

Year 9 Parent Information Evening

Wednesday 4th February 2026

Craig Tyrie - Vice Principal Achievement

Claire Davies - Associate Assistant Principal Logistics



Welcome

What subjects should I choose?



How do I make a decision?



What are my options?



Support that your child will receive during the options process:

- Support from the KS3 pastoral team
- Support from subject staff
- Support from senior staff
- Support from our careers team
- Support from SEND specialists
- Support from yourselves



Pastoral Support

- We are aware that these decisions are big ones in the lives of your children. We are inviting you in so that you are as involved in the process as you can possibly be.
- There are a team of staff in Key Stage 3 that are happy to support whenever we can throughout this process.



Pastoral Support

- Many of you will already have our details but feel free to get in touch if you need any support or guidance.
- Communication is key for us so please stay in contact. You can do this via phone or email.
- teamks3@oatforge.co.uk



Compulsory subjects

Examined

- English Language
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- Science
- Geography or History

Non-examined

- PSHE (Personal, Social, Health, Economic Education)
- Physical education (practical)
- PRE (Philosophy, Religion and Ethics)



Optional subjects

- Students have an options sheet with a choice of additional subjects to study at Key Stage 4.
- Some subjects are those they study already; some are new subjects to them.
- Students will study **2 options subjects** - we ask them to choose 2 and a **reserve** choice.
- The final blockings of the options will be built around the choices of the majority of students.



