



BEAL HIGH SCHOOL

OPTIONS BOOKLET 2021-22





KEY STAGE 4 AND YOUR FUTURE – FOR STUDENTS

Year 10 is the beginning of an important stage of education known as Key Stage 4. You will stay in education and training until you are 18 and many of you will continue with your education and training into your early 20s or beyond. Therefore, the decisions you make at this stage are vital.

Future opportunities will depend upon what you achieve during the next two years. For example, to be able to follow many sixth form and college courses you will have to gain:

- At least five GCSE passes (grades 9-1) and as many good (grade 9-5) passes as possible and more passes means more opportunities
- Achievement in English and Maths (grades 9-4)

As a result of the changes to GCSEs, schools have had to carefully think about the type, number and structure of courses that students will be offered. At Beal High School, we have designed our curriculum based on the best educational outcomes for all students. All of your courses will be assessed through a range of examinations and assessments. Our options system is based on student choice and we offer a broad and balanced curriculum that will help prepare you for the future.

The main features of the new GCSEs are:

- A new grading scale of 9 to 1 will be used, with 9 being the top grade
- Assessment will be mainly through exam, with other types of assessment used only where they are needed to test essential skills.
- There will be new and more demanding content, which has been developed by the Government and the exam boards.
- Courses will be designed for two years of study and students will take all their exams in one period at the end of their course.

In addition to GCSEs, we offer some technical courses, which are approved by the government as equivalent to GCSEs but offer a more vocational approach. These are graded at either Level 2 (D*, D, M or P) equivalent to GCSE grades 9-4 or Level 1 (D, M or P) equivalent to GCSE grades 4-1. All these GCSEs and technical courses are identified on each subject page in this booklet.



CURRICULUM INFORMATION

Our Curriculum is intended to support and challenge learners to be:

- Successful learners who enjoy learning, make progress and achieve
- Confident individuals who are able to live safe, healthy and fulfilling lives, by cementing their sense of identity, this in turn enables them to engage in positive relationships and nurture their own talents
- Responsible citizens who make a positive contribution to society, and show respect and tolerance to others

Compulsory Subjects:

You will study these subjects throughout Year 10 and 11. They are:

- English Language and English Literature
- Mathematics
- Science (Co-ordinated – 2 GCSEs or Separate Sciences – 3 GCSEs)
- Religious Education (Core – non examined)
- Physical Education (Core – non examined)
- PSHE (Core – non examined)

Option Subjects:

You will also have the opportunity to study 4 of the following subjects to gain GCSE qualifications. It is possible to combine academic and vocational courses. These courses are single award GCSEs or equivalent courses and count as one subject (one option).

- Students should take History or Geography and a Language. This helps develop your understanding of the changing world in which we live and adds balance to your studies.
- Some students may choose 3 subjects and use the extra time to focus on achieving an additional Entry level/Level 1 qualification or the Additional English iGCSE (English as a second language) qualification. Only students who are invited to do this will be able to follow this option.
- When choosing your options you will be asked to nominate a reserve choice which you could get so think carefully about this subject



Facilitating subjects

(Selecting History or Geography **PLUS** one Modern Language subject will qualify you for the English Baccalaureate (Ebacc))

| Subject | Sector | Qualification |
|------------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| Computer Science | Science/Technology | GCSE |
| French | Modern Foreign Language | GCSE |
| German | Modern Foreign Language | GCSE |
| Spanish | Modern Foreign Language | GCSE |
| Geography | Humanities | GCSE |
| History | Humanities | GCSE |

Specialist Subjects

| Subject | Sector | Qualification | Subject | Sector | Qualification |
|---|------------|---------------|---|---------------------|---------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | Creative | GCSE | <input type="checkbox"/> Media Studies | Creative/Technology | GCSE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drama | Creative | GCSE | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | Creative/Technology | GCSE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business Studies | Humanities | GCSE | <input type="checkbox"/> Physical Education | Creative | GCSE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Design Technology | Technology | GCSE | <input type="checkbox"/> Photography | Creative/Technology | GCSE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economics | Humanities | GCSE | <input type="checkbox"/> Religious Studies | Humanities | GCSE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food preparation and nutrition | Technology | GCSE | <input type="checkbox"/> Sociology | Humanities | GCSE |

Additional Subjects – Vocational & Applied courses

| Subject | Sector | Qualification |
|---|----------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Creative iMedia | Creative/ Technology | Cambridge Nationals (L2) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Music Technology | Creative/ Technology | BTEC (L2) |



Additional Subjects – Community Modern Foreign Languages

If students are able to speak, read and write one of the languages below they can take the GCSE in that subject and it will count as the modern foreign language component of the English Baccalaureate. The Tamil qualification is an IGCSE and does not contribute towards the English Baccalaureate. The school will support and prepare students for these exams in sessions that will take place after school.

