



Welcome to HCCS

Year 9 Options Evening 2026

Mr Tim Munro
Mr Mike Forsyth



We learn together
We belong to this community
We are proud of ourselves and each other
We have consistently high expectations



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How is the curriculum structured in year 10 and 11?

The core curriculum

The compulsory offer

The option curriculum

Your choice of vocational and technical and GCSE courses



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The Core Curriculum

The core curriculum. Compulsory

English Language

English Literature

Maths

Science

Core PE (non-examined)

Combined Science Vs Triple Science - Misconceptions

- Curriculum review proposals - what do these mean?
- Triple and combined science cover **all three** sciences AND allow you to progress to **any** science A level.
- Combined science gives **two GCSEs** and triple gives **three GCSEs**.
Remember though, more doesn't mean better.
- The **quality of teaching** and range of learning experiences in combined science is just as high as in triple science
- Combined scientists go on to being doctors, vets, engineers.....
- If you opt to do triple science instead of combined science, this takes one of your four option choices.



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The Option Curriculum

What should you base your decisions on?



1. Your choices should be **broad and balanced**
2. Choose a **range** of subjects, learning opportunities and assessment styles
3. Think about your possible **pathway after year 11**
4. Consider doing what you **enjoy** and what you feel will **benefit your future**
5. Listen and think carefully
6. Your options are your decisions, your qualifications, your results...
 - **Own your options.** Once they're made, they're made.
7. **Choose wisely and choose once...** it's your future



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Vocational and Technical qualifications (VTQs)

- Same degree of rigour and challenge as GCSEs
- Are key part of our curriculum across years 10 and 11 then through to 12 and 13
- Ongoing 'modular' assessment structure rather than final examinations
- Attendance is key
- Range of assessment methods including practicals, coursework and projects
- Recognised by universities, apprenticeship providers, employers
- Current offer for year 10 includes Enterprise & Business; Health and Social Care; Information Technology; Creative Media Production



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The EBacc. It's your choice

The 'EBacc' is NOT a qualification in its own right. It reflects a child's choices in a specific group of subjects



EBacc is a group of GCSE subjects.

- English language
- English literature
- Maths
- The Sciences
Combined Science **OR** 3 separate sciences from Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Computer Science
- Geography **OR** History
- A foreign language

'The EBacc' is not a qualification

But it is a way of ensuring that your choices are broad and balanced

And still gives you 2 more choices

New government - curriculum review



CORE CURRICULUM

English Language	English Literature	Maths	Science (2 GCSEs covering Biology, Chemistry & Physics)	PE (non-examined)	My Curriculum	
Block A		Block B		Block C		Block D
History		History		History		Geography
		Geography		Geography		
Spanish		Spanish				German
Computer Science		Triple Science		Triple Science		Computer Science
Design & Technology		Business		Creative Media BTEC		Food Studies
Art		Creative Media BTEC		Music		Art
PE GCSE		Religious Education		PE GCSE		Business
Psychology		Drama		Religious Education		Digital ICT BTEC
Enterprise BTEC		Health & Social Care BTEC		Design & Technology		Psychology

- The English Baccalaureate is a measure of success in core academic subjects; specifically English, Mathematics, History or Geography, the Sciences and a Language. If you would like to gain the English Baccalaureate (Ebacc) you must choose History **OR** Geography and a Modern Foreign Language (German or Spanish) as 2 of your 4 choices
- Please note** that you can only select a **maximum of two** BTEC subjects



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Making your options choices

Week Beginning 19/01/26 will be Week Two

LEARNING • BELONGING • PRIDE • AMBITION



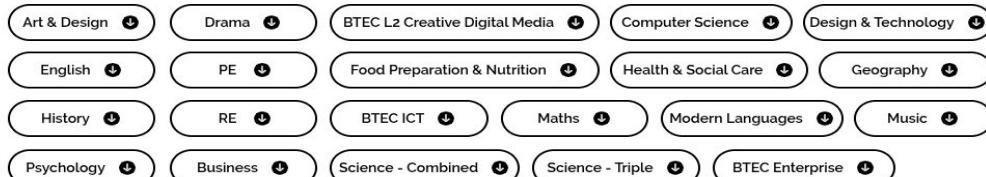
T.O.O.L.S
Options Choices

The Options Process
What do you need to do?

Your to do list:

1. Start to think about what you enjoy and are interested in
2. Come to Options Evening to find out more about them and talk to students who already study them
3. Talk to the careers advisor
4. Listen to your teachers' advice at open evening
5. **Look at the Options Blocks (released 22nd Jan) and decide which 4 you want to study**
6. Complete the online form with your parent by **12th February**.

