



Options 2023

Options 2023

Information – What has changed in the exams grading system

Process – How the option system works and key dates

Options Booklet – Details of the course requirements and where it can lead

Subject Stands – What the course looks like and an opportunity to ask the expert.

GCSE Grades

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

English Baccalaureate

What is it?

An accountability measure for schools.

Five GCSEs at grade 5 or higher.

English	Maths	Science	French or Spanish	History or Geography	Or Computer Science	Other Options
---------	-------	---------	-------------------------	----------------------------	---------------------------	------------------

What the Universities Say...

- The English Baccalaureate was introduced as a performance measure for schools in England in the 2010 performance tables. It is not a qualification.
- The English Baccalaureate includes academic subjects highly valued by the Russell Group but it is not currently required for entry to any Russell Group university. Some require a language for some courses.
- The subjects are considered to be the most facilitating A-level subjects for university entry.

YEAR 9 OPTIONS 2023 FORM

Subject choice

All students will be required to follow Examination courses in English, Maths and Science and Core non examination courses in RE, PE and PSHE (Personal Well Being) in accordance with the National Curriculum.

Students will then be able to choose **THREE** Examination courses in option subjects. **One from Group A, and two others from Groups A or B.** Students are also required to enter a reserve choice.

Key Stage 4 Option Choices.

To ensure a balanced curriculum all students must select at least one option from Option Block A in the table.

The remaining two option choices are an open selection by students from either Option Block A or B. A reserve option is required. Reserves may be used where it is appropriate.

Option Block A	Choice ✓	Option Block B	Choice ✓
Computer Science		Art	
French		Drama	
Geography		Design Technology	
History		Food and Nutrition	
Spanish		Music	
		PE	
		Photography	
		Religious Studies	
		Separate Science (Triple Award)	

My reserve option is _____ (must be different from already selected subjects)

Languages

I speak another language and would like to consider taking a GCSE in this.

The language is _____.

Outside of school I speak a language not offered in the option subjects, can I take a GCSE in that?

You can take a GCSE in your additional language if you are prepared to study and practice for the written paper. The school may be able to assist you with this. The GCSEs available in modern foreign languages are: -

Arabic, Bengali, Chinese (Spoken Mandarin/spoken Cantonese), German, Greek, Gujarati, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, Panjabi, Persian, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Turkish and Urdu

Key Stage 4 Option Choices.

I agree that my son/daughter of tutor group will be prepared to study three of these chosen subjects to GCSE level and I will support the school in the requirements of homework and coursework/controlled assessment completion.

Signed: Parent Date:

Please return the completed form to your child's form tutor by **27th March 2023 at the latest.**

IF WE FEEL THAT YOU WILL STRUGGLE TO SUCCEED IN YOUR PREFERRED SUBJECT WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO DIRECT YOU TO A MORE APPROPRIATE COURSE.

Options 2023

Friday 24th February	Parentmail sent home informing of the options schedule
Friday 24th February	Options subjects information presentations available online
Friday 24th February	Options information booklet available online
Thursday 2nd March	Year 9 Options Information Evening (4.30-6.30pm)
Week commencing 6th March	Individual subject talks with Year 9 classes to commence
Thursday 23rd March	Y9 Parents Evening (4.00 – 7.00pm) online
Monday 27th March	Deadline for Options Forms to be returned to tutors (tutors to pass to PCR)
Thursday 30th March	Option choice checking with SENDCo and pastoral
Week beg 24th April	Option lists shared with Faculties and offer letters generated

Options 2023

Do

- Read the Option Booklet
- Use Unifrog
- Watch the online subject presentations
- Talk to teachers
- Talk to parents
- Talk to older students
- Think about what you want to do post 16
- Think about subjects that you enjoy

Do not

- Pick a subject because of a teacher
- Pick a subject because of a friend
- Do nothing

Options 2023

All students have their own account



Exploring pathways

<p>Careers library</p> <p>✖ Careers favoured</p> <p>Go to tool ></p>	<p>Subjects library</p> <p>✖ Subjects favoured</p> <p>Go to tool ></p>	<p>Know-how library</p> <p>✖ Guides favoured</p> <p>Go to tool ></p>
<p>MOOC</p> <p>Make your first shortlist</p> <p>Start ></p>	<p>Personality profile</p> <p>✖ Quiz not taken</p> <p>Start ></p>	<p>Interests profile</p> <p>✖ Quiz not taken</p> <p>Start ></p>

unifrog

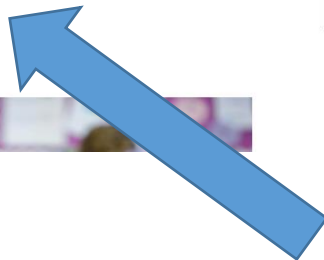
Options 2023



GCSE Options

Information about our Y9 Options subjects.

