

# Options Booklet



# Year 9 Options Evening

Mrs Hudson – Head Teacher

Mr Scoltock – Deputy Headteacher

Mrs Carr – Progress Leader

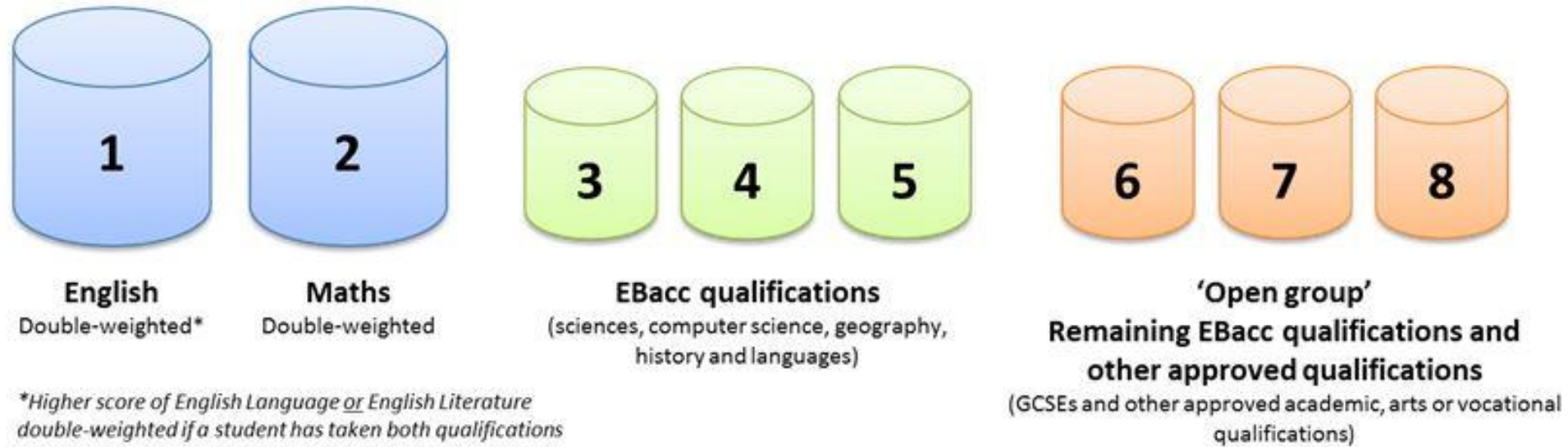
Mr Lacey – Assistant Head Teacher

Miss Thomas – Assistant Head Teacher

Mr Stockdale – Assistant Head Teacher



## Progress 8 measure



### Why study the EBacc subjects?

Research shows that students are more likely to progress on to, and remain studying A levels and other Level 3 subjects at Sixth Form or College.

**However**, the EBacc subjects might not be the most appropriate choices for all students and other subjects are important for a range of future pathways.

Staff will guide you on which subject choices.

# EBacc

- English language and Literature
- Maths
- The Sciences
- Geography or History
- French



How does the grading work at GCSE?

The “old” pass grade of a C equates to a 4 or 5 in the new grading structure.

A “5” is judged to be a “good” pass, and is often the grade required in English and Maths to progress on to many college courses.

Ofqual

Grading new GCSEs from 2017

New grading structure	Current grading structure
9	A*
8	
7	
6	B
5	
4	C
3	
2	D
1	
U	U

GOOD PASS (DfE)  
5 and above = top of C and above

AWARDING  
4 and above = bottom of C and above



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A BTEC is a vocational course that you can study at different levels.

A BTEC Level 2 certificate is equivalent to one GCSE.

The BTEC grading system uses a Pass, Merit and Distinction grading system.

A guide to how the BTEC grading system equates to the “old” GCSE grading system is:

**Distinction \* (D\*) = A\* at GCSE**

**Distinction (D) = A at GCSE**

**Merit (M) = B at GCSE**

**Pass (P) = C at GCSE**

(This grading system is the same for OCR National qualifications)

Instead of the majority of assessment culminating in final exams at the end of Year 11. BTEC courses consist of 60% centre assessed work that is externally moderated and 40% external exam at the end of the course.



