

UPDATED Year 8 Options process

5th February 2026

Dear Parents/Carers and Students,

A recent government review of the Key stage 4 Curriculum content and structure has recently been conducted. This has proposed significant changes to increase the breadth of subjects that students will study. The proposals will not affect the courses that can be studied at Moseley Park but may prevent certain combinations of subjects from being studied together. With this in mind we have changed the options selection procedure to minimize these combinations from being selected.

All of our students will continue to study 9 courses including GCSE Mathematics, GCSE English Language, GCSE English Literature, a weekly PE lesson and a choice of Science Course. They will then study a range of subjects that a deemed to give them ‘breadth’ across their chosen curriculum. Students will then select courses to study involving the following three choices:

Choice 1 (Science) Either Combined Science (2 GCSE’s) or Triple Science (3 GCSE’s)

Triple Science is the study of separate GCSE qualifications in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Combined Science studies all three subjects with a double GCSE qualification awarded at the end, students opting for combined science will study an extra free choice course from choice 3.

Choice 2 (Breadth- Arts)

Students must select any two subjects from different columns, these two subjects cannot be selected from the same column.

Select any 2 subjects from Different columns		
<p>Geography History Religious Studies</p>	<p>French</p>	<p>Art Graphics Music Drama Design Technology</p>

Choice 3 (Free choice of 4 subjects in order of preference)

These four subjects must be different to what you have previously selected in Choice 2.

Select any Four subjects in order of preference		
GCSE Art and Design	GCSE French	GCSE History
Business – Enterprise and Marketing (Vocational)	Food and Cookery	ICT (vocational)
GCSE Computer Science	GCSE Geography	Music (vocational)
GCSE Design and Technology	GCSE Graphics	Sport (vocational)
Health and Social Care (Vocational)	GCSE Drama	Travel and Tourism (vocational)

Students who have previously chosen triple science will study one of these choices and Combined Science students will study 2 of these choices. The additional choices will be used as reserves.

More information can be found on our Year 8 Options webpage (link below) to find information about the Options process and the qualifications we offer.

<https://www.moseleypark.org/curriculum/key-stage-3/year-8-options/>

On this webpage you will also find the Options Booklet, a one-page summary of our Options offer, and most importantly, videos about each course.

There will be no change to the timing of the process, over the coming weeks students are experiencing taster sessions and careers inputs to inform their decision making. We are also holding a Year 8 Parents evening on Thursday 5th March between 4pm and 7pm where you will have the opportunity to speak with your child's current teachers and to teaching staff from subjects they are interested in choosing. There will also be 2 options process presentations that you are welcome to attend. Bookings for parents evening will run through our Arbor system and more details will follow shortly before half term.

Students will select their subject options using an online form which will be emailed electronically on Thursday 5th March with a completion deadline on Thursday 12th March.

For your reference a chronological timescale is below:

- **Options Launch** – Student Assembly, letter to parents/carers and careers research in ICT lessons (Wc Monday 26th January).
- **Subject taster sessions** in school and Subject videos become live - become available to students parents/carers by visiting <https://www.moseleypark.org/curriculum/key-stage-3/year-8-options/>
- **Half term** - Students are advised to carry out further research on future career plans using websites such as UniFrog and National Careers Service
- **Parents Evening Booking opens via Arbor Thursday 12th February**
- **'New Subject' Taster sessions** for all students – wc Monday 23rd February.
- **Academic reports** are issued to all parents/carers
- **Parents and Options Evening, 4–7pm Thursday 5th March.** Speak to staff about progress and subject suitability, option presentations through the night.
- **Options form submissions open** and are emailed to students
- **Options form submissions close - 3pm Thursday 12th March.**

Please contact Mrs Hollinshead (KS3 Progress Lead) via JHollinshead@moseleypark.org or Miss P Humpage (Yr8 Progress Leader) via Phumpage@moseleypark.org, if you have questions about the Options process.

Yours faithfully,

David Lee

Mr. D. Lee
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