



A MOORLANDS LEARNING TRUST ACADEMY

# Year 9 Options 2026

12<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Together we belong, develop character and achieve excellence



# August 2028



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# Purpose of tonight...

Inform students and parents/carers of:

- Curriculum structure in Y10 and Y11
- Grading system
- Recommended Guided Pathways
- Process for selecting option choices
- Key dates to be aware of
- Tips for choosing the right courses for you

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# Curriculum Structure

## Core Curriculum – Lesson Per Week

English	Maths	Science	Personal Development (PD)	PE
5	5	5	1	2
Total: 18				

To complete the 30-period week, the remaining 12 lessons are given to option subjects.

There are **4 option slots** to fill, each option is given **3 lessons** per week.

Students' choices are guided in a way that will prepare them for either:

- 4 option GCSE qualifications
- A mixture of GCSE and vocational qualifications
- A mixture of GCSE, vocational and a work skills qualification

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# Grading

GCSE Grading	
New Grading Structure	Old Grading Structure
9	A*
8	A*
7	A
6	B
5	B
4	C
3	D
2	E
1	F
	G
U	U

Standard Pass → 4

Level	Qualification Grade	2019 Performance table points (based on 2018)
Level 2	Distinction *	8 / 9
	Distinction	7
	Merit	5 / 6
	Pass	4
Level 1	Distinction	3
	Merit	2
	Pass	1

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# Choosing Options

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# Pathways

Parents and students will receive a personalised pathway information letter via email.

We have allocated your child a pathway that we believe will lead to the greatest success at Key Stage 4, and progression at Post 16.

This is based on data from FFT Aspire (national dataset), performance at KS2 and performance at KS3.

## The 3 pathways:

- Academic Pathway
- Open Pathway
- Skills Pathway

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# Academic Pathway

<i>Choose 1 from this list</i>	<i>Choose 1 from this list</i>	<b>Choice of 2 from the following list:</b>	
<b>Language choice:</b>	<b>Humanities choice:</b>		
French	Geography	Art & Design	Drama
German	History	Photography	Music
Spanish	Religious Studies	Business Studies	Health & Social Care
		Computer Science*	Digital IT
		Religious Studies	Textiles
		Food Technology	Design Technology
		Geography	History
		French	German
		Spanish	Sport
		Media Studies	Triple Science*

If students wish to take triple science (1 GCSE for each of biology, chemistry, physics), they must use one of their remaining 2 option slots

\* Due to the demanding academic nature of these courses, students are advised to speak with their teachers to discuss suitability.

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# Open Pathway

<b>Language or Humanities choice:</b> <i>Must choose 1 from this list</i>	<b>Choice of 3 from the following list:</b>	
French	Art & Design	Drama
German	Photography	Music
Spanish	Business Studies	Health & Social Care
History	Religious Studies	Digital IT
Geography	Food Technology	Textiles
Religious Studies	Geography	Design Technology
	French	History
	Spanish	German
	Media Studies	Sport

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# Skills Pathway

***Choice of 3 from the following list:***

Art & Design	Drama
Photography	Music
Business Studies	Health & Social Care
Religious Studies	Digital IT
Food Technology	Textiles
Geography	Design Technology
French	History
Spanish	German
Media Studies	Sport

Students on the skills pathway will also complete a skills-based qualification, designed to support progression to apprenticeships and employment.

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# Process

Find out about all possible subjects

Consider possible next steps e.g. Benton Park Sixth Form

Read options booklet and pathways information

Talk with teachers, careers advisor, parents, older students

Submit final options choices online

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# Submitting your options online

**T.O.O.L.S** »  
TimeTabler Options On-Line System

TimeTabler  
Options  
StaffCover

[www.timetabler.com](http://www.timetabler.com)

## Collecting Student Choices On-line

Please enter your details:

**Username:**    
**Password:**  



[version 7.1]

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# Key Dates

The system is not first come, first served

- **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March** – Options Evening
- **W/C 16<sup>th</sup> March** – Receive email letter with your guided pathway information and online options login details.
- **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April** – Deadline for submitting option choices online
  - Options blocking process begins
  - If there are any issues with option choices, students and parents will be contacted
- **May** – Confirmation of option choices
- **September 2026** – Courses begin!