[Y9 Option Information](#)



RM Unify

Sign in to your school account.

[RM Unify](#)



Portal

See work and announcements for students.

[Portal](#)

On the school website – ‘About Us’
‘Students’

Options 2023 – Who Can Help?

- Tutors
- Subject teachers
- Mrs Sephton / Miss Crook
- Mr Crowther
- Mrs Staniforth
- Mrs Walmsley
- Mrs Taylor and the SEND Team
- Family



Options 2023

Careers at Albany

Mrs Staniforth (CEIAG Lead)

CEIAG (Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance)



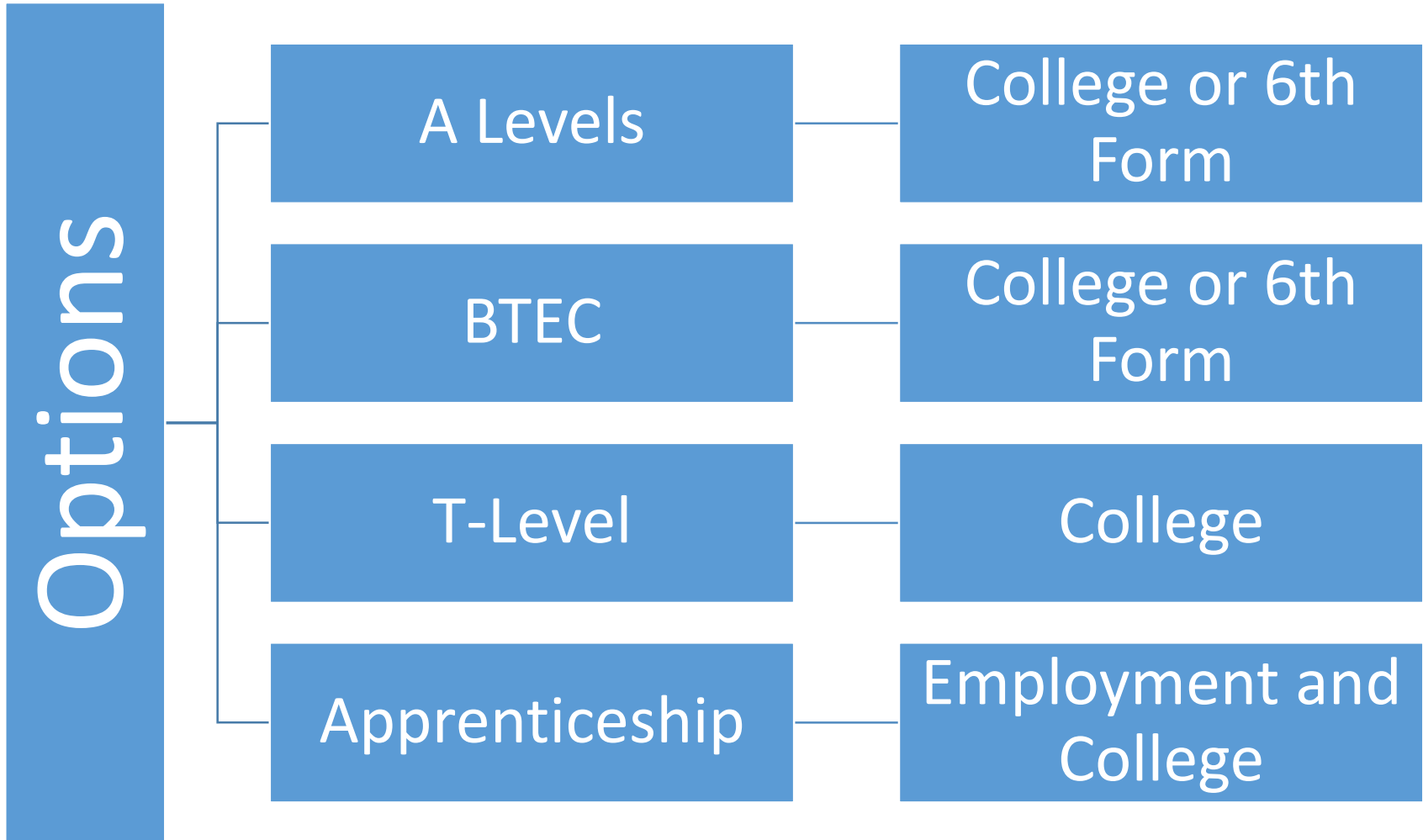
Post 16 Options

In England, all young people must be in some form of education or training until they are 18.

You are funded by the government until the end of the academic year in which you are 18.

English and **Maths** – If you don't attain a Grade 4+ you will have to attend compulsory classes.

Post 16 Options Overview



What do the 'levels' mean?

Level 1

- Suitable for students with two GCSEs at grade 2
- Practical course
- Usually 1 year

Level 2

- Suitable for students with 4+ GCSEs at grade 4, or who have completed a Level 1 course
- Equivalent of GCSE grade qualifications
- Practical courses, BTECs, Apprenticeships
- Usually 1 year courses

Level 3

- Suitable for students with 5+ GCSEs at grade 5+, or who have completed a Level 2 course
- A Levels, BTEC, T-Levels, Apprenticeships
- 2 year courses

Level 4 +

- Degree level and above
- Need to complete a Level 3 course first

A Levels

- Subject based
- Different courses have different entry requirements (usually grade 5+)
- Can lead to a degree
- Look at subjects library on Unifrog to look at degrees your subjects could lead to
- Exams at the end of 2 years
- A*-E

BTECs (Business & Technology Education Council)

- BTECs are amazing, versatile qualifications that open up doors in careers in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths), construction, business, law, sport, IT, beauty, the creative industries and more!

