



WESTLANDS
SCHOOL

1 December
2025/26



Year 9 Options

Options Timeline



Term 3

- Options Booklet sent home
- Options assessments in class
- Taster sessions

Term 4

- Progress reports
- Parents' Evening
- Options Evening
 - Options forms will go live at the end of the Options Evening



The Options Process



What options are there?

Students study as standard:

- English
- Maths
- Science (double or triple)
- History or Geography



Pathways



Westlands

- Majority pathway
- Three choices:
 - Geography / History
 - Two other subjects

Wyvern

- Academic pathway
- Four choices:
 - Geography / History
 - French / Spanish
 - Two other subjects



Parents' / Options Evening



Parents' Evening, Thursday 26 February

- Speak to teachers
- Discuss progress and suitability

Options Evening, Thursday 12 March

- Meet our Subject Leaders
- Discuss suitability
- Understand the work requirements
- Speak to our Careers Advisor



Taster Sessions



We offer a number of subjects in Years 10 and 11 that are not available in Years 7,8 and 9.

In order to help your child better understand the options available, we run taster sessions in Term 3.

- Delivered by the subject specialists
- Carrying out the type of work expected on the course
- Highlighting future pathways



*Animal Care
Photography*

*Media
Film*

*Construction
Engineering*

*Child Development
Health and Social Care
Dance*

Advice on choosing your options



To help your child choose their options:

- Consider the subjects they are good at and enjoy (use their Progress Report)
- Discuss their future and what they want to achieve
- Encourage your child to talk to their teachers

When choosing your options you should avoid:

- Picking options because of friendship groups
- Picking options because of teachers

We ask for preferences:

- We need more than just two choices to allow us to try and make the timetable fit for as many pupils as possible.

Advice on choosing your options



Reading the Progress Reports

- | | | |
|----|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| - | below expectation | - <i>could do better</i> |
| + | in-line with expectation | - <i>doing well</i> |
| ++ | Performing above expectations | - <i>doing very well!</i> |

- Assessment scores do not tell the whole picture.
- Use the Personal Progress symbols to see how they are performing against their own potential, not compared to the rest of the year.
- We include progress over time, so you can see which subject they are consistently doing well in.

Example report:



Subject	Year 8 Autumn Progress	Year 8 Spring Progress	Year 8 Summer Progress	Year 9 Autumn Progress	Personal Progress	Percentage Achieved	Average Year Group Percentage	Attitude to Learning
English Language	-			-	-	65	58	3
Maths	-	++	++	+	+	52	47	2

Although this child's best score is in English, the Personal Progress shows that they are currently performing better in, and have a better attitude towards, Maths. The previous symbols show that this has happened consistently.

Geography	++	-	++	++	++	48	46	2
History	+	+	+	+	++	60	56	2

This child did really well in both Geography and History, but the prior progress shows that they have consistently exceeded expectations in Geography.

Comp Science		+	++	++	-	33	48	1
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While this child did not perform as well as hoped in Computer Science, their previous progress symbols show that they usually do very well and they also have a good attitude in lesson.

Next Steps



- Look at the options booklet with your child.
- Discuss their preferences and encourage them to talk to the teachers of any subject they are considering.



- Final allocations will be confirmed in Term 5