| Subject | Sector | Qualification |
|--|-------------------------|---------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arabic (EDEXCEL) | Modern Foreign Language | GCSE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bangla (AQA) | Modern Foreign Language | GCSE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese (AQA) | Modern Foreign Language | GCSE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greek (EDEXCEL) | Modern Foreign Language | GCSE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gujarati (EDEXCEL) | Modern Foreign Language | GCSE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hebrew – modern (AQA) | Modern Foreign Language | GCSE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Italian (AQA) | Modern Foreign Language | GCSE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Persian (EDEXCEL) | Modern Foreign Language | GCSE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Polish (AQA) | Modern Foreign Language | GCSE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Portuguese (EDEXCEL) | Modern Foreign Language | GCSE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Punjabi (AQA) | Modern Foreign Language | GCSE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Russian (EDEXCEL) | Modern Foreign Language | GCSE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tamil (IGCSE) | Modern Foreign Language | IGCSE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Turkish (EDEXCEL) | Modern Foreign Language | GCSE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Urdu (AQA) | Modern Foreign Language | GCSE |



Our expectations

To be successful in Beal High Upper School, you will need to:

- Aim for full attendance: This includes all timetabled lessons, morning registration, revision sessions and assemblies. Be in the right place, on time.
- Be organised and smart: Ensure you bring the right equipment and you wear the correct uniform to school; complete all classwork and extra learning tasks on time.
- Value your time and make study your priority – In KS4 we expect every student to spend at least two hours on work each night. Meet all deadlines and strive to exceed your target grades. Organise your home study time effectively and ensure that social media sites do not interfere with study. Read and work outside of the classroom. Ask for help if there are problems.
- Make positive choices: work together to have a calm, tidy, polite school where we are all ready for learning and build positive relationships with students and staff.
- Show respect and consideration for yourself and others; listen when someone is talking; follow instructions quickly. Act as a role model for younger students, setting examples of conduct, commitment to study and participation in school life.
- Contribute to the school community by accepting additional responsibility - possibly an upper school Student Director, prefect, form/year team lead, mentor, subject ambassador, sports leader or an environmental champion.

Extra-curricular Opportunities

The aim is to provide useful leadership opportunities for students to take part in outside of lessons, where they can learn new and transferable skills. These opportunities are essential in helping students prepare for the world of work. As well as this, Year 10 students can apply to become Upper School Student Directors. This is to create an effective network of informed young leaders who are active citizens guiding the future of Beal High School.



What should I do now?

Your choices

This booklet is designed to tell you about the basic content of each subject including the ones that are compulsory. It is intended to help you and your parents make the right decisions for you and for your future. We always try to give you your first choice subjects but this is not always possible. It is important that you choose reserve options and think carefully about these too.

In addition to reading this booklet you should:

- Talk to your parents and your form tutors about your subject preferences.
- Speak to your teachers about what is involved in their subjects. They will also be able to advise you based on their knowledge of you as an individual. Please use the Parents' evening on the 3rd of March to ask as many questions as you can.
- Talk to other students in Years 10 and 11 who are taking subjects in which you are interested.

Your decisions

The Beal High School website (Year 9 page) provides you with a copy of this Options booklet as well as links to websites that provide advice about career pathways at 14, 16 and 18. We have also provided a link to the Subject specific entry requirements for our 6th form.

You will be emailed a link to the Options form after the KS4 progression Evening. A copy of this can also be found on the Year 9 page of the Beal High School website. You must indicate on this what your four choices are as well as your 2 reserve options. **This online form should be completed before Friday the 18th March 2022**



Key dates

Key Stage 3 – 4 Progression Parent Partnership Evening- Tuesday the 8th February

Year 9 Parents Evening – Tuesday the 25th of January

Year 9 Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) – February/ March

Deadline for completion of the online Options Form – Friday the 18th of March

Follow up Year 9 Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) – May/ June



Frequently asked questions – for parents

1. If there are questions still unanswered after the Progression Partnership Evening who should I speak to?

The easiest thing to do is explain your query to our Achievement and Progress Administrator Mrs Sairah Saleem on Telephone number: 020 8551 4954, Email: ssaleem@bealhighschool.co.uk who will then direct you to the right person.

2. Will the choice of subjects now affect what subjects can be studied at Sixth Form level?

Not necessarily; the most important thing is to achieve your best possible grades at GCSE. This, along with a good English grade (grade 5+), will then give you more Sixth Form subjects to choose from. A-levels will have subject specific entry requirements. These are available on the school website. Students who already have a clear career in mind should discuss their plans with subject staff at the Year 9 Parents' Evening.