Did you know..?

- A large majority of BTEC students are employed full time after completing their qualification
- You can take BTECs and GCSEs/A-levels alongside one another (offered at some of our local colleges)
- BTECs are different to A-levels and GCSEs as they are taught through practical work and theory rather than just theory.
- Continual assessment throughout the course
- Pass, Merit, Distinction

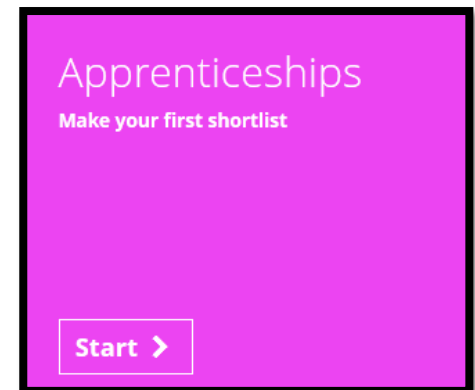
Technical Qualifications (T Levels)

- New, government-backed career focused qualifications for 16-19 year olds
- Equivalent to 3 A-levels
- Two year course, with 45 day industry placement
- T-levels develop technical skills to prepare young people for the job market
- Backed by hundreds of British businesses who helped design them
- Range of courses – business, education & childcare, engineering, catering, hairdressing & barbering, digital, legal.
- Mixture of ways of being assessed e.g. observations, portfolios.



Apprenticeships

- Learn and earn
- Different levels – Traineeship (L1), Intermediate (L2 5 equivalent GCSEs), Advanced (L3 equivalent 2 A Levels), Higher (L4 Foundation degree), Degree apprenticeship (L6/7)
- Not just practical subjects e.g. business administration, teaching assistants.
- How do you get on one? Look out for vacancies eg. on Unifrog (continually updated), apply and impress the Employer
- They are very competitive – so you need to be able to show you have ‘the edge’ i.e. examples and evidence of your skills/competencies



CEIAG at Albany

- Unifrog (*parents can also access - "ALACparents" - valid until 28/05/23*)
- College taster days & other events
- CV building
- 1:1 appointments with an independent careers' advisor
- CEIAG Focus Days
- Mock interviews
- Careers Cafes
- Personal Welfare lessons
- Leadership opportunities



Options 2023