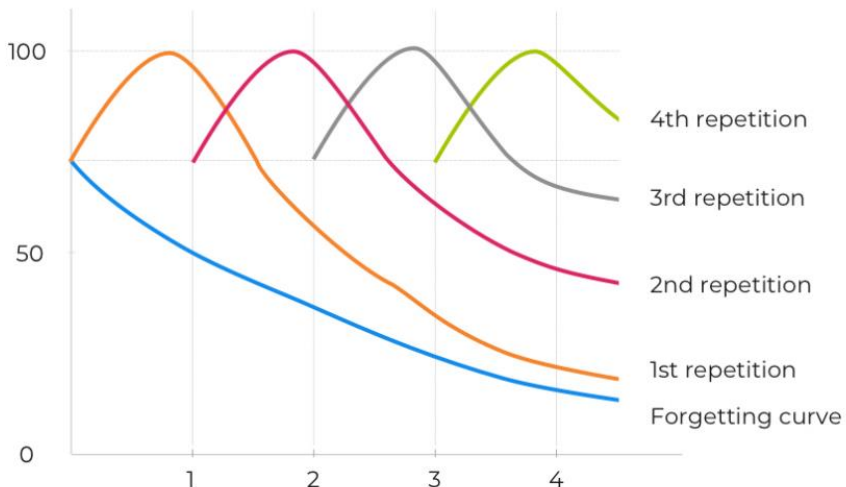
# KS4 Subjects are a challenge...

At times you will find subjects difficult.

At times you might not enjoy certain topics.

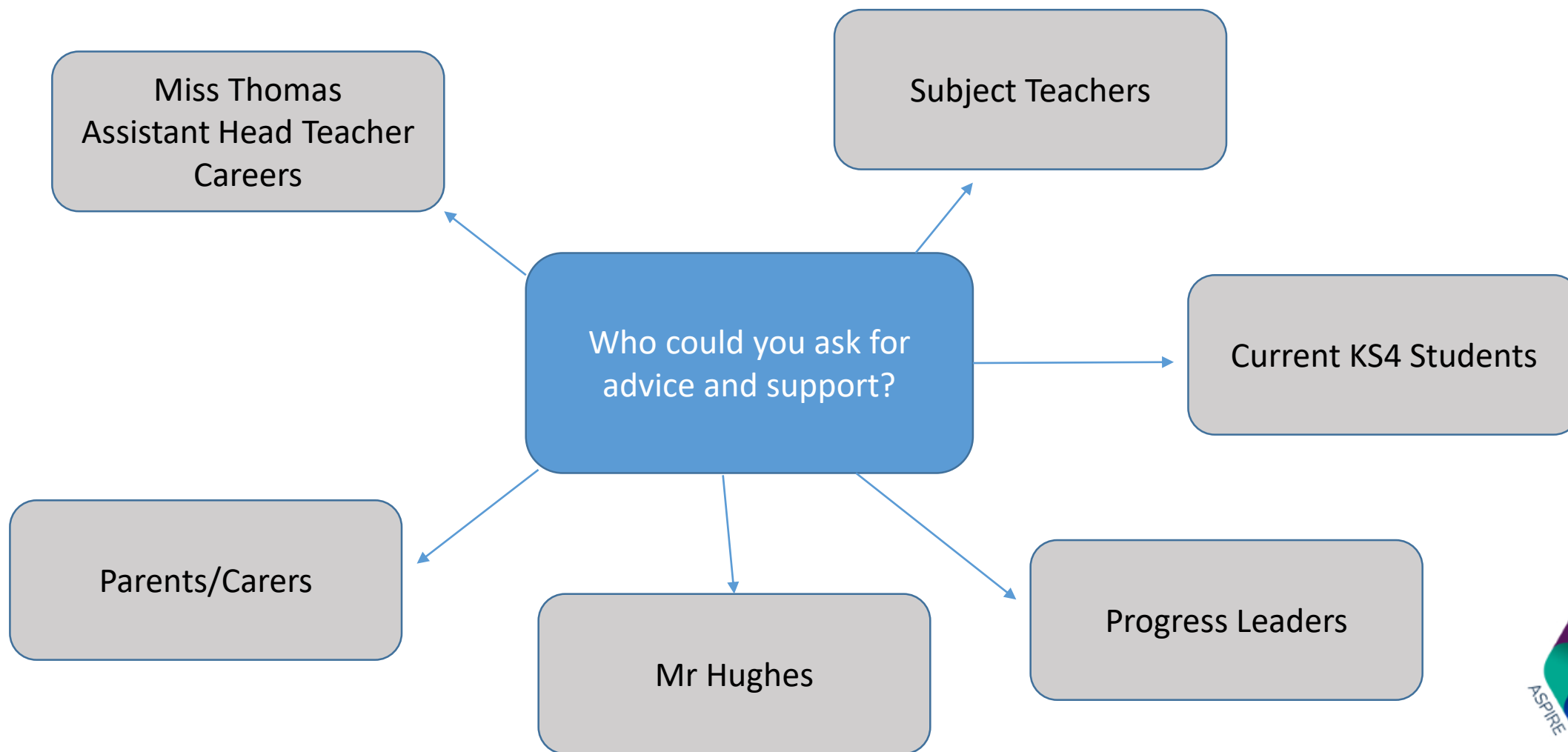
You will need resilience, determination and a long term view.