3. Does the School make provision for homework to be completed?

Yes, the Resource Centre is open every day until 5pm for private study. As well as this, a number of lunchtime and after school study sessions happen in the study centre. There are also after school study sessions in departments most evenings (look out for timetables on Moodle or on the website).

4. How can I support my son/daughter?

By monitoring their progress, encouraging them with their homework and supporting them to attend after school study and revision sessions.

5. How do I know about the progress being made by my son/daughter?

All students are assessed regularly (3 times a year against pre-set targets). Parents are then informed of the projected grade in each subject, attitudes towards learning and lessons and the progress being made. Parents can also meet with subject staff and Form Tutors at their respective Parents' Evenings.

6. Who do I speak to if I am concerned about my son/daughter?

Your son/daughter's Form Tutor should be the first point of contact. The Head of Year, Mr Herga (Year 9) and the Deputy Head of Year, Ms Walia will also be able to advise and support you.

7. How does the School communicate with parents?

We communicate regularly with parents in a number of ways; by post, telephone, text and email (via Groupcall). In addition, lots of information can be found on our website.

All students should check their school email accounts every day for important information. Students have access to the online platform Show My Homework and unifrog, which also contains useful information. You may also receive contact from Form Tutors, teaching staff and the Head of Year who will update you on the progress of your son/daughter.



Contacts

If you require further information on any of our courses, please contact the relevant member of staff listed below.

| Subject – Year 11 | HOD | Exam Board | QN Code |
|---|--------------------------|------------|------------|
| Art: Art & Design GCSE | Ms H Shapley | AQA | 601/8088/2 |
| Biology A (Triple): GCSE | Mr G Grewal | OCR | 601/8589/2 |
| Business Studies: GCSE | Ms F Annan | AQA | 603/0304/9 |
| Chemistry A (Triple): GCSE | Mr G Grewal | OCR | 601/8663/X |
| Combined Science A (Double): GCSE | Mr G Grewal | OCR | 601/8687/2 |
| Computer Science: GCSE | Mr J Jackson | OCR | 601/8355/X |
| CreativeMedia: Cambridge Nationals: | Ms N Jaber/ Mr J Jackson | OCR | 603/7090/7 |
| Design and Technology: GCSE | Ms S Kasperkowicz | EDEXCEL | 603/0698/1 |
| Drama: GCSE | Ms K Wood | AQA | 601/8575/2 |
| Economics: GCSE | Ms F Annan | AQA | 603/0126/0 |
| English as a Second Language – 4ES1 (not paper 3): IGCSE | Mr K Nerguti | EDEXCEL | N/A |
| English Language: GCSE | Ms Y Bhamji | AQA | 601/4292/3 |
| English Literature: GCSE | Ms Y Bhamji | AQA | 601/4447/6 |
| French: GCSE | Mr S Davies | EDEXCEL | 601/8708/6 |
| Food Preparation and Nutrition: GCSE | Ms D D'Silva | EDUQCAS | 601/8093/6 |
| Geography A: GCSE | Mr H Williamson | EDEXCEL | 601/8134/5 |
| German: GCSE | Mr S Davies | EDEXCEL | 601/8709/8 |
| History: GCSE | Mr S Uddin | EDEXCEL | 601/8092/4 |
| Mathematics: GCSE | Mr A Raja | EDEXCEL | 601/4700/3 |
| Media Studies: GCSE | Ms N Jaber | EDUQCAS | 603/1115/0 |
| Music: GCSE | Mr J Leggett | EDEXCEL | 601/8204/0 |
| Music: BTEC | Mr J Leggett | EDEXCEL | 603/7055/5 |
| Photography: Art & Design GCSE | Ms H Shapley | AQA | 601/8088/2 |
| Physical Education | Mr K Bennett | EDUQCAS | 601/8444/9 |
| Physics A (Triple): GCSE | Mr G Grewal | OCR | 601/8651/3 |
| Religious Studies: GCSE | Mr E Nadat | AQA | 603/8400/0 |
| Sociology: GCSE | Mr S Cleland | AQA | 603/0798/5 |
| Spanish: GCSE | Mr S Davies | Spanish | 601/8710/4 |



Key Staff in Key Stage 4

BHS Co Headteachers

Mr P Bray/ Ms Y Andress

Assistant Principal:

Ms R Laird

Head of Year:

Mr J Herga

Deputy Head of Year:

Ms P Walia

PACE Deputy Head of Year (SEND):

Ms A Mulcare

SENCO (KS3):

Ms A Horgan

SENCO (KS4):

Ms A Clifton-Jones

KS4 Pastoral Administrator:

Mrs S Salim