



Excellence, Flexibility and Breadth: Pathways for Year 9 and Beyond



Excellence, Flexibility and Breadth

Excellence:

So that everybody's exam results get better and better

Flexibility:

So that the right students start the right courses at a time that is right for them

Breadth:

So that everybody has a wider choice of curriculum and extra curricular experiences



Excellence, Flexibility and Breadth

Excellence

“An innovative curriculum underpins the good progress students make.” (OFSTED)



Excellence, Flexibility and Breadth

Excellence: The English Baccalaureate (EBacc)

English (Language or Literature)

Maths

Two Sciences (may include Computer Science)

Humanities (History or Geography)

Foreign Languages (French or Spanish)



Excellence, Flexibility and Breadth

Excellence: Science in the EBacc

- ✓ All students study Biology, Chemistry and Physics following the new “Trilogy” GCSE specification in Years 9 and 10.
- ✓ Towards the end of Year 10 a decision will be made for each student as to whether they will take a combined science double award or GCSE Biology, Chemistry and Physics as three separate subjects.
- ✓ All Science GCSE exams will now be taken at the end of year 11.



Excellence, Flexibility and Breadth

Excellence: Foreign Languages in the EBacc

- ✓ We would expect all students capable of making progress and achieving success in a Foreign Language to take either French or Spanish
- ✓ These students will take the FCSE in Year 9 and the GCSE at the end of Year 10



Excellence, Flexibility and Breadth

Excellence: Humanities in the EBacc

- ✓ We would expect all students capable of making progress and achieving success in a Humanities subject to take Geography and/or History
- ✓ Students should not take an additional Humanities subject such as RE, Sociology or Psychology until they have taken History and/or Geography
- ✓ Students take Geography or History in Year 9 or, more typically, in years 10 or 11.



Excellence, Flexibility and Breadth

Excellence

In 2015 and 2016, the progress made by all students across the best eight subjects that they took was above the national average.



Excellence, Flexibility and Breadth

Excellence

In 2016, the performance of our students on the new Progress 8 measure was the best in Cheshire East .



Excellence, Flexibility and Breadth

Excellence: Progression to A level and beyond

“Enabling” Subjects

- Biology
- Chemistry
- English Literature
- Foreign Languages
- Geography
- History
- Maths and Further Maths
- Physics



Excellence, Flexibility and Breadth

Excellence: Progression to A level and beyond

“A number of institutions ask that grades and number of subjects are achieved at one sitting. Some do not accept re-sits at GCSE.”



Excellence, Flexibility and Breadth

Excellence: Progression to A level and beyond

“It's unlikely that Russell Group universities would not accept students who have taken their GCSEs over a number of years”

- ✓ Bristol
- ✓ Oxford
- ✓ Newcastle



Excellence, Flexibility and Breadth

Flexibility:

Students in Year 9 can follow three different pathways to excellence:

- ✓ a GCSE pathway (core plus **two** additional subjects)
- ✓ a more traditional pathway with extra time to become GCSE ready in key subjects
- ✓ A mixed pathway (core plus **one** additional subject plus extra maths and English)



Excellence, Flexibility and Breadth

The Traditional School Curriculum

Year 11	Core Curriculum	Additional Subject 1	Additional Subject 2	Additional Subject 3	Additional Subject 4
Year 10	Core Curriculum	Additional Subject 1	Additional Subject 2	Additional Subject 3	Additional Subject 4



Excellence, Flexibility and Breadth

Three Year GCSE programme

Year 11	Core Curriculum	Additional Subject 1	Additional Subject 2	Additional Subject 3	Additional Subject 4
Year 10	Core Curriculum	Additional Subject 1	Additional Subject 2	Additional Subject 3	Additional Subject 4
Year 9	Core Curriculum	Additional Subject 1	Additional Subject 2	Additional Subject 3	Additional Subject 4



Excellence, Flexibility and Breadth

Flexibility in Action

The Macclesfield Academy: “Typical” Pathway

Year 11	Core Curriculum	Additional Subject 4	Additional Subject 5
Year 10	Core Curriculum	Additional Subject 1 GCSE French/Spanish	Additional Subject 3
Year 9	Core Curriculum	Additional Subject 1 FCSE French/Spanish	Additional Subject 2



Excellence, Flexibility and Breadth

Flexibility in Action

The Macclesfield Academy: “Traditional” Pathway

Year 11	Core Curriculum	Additional Subject 3		Additional Subject 4	
Year 10	Core Curriculum	Additional Subject 1		Additional Subject 2	
Year 9	Core Curriculum	History	Art	Design Technology	ICT



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Flexibility in Action

The Macclesfield Academy: “Mixed” Pathway

Year 11	Core Curriculum	Additional Subject 4	Additional Subject 5	
Year 10	Core Curriculum	Additional Subject 2	Additional Subject 3	
Year 9	Core Curriculum	Additional Subject 1	Design Technology	ICT



Excellence, Flexibility and Breadth

Flexibility:

✓ Almost all of our GCSE courses are one year courses; this means students can select their pathway three times: for Years 9, 10 and 11 as their ideas and aspirations change.



Excellence, Flexibility and Breadth

Flexibility:

✓ We will look, on an individual basis, at ways of customising pathways to allow for students to take courses over two years or to take fewer courses in Year 11 to focus on gaining the best possible grades.



Excellence, Flexibility and Breadth

Breadth

- ✓ We have retained a wide range of “non Ebacc” courses across the Arts, Technology and vocational education
- ✓ “Enrichment for all”: our extended Thursday afternoon means we are much more than just an exams factory



Some Things to Consider

✓ The core and the options



The Core Curriculum

Everyone will take qualifications in...

English Language

English Literature

Maths

Science

...and follow courses (which may not lead to qualifications)
in

Citizenship

PE

PHSEE

RE



Some Things to Consider

- ✓ The core and the options
- ✓ Personal excellence
- ✓ Ignore your friends and your favourite teachers



Additional subjects

Each year, students will take up to **two** additional subjects from:

Art and Design	Business	Computer Science	Digital Photography
Drama	Food and Nutrition	French	Geography
Health and Social Care <i>(vocational)</i>	History	ICT <i>(vocational)</i>	Media
Music	PE/Sport	Product Design	Psychology
Religious Education	Sociology	Spanish	



Timescales

January- Early February

General advice to students and parents

13th February

Options forms returned to the Academy identifying four subjects in order of preference

27th February- 31st March

Individual appointments with students who may need more guidance

6th April (end of term)

Provisional course allocations confirmed



And finally...

How you study is much more important than **what** you study