Study at home is essential.



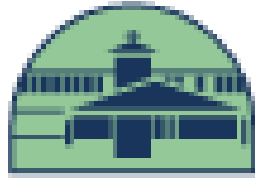
# Option Blocks

Option A	Option B	Option C	Option D
GCSE History GCSE Geography BTEC PE BTEC Performing Arts OCR IT	GCSE History GCSE Geography BTEC Computer Science OCR Business & Enterprise BTEC Small Animal Care BTEC Music	OCR Business & Enterprise OCR Child Development GCSE Fine Art GCSE Religious Studies GCSE Statistics GCSE 3 D Product Design BTEC PE GCSE Graphics	OCR Creative iMedia BTEC PE GCSE Art GCSE 3 D Product Design GCSE French OCR Health & Social Care GCSE Media Studies VCert Food and Cookery



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# When you move on from Blacon High School.....



**Christleton**  
HIGH SCHOOL



**Cheshire College**  
South & West



**COLEG**  
**CAMBRIA**



**Employment**

**University**

**Apprenticeship**



# Bursary Scheme

In collaboration with the Hope opportunity Trust and the Royal National Springboard Foundation, after a rigorous selection process, eligible students secure fully funded places to study for their A levels at some of the country's top independent boarding schools such as Eton College, Gordonstoun and Fettes, amongst others. Since its inception, 45 students from Blacon High School have accessed this life-changing opportunity.

For further information, please see Mr Stockdale



# Making your choice

Email any questions that you might have to [options@blaconhigh.Cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:options@blaconhigh.Cheshire.sch.uk).

Tonight and during the progress evening next Thursday discuss your possible options with your class teachers and they will advise you on the suitability of the course at Key Stage 4.

Carefully consider why you are choosing each subject and where your options might lead after Blacon High School.

Join the Options Google Classroom and complete the online option form.

