



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



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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

Our School **Key Information** **Curriculum & Learning** **T.O.O.L.S Options Choices**

Parents **Students** **Staff**

Year 6 Transition **Contact Us** **Safeguarding**

Subject Specific Revision Guides
Click here

Reporting a Student Absence
Please click here

Concerns & Complaints Information

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

Art & Design • Drama • BTEC L2 Creative Digital Media • Computer Science • Design & Technology • English • PE • Food Preparation & Nutrition • Health & Social Care • Geography • History • RE • BTEC ICT • Maths • Modern Languages • Music • Psychology • Business • Science - Combined • Science - Triple • BTEC Enterprise

options@hccs.info

T.O.O.L.S
TimeTabler Options On-Line System



Collecting Student Choices On-line

Please enter your details:

Username:

Password:



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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)	<input type="text"/>
Business GCSE (BS)	<input type="text"/>
CreativeMediaBT (CMe)	<input type="text"/>
Computing (CS)	Already selected
German (De)	<input type="text"/>
Drama (Dr)	<input type="text"/>
D&T GCSE (DT)	<input type="text"/>
Ent & Mark Camb (En)	<input type="text"/>
Food & Nut GCSE (Food)	Already selected
Geography (Gg)	Already selected
History (Hi)	<input type="text"/>
Health&SocBTec (HS)	<input type="text"/>
IT BTec (IT)	<input type="text"/>
Music (Mu)	<input type="text"/>
Option Drop (OpD)	<input type="text"/>
PE GCSE (PE)	<input type="text"/>
Psychology (Psy)	Already selected
RE Studies GCSE (RE)	<input type="text"/>
Spanish (Sp)	<input type="text"/>
Triple Science (TS)	R <input type="text"/>
<input type="button" value="Submit"/> <input type="button" value="Reset this form"/> <input type="button" value="Clear this form"/>	



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YEAR 9 OPTIONS INFORMATION

CONTACTS

Mr Michael Forsyth

Head of Year

✉ year9team@hccs.info

Options Team

✉ options@hccs.info

Mrs Emma Jackson

HCCS Careers Advisor

✉ emma.jackson@hccs.info

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

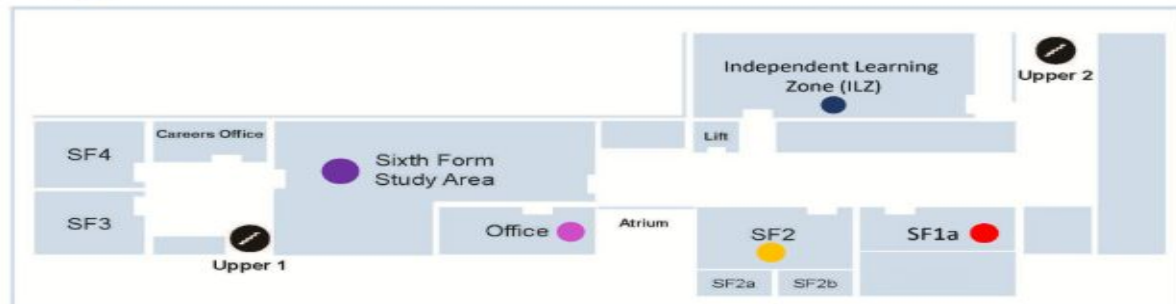
Visit <https://www.hccs1978.co.uk/year-9-options-information> for: Options Subject Sheets & Subject Information Sheets



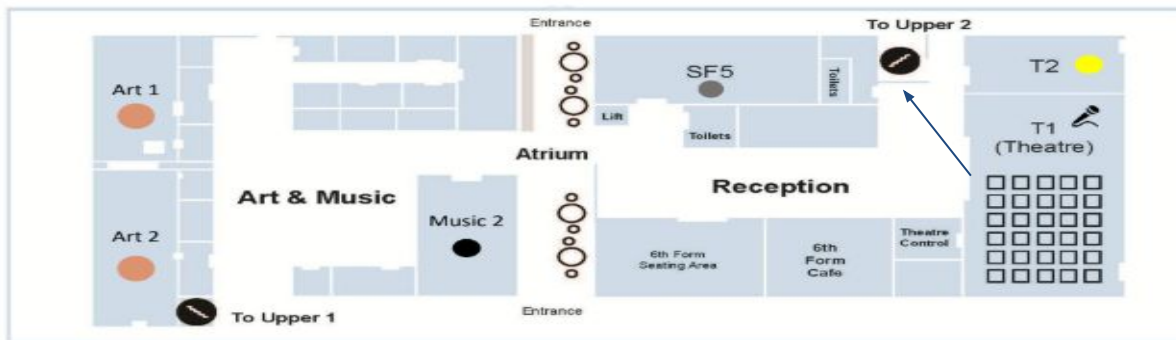
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YEAR 9 OPTIONS EVENING 2026



Upper Floor



Ground Floor

● 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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