

Y8 Options 2023/2024



HECKMONDWIKE
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Mr R Tipler
Deputy Headteacher

Welcome

- **An important time**
- **Your first choices**
- **GCSE's**



Key Dates

- **Today : Year 8 Options Evening**
- **Every day : Careers Drop-in session - Lunchtime**
- **26th January : Year 8 Parents Evening (Virtual)**
- **6th February : Options completed (via the link sent)**



The Options Process

- 2 aspects to GCSE choices:
 - Compulsory – subjects every student studies
 - Optional – subjects you can choose

Number of lessons

- The number of lessons you study each subject for differs

Compulsory Subjects

- **English Language / English Literature** (7 lessons/cycle)
- **Mathematics** (7 lessons/cycle)
- **Biology** (4 lessons/cycle)
- **Physics** (4 lessons/cycle)
- **Chemistry** (4 lessons/cycle)
- **PSHE** – incl RE/Citizenship/Personal development (1 lesson / cycle)
- **Games** - (3 lessons / cycle)

Optional Subjects

You have 4 choices (5 lessons / cycle)

- Art & Design
- Business
- Geography
- History
- Food Prep and Nutrition^{*1}
- DT Graphics^{*1}
- DT Resistant Materials^{*1}

- French^{*2}
- Spanish^{*2}
- Computer Science
- Music
- Drama
- PE
- RE

^{*1} recommend a max of one of these subjects

^{*2} must be currently studying the language

Reserve Choice

We offer students a full choice:

- **No blocks**
- **No pools**
- **No pathways**

However, some options may not quite fit.

The best way to (almost) guarantee your choices is to choose subjects that fit into the "Ebacc" award.

The Ebacc

The Ebacc is not an award!

It is a recommended suite of subjects that has been designed to give a breadth of study. Some schools force students into taking subjects that fit into the Ebacc award.

English

Maths

Science (Biology/Chemistry/Physics)

Humanities (History/Geography)

MFL (Spanish/French)

Other Information

- All courses are GCSEs
- All are linear courses
- Graded 9 to 1

New grading structure	Former grading structure
9	A*
8	
7	
6	B
5	
4	
3	C
2	
1	
U	D
	E
	F
	G
	U



Example Timetable

AMon:Reg Tutorial GSN S001	ATue:Reg Tutorial GSN S001	AWed:Reg Tutorial GSN S001	AThu:Reg Tutorial GSN S001	AFri:Reg Tutorial GSN S001	BMon:Reg Tutorial GSN S001	BTue:Reg Tutorial GSN S001	BWed:Reg Tutorial GSN S001	BThu:Reg Tutorial GSN S001	BFri:Reg Tutorial GSN S001
AMon:1 Spanish JMG M003	ATue:1 Maths EDH F005	AWed:1 Resist Mat CPP B006	AThu:1 Geography MCE A105	AFri:1 Geography MCE A105	BMon:1 Spanish JMG M003	BTue:1 Maths EDH F005	BWed:1 Resist Mat CPP B006	BThu:1 Geography MCE A105	BFri:1 Resist Mat JAL B010
AMon:2 Physics TJD S103	ATue:2 English SLH P002	AWed:2 Physics TJD S103	AThu:2 Maths EDH F005	AFri:2 Biology SJE C209	BMon:2 Maths EDH F005	BTue:2 Physics TJD S103	BWed:2 English SLH P002	BThu:2 Maths EDH F005	BFri:2 Biology SJE C209
AMon:3 Games NJS MUG3	ATue:3 Geography MCE A105	AWed:3 Computing GSN S001	AThu:3 English SLH P002	AFri:3 English SLH P002	BMon:3 English SLH P002	BTue:3 Geography MCE A105	BWed:3 Computing GSN S001	BThu:3 Physics TJD S103	BFri:3 English SLH P002
AMon:4 English SLH P002	ATue:4 Resist Mat CPP B006	AWed:4 Spanish JMG M003	AThu:4 Spanish JMG M003	AFri:4 Computing GSN S001	BMon:4 Games NJS MUG3	BTue:4 Resist Mat CPP B006	BWed:4 Spanish JMG M003	BThu:4 Computing AGS B103	BFri:4 Computing GSN S001
AMon:5 PSHE RCB C012	ATue:5 Biology SJE C209	AWed:5 Maths EDH F005	AThu:5 Chemistry RLP C104	AFri:5 Chemistry RLP C104	BMon:5 Games NJS MUG3	BTue:5 Biology SJE C209	BWed:5 Maths EDH F005	BThu:5 Chemistry RLP C104	BFri:5 Chemistry RLP C106

