



Shavington Academy

Options Booklet

2018-19

Year 8



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Dear Year 8 pupils and parents,

This booklet is designed to support you in your choice of course to study in Years 9. You will find information here about:

- how courses are assessed
- the courses, and the post 16 courses they could lead to
- the examination specifications we have chosen at Shavington
- the skills and topic areas of the courses we are teaching

All of this information is designed to help you to make your initial choices; to support you further, you have the opportunity to have an individual conversations with members of staff where you can ask questions, and they can guide you in making choices that suit your interests and goals.

As a pupil of Shavington Academy, you are entitled to a broad and balanced curriculum that over Year 9 encompasses:

- English
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- Trilogy Science
- Art
- History
- Geography
- Languages
- Citizenship

Studying this broad and balanced curriculum means that you are free to choose three additional subjects to develop your talents, whether they are technical, analytical, creative or humanitarian (One choice is made in Year 8 for study in Year 9, 10 and 11 and two further choice are made in Year 9, for study in Years 10 and 11) The option subjects offered for 2018 are: **Ancient History, Computer Science, Engineering, Food & Nutrition, GCSE PE, Btec Music and Photography.**

This is a very exciting time in your education – it is probably your first opportunity to exercise a free choice in what you study, an opportunity to specialise, or perhaps begin a new subject. Whatever you choose, we will expect you to give your full commitment, and to endeavour even when the subject is difficult or requires independent study.

I wish you every success,

C.White

Headteacher



Frequently Asked Questions



How many choices can I make?

You can make **ONE** choice and **ONE** reserve choice now and in Year 9 you will choose **TWO** further choices. You will study three option subjects in total.

What should I consider when making my choices?

These option choices are personal to you and should be made in discussion with your family. It might be useful to also consider:

- The range of subjects you are selecting – it is important to consider a broad range
- Whether you enjoy a subject and feel confident you can achieve well in it
- What job or college course you might be considering when you leave Shavington

It is important that you are not influenced by your friend's choices – these are YOUR options

What support will I receive when making my choices?

The options process provides a range of support strategies; it is important that you use as many of them as you can:

- Options launch night, all subjects will attend this event and be there to explain their subjects/courses and provide guidance;
- All subjects that are new to you will provide taster sessions – these really help you to know whether a subject is for you;
- Form tutors will also be able to provide answers to any questions you have;
- You will meet with a member of the Leadership team to discuss the choices you are making and to provide further guidance and support;
- Your class teachers and the February Parents' evening, this will provide a chance for you to discuss your progress in your subjects

Will I automatically be guaranteed my option choices?

We hope to be able to give as many students as possible their option choices, but it cannot always be possible for a number of reasons:

- The range of subjects offered may have to change, for example, if not enough students choose a course it cannot run
- It may be necessary to limit the number of students on a course due to health and safety guidance, this often applies to subjects such as Construction, Engineering and Food Technology
- A student's progress and attainment in subjects will also be taken into account to ensure that they have the best chance of success

Your reserve choice is therefore very important, as it will have to be used if any of the situations above occur.

Can I change my option choices after the deadline?

Possibly, but if you decide to change any of your option choices after the deadline you do run a much higher risk of not being able to have the options you want as pupils who met the deadline will be given priority.