Mrs Foster, English KS4 co-ordinator: afoster@jogschool.org

Most chosen general qualifications exam board in England.

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GCSE English Literature 8702

[Specification](#) [Planning resources](#) [Teaching resources](#) [Assessment resources](#) [Key dates](#)

1.0 Introduction

1.0 Introduction

2.0 Specification at a glance

1.1 Why choose AQA for GCSE English Literature

A specification designed for you and your students

3.0 Subject content



We have worked closely with teachers to design our specification to inspire, challenge ability, while supporting you in developing creative and engaging lessons.



Timelines & deadlines



- Options evening Thursday 22nd January
- Invites for Options on-line access will be sent Friday 23rd January to student email accounts.
- Complete Options on-line choices including 4 main choices & 2 reserves
- Monday 9th February – deadline to submit the options [No 1st come – 1st served policy up until this date]
- Consultation with each student over the next 2 terms
- Term 5-6 final decision

Time to consult the teachers