**Code: 3jadirs**

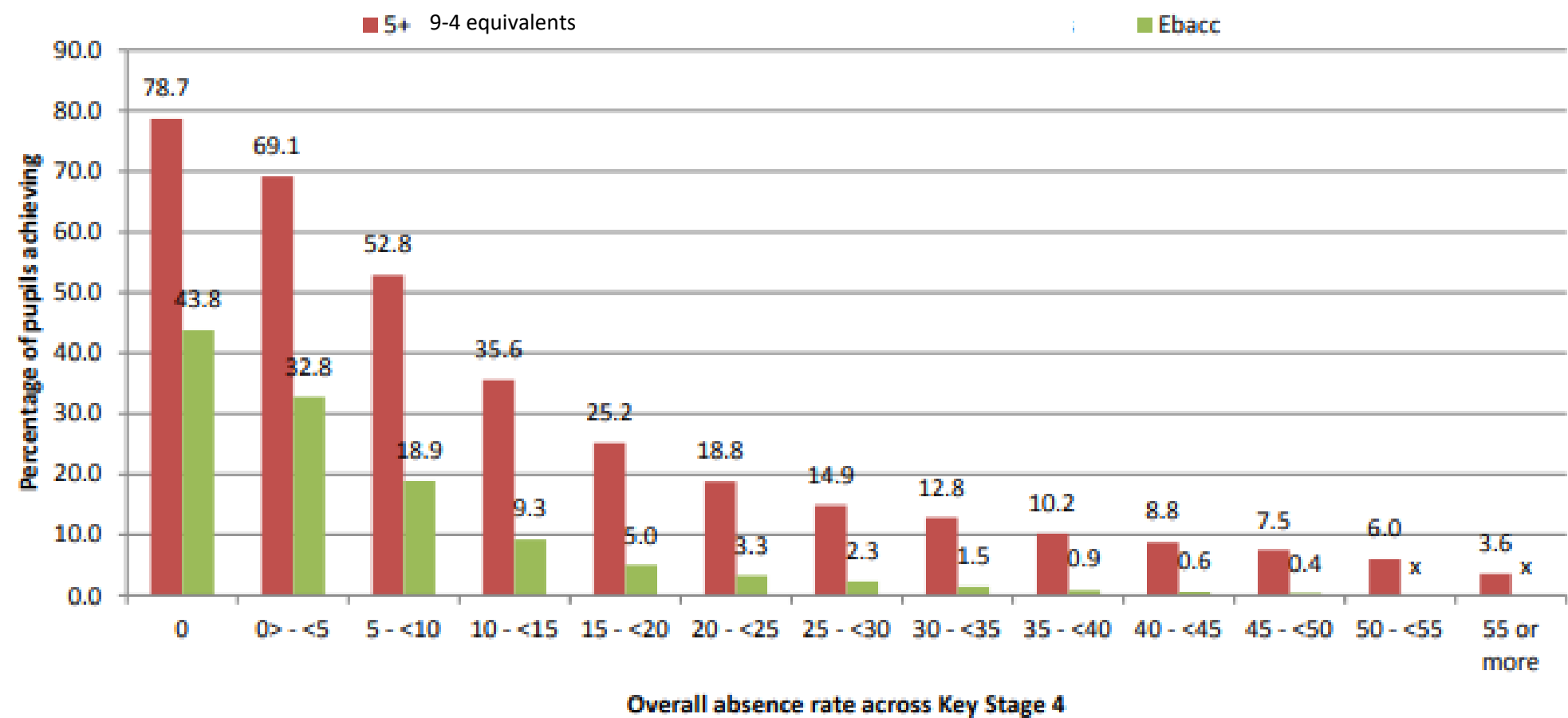


**Excellent attendance is essential if you are to achieving your potential and attaining high grades**

Attendance during one school year	Equivalent Days	Equivalent Weeks	Equivalent Lessons Missed
95%	9 Days	2 Weeks	50 Lessons
90%	19 Days	4 Weeks	100 Lessons
85%	29 Days	6 Weeks	150 Lessons
80%	38 Days	8 Weeks	200 Lessons
75%	48 Days	10 Weeks	250 Lessons
70%	57 Days	11.5 Weeks	290 Lessons
65%	67 Days	13.5 Weeks	340 Lessons



This graph shows the link between attendance and the percentage of students who achieved 5 or more GCSE level subjects at 9 - 4.





Stream

Classwork

People

Grades



# Year 9 Options 2024



Meet



Generate link

Class code



3jadirs



Announce something to your class



J Lacey posted a new assignment: Online Options Form ▶ 1 student  
Feb 29 (Edited 12:07 PM)



J Lacey posted a new material: Introductory information for the options  
Feb 15



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## Assignment

Title

Online Option Form

Instructions (optional)

These are possible option blocks. Please make one choice from each block. You can only choose each subject once. You must choose either Geography or History (you can do both). If you choose French then you don't have to choose Geography or History.

**B** *I* U

For

All students

Points

100

Due

Thu, Mar 21

☐ Close submissions after due date

Topic



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*More than a school*

# Key Dates

Thursday, March, 7<sup>th</sup> – Options Evening

Wednesday, March, 13<sup>th</sup> – After school snapshot lessons.

Thursday, March, 14<sup>th</sup> – Year 9 Progress Evening

Friday, March, 15<sup>th</sup> – Opportunity to meet with current KS4 students

Thursday, March, 21<sup>st</sup> – Deadline for submission of option choices

Following option choices, one-one meetings with SLT



# So, to conclude

**It is essential that you choose your option subjects for the right reasons:**

- Not because a friend is choosing particular subjects.
- Not because you like a particular teacher; the Key Stage 4 experience may be very different to Key Stage 3.
- Not because a friend, brother, sister chose a subject and liked it. You are unique.
- Choose subjects which you and enjoy, or think that you will enjoy.
- Which will be most suited to the longer term plan and the next pathway when you will be making choices again at the end of Year 11?
- Please look through the information booklet and the links to the qualification pages for each subject.
- Email the [options@blaconhigh.Cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:options@blaconhigh.Cheshire.sch.uk) if you have any questions about your choices.



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