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Tips

Do:

- What you will enjoy
- What you will do well at
- Consider a breadth of skills and subjects
- Consider longer term career aspirations
- Talk to teachers, careers dept, older students, family

Tips

Don't:

- Choose what your friends are doing
- Choose what your favourite teacher might teach



FAQs

- Do I have to study MFL?
- Can I choose more than 4 subjects?
- Am I more likely to get the choices I want if I hand the form back early?
- Can I change my mind once I have submitted the form?

Next Steps

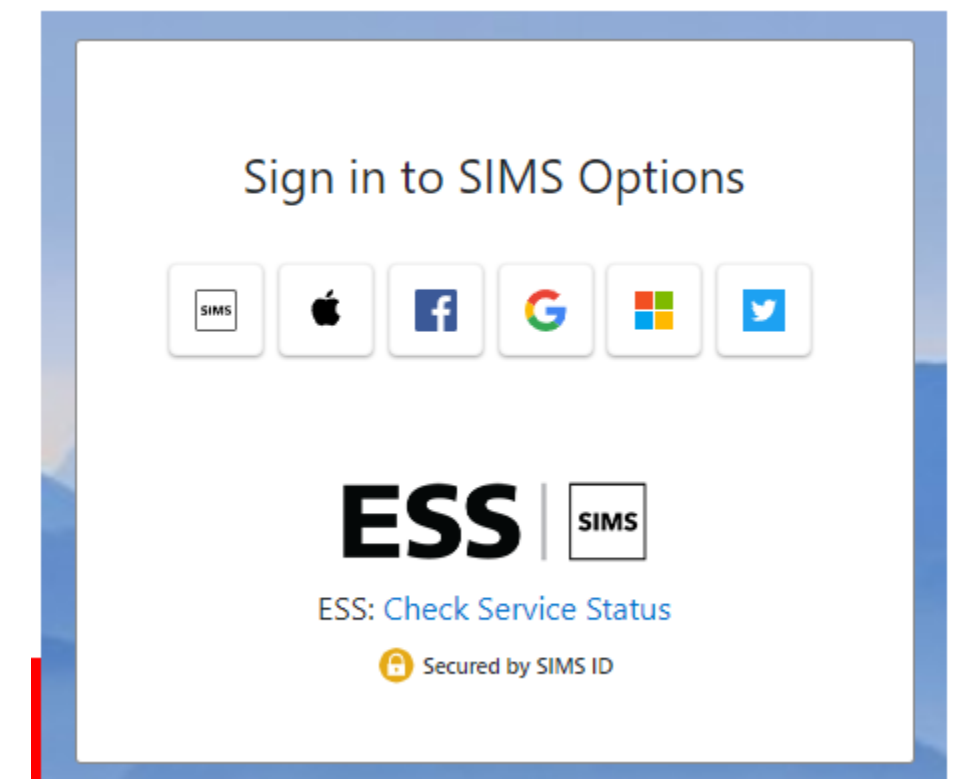
- Read through all of the information in the options booklet
- Speak to a range of teacher at the stalls in the Sports Hall
- Drop into the careers department and chat to them about which subjects you could study for you future pathway

Next Steps

- Put together a list of your preferred subject choices
- Speak to your teachers at Parents Evening about your report, exam grades and your choices. (26th January)
- Complete the Options via the SIMS Options website.

How to complete the options

- In IT Lesson students should have logged in to the options website with their school email account (absent students have all been contacted)
- www.sims-options.co.uk
- Login to website with school account
- choose options.



Work Experience

- Year 12 Work Experience 22/5 – 26/5
- Year 10 Work Experience 5/6 – 9/6
- Any Parental Help??

Questions...

- Please find out all information first
- Availability after next presentation in the Sports Hall