Subject Sheets



options@hccs.info



T.O.O.L.S

TimeTabler Options On-Line System

Collecting Student Choices On-line



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Making your option choices

T.O.O.L.S

TimeTabler Options On-Line System



Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School

GCSE Option Choices

To leave without making any choices: [Log out](#)

Choices for: Student Test Default

Extra information: Click [here](#) for an example/instructions. Click [here](#) for course information.

Step 1 of 6

[Start](#) > Choice 1 > Choice 2 > Choice 3 > Choice 4 > Free choice (with reserve) > Confirmation

Choose ONE of the following Subjects from Option A

- CreativeMediaBT (CMe)
- Dance BTec (Da)
- Food & Nut GCSE (Food)
- History (Hi)
- PE GCSE (PE)
- RE Studies GCSE (RE)
- Spanish (Sp)
- Triple Science (TS)

Next

To mark your Reserve choice, put 'R' by that subject.

Subject	Choice
Art (Ar)	
Business GCSE (BS)	
CreativeMediaBT (CMe)	
Computing (CS)	Already selected
German (De)	
Drama (Dr)	
D&T GCSE (DT)	
Ent & Mark Camb (En)	
Food & Nut GCSE (Food)	Already selected
Geography (Gg)	Already selected
History (Hi)	
Health&SocBTec (HS)	
IT BTec (IT)	
Music (Mu)	
Option Drop (OPD)	
PE GCSE (PE)	
Psychology (Psy)	
RE Studies GCSE (RE)	Already selected
Spanish (Sp)	
Triple Science (TS)	R

Submit

Reset this form

Clear this form



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YEAR 9 OPTIONS INFORMATION

CONTACTS

Mr Michael Forsyth

Head of Year

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Options Team

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Mrs Emma Jackson

HCCS Careers Advisor

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OPTIONS GUIDELINES

1. Choose **1** subject from each of the columns labelled A, B, C, D.
2. At least **1** of your **4** choices must be from the **subjects in the shaded area** (History; Geography; Computer Science; German; Spanish; Triple Science)
3. We recommend that you take a Modern Foreign Language
4. Your option choices should give you a broad and balanced curriculum. With this in mind **we recommend that you do not opt** for more than two from each of the following subject combinations:
 - a) Geography; History and Religious Studies
 - b) Art, Drama and Music
 - c) **We recommend that you do not opt** for Computer Science and Digital ICT BTEC
 - d) GCSE Business & BTEC Enterprise can not be studied together. You will not be allowed to opt for both of these

KEY DATES

JAN 2026
26th
Issue individual student logins to register options

JAN 2026
29th
Year 9 Parents Evening (Online) Maths, English & Science

FEB 2026
12th
The deadline for registering option choices

APR 2026
Confirmation of option choices

Thursday 22nd January from 16.30 – 18.15

Talk 1 – 16.45

Talk 2 – 17.30

Visit <https://www.hccs1978.co.uk/year-9-options-information>
for: Options Subject Sheets & Subject Information Sheets



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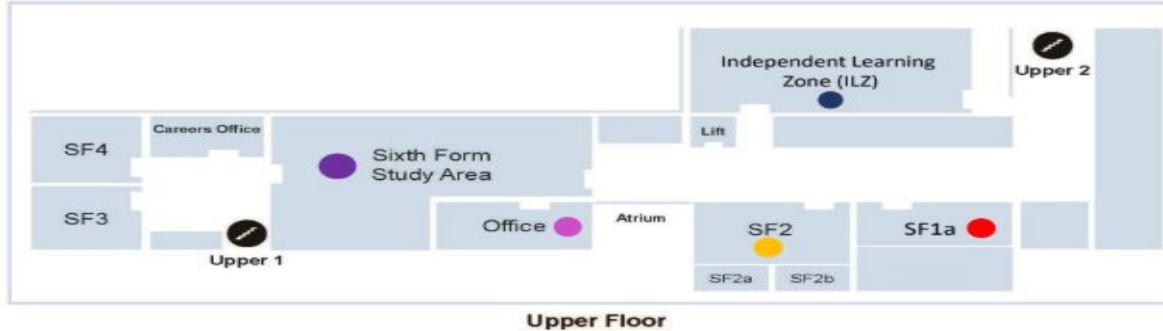
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YEAR 9 OPTIONS EVENING 2026



SF1a
PE

SF2
Business
BTEC Enterprise

SF5
Food Technology
Design & Technology

Study Area
History, Geography, Religious Studies, Spanish, German, Computer Science, BTEC ICT.

Independent Learning Zone (ILZ)
Psychology, Health & Social Care BTEC, Creative Media BTEC.

Theatre 2 (T2)
Drama

Music 2
Music

Art 1 & 2
Art

Sixth Form Office
Careers Officer



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