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# Advice

- Choose the **subjects you are likely to do best in**. Use the information in your reports and the feedback you have had from your teachers to guide you
- Don't make a choice just because you **like the teacher**. That teacher may well not be taking the group you end up in
- **Be realistic** about your strengths and weaknesses and accept realistic advice about the type of course you choose
- **Do your research** by reading the options booklet thoroughly and talking to your teachers
- Above all **don't choose a subject because your friend is doing it!** There is no guarantee you'll end up in the same class!

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# Things to think about...

- Do your research; ask questions, get advice, read what is involved
- Consider what you are thinking of studying after year 11
- Consider what relates to any career ideas you may have.
- All students expected to pass GCSE Maths and English. You will need to resit these if you do not achieve grade 4 at school.
- Do choose what is right for YOU and strike a balance.

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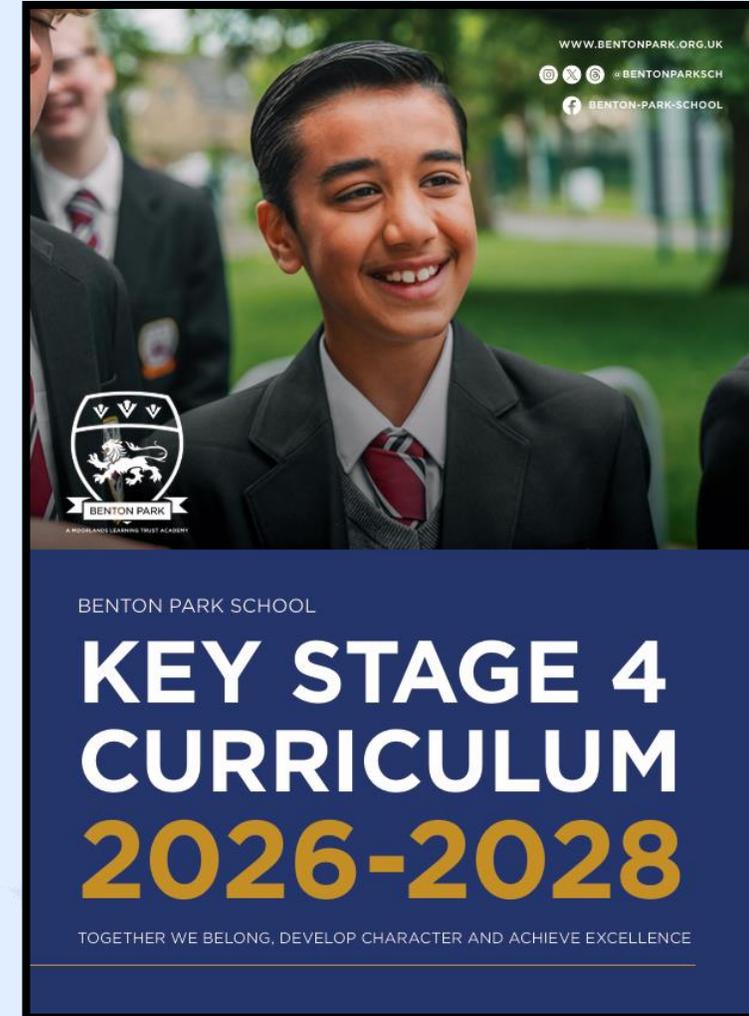


# GCSE transition page on the website

- All the presentations from this evening will be made available on our website in the coming days.
- The options booklet is available to view now.
- Guidance on how to use the online options system will also be made available here...

<https://www.bentonpark.org.uk/our-school/transition/transition-to-gcse>

[options@bentonpark.mlt.co.uk](mailto:options@bentonpark.mlt.co.uk)



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