Lesson time in KS4

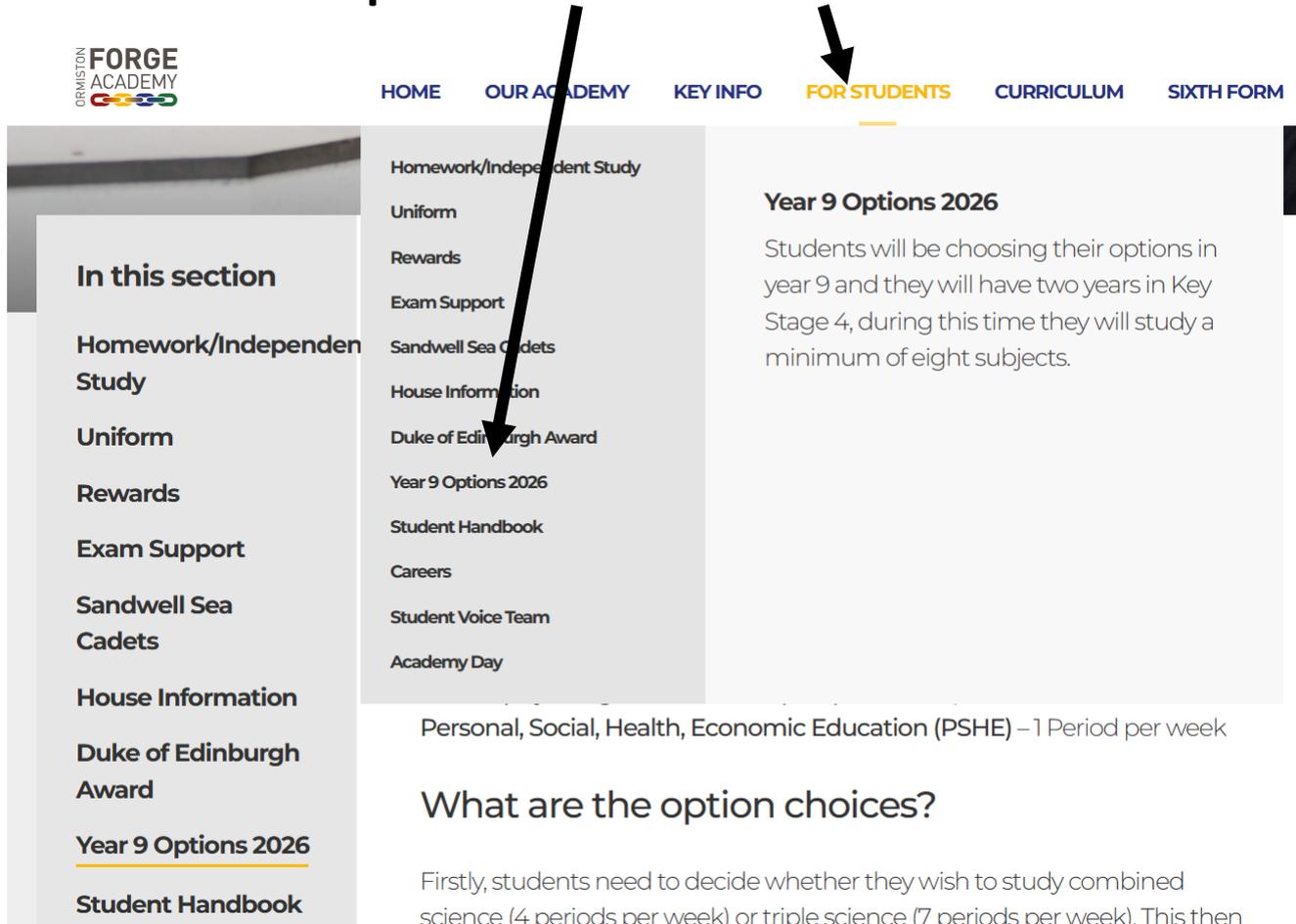


- English Language / Literature - 5 lessons
- Mathematics - 4 lessons
- Science - 4 lessons
- Geography or History - 3 lessons
- Option subjects - 3 lessons each
- PSHE - 1 lesson
- PRE - 1 lesson
- Physical education - 1 lesson



How to find out about subjects

- Read the options booklet.



The screenshot shows the Forge Academy website. The navigation menu includes HOME, OUR ACADEMY, KEY INFO, **FOR STUDENTS**, CURRICULUM, and SIXTH FORM. The 'FOR STUDENTS' menu is open, listing various resources. A large black arrow points from the bullet point in the main text to the 'FOR STUDENTS' menu item. Another black arrow points from the 'FOR STUDENTS' menu item to the 'Year 9 Options 2026' page. The 'Year 9 Options 2026' page contains the following text:

Year 9 Options 2026

Students will be choosing their options in year 9 and they will have two years in Key Stage 4, during this time they will study a minimum of eight subjects.

Personal, Social, Health, Economic Education (PSHE) – 1 Period per week

What are the option choices?

Firstly, students need to decide whether they wish to study combined science (4 periods per week) or triple science (7 periods per week). This then



How to find out about subjects

GCSE - English Language

COURSE LEADERS: Mrs N Pitts, Mr D Dew
EXAM BOARD: AQA - www.aqa.org.uk

English is invaluable for your future, no matter what you are aiming for. A good command of the spoken and written word will help you every day of your life. Whatever you end up doing, English is a must have subject for college, university, work and life!

What will I study?

You will analyse how writers use language and structure to present their ideas in a range of fiction and non-fiction texts. You will also have the opportunity to write creatively and in non-fiction scenarios, communicating your ideas effectively. Skills that you learn here will also help with your study of English Literature.

All examinations are tier-less, meaning that there is no limit to the grade you can achieve!

How will I be assessed?

This qualification will be assessed through two written examinations at the end of year 11, both of which are compulsory. All texts in this examination will be unseen.

MODULE	ELEMENTS	ASSESSMENT	DATE	%
Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In Section A, you will answer four compulsory questions about one single, unseen text that was written in the 20th or 21st century. In Section B, you will answer one compulsory question from a choice of two that asks you to write creatively from a given stimulus. 	1hr 45mins	June 2028	50%
Paper 2: Writers' viewpoints and Perspectives All tasks will be linked thematically	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In Section A, you will answer four compulsory questions about two unseen texts taken from different eras, including the 19th century: one shorter question, two longer questions that ask you about both texts and one extended question that will ask you to compare aspects of both texts. In Section B, you will be asked to write a specified non-fiction text in which you will be asked to present your own point of view about a given subject. 	1hr 45mins	June 2028	50%

Speaking and listening - Non Examination Assessment

The skill of presenting points of view and responding to questions will be assessed by your teacher. It remains a compulsory component of the qualification but will not form part of your final grade. Instead, it will be a separate endorsement on your certificate.

PROGRESSION PATHWAYS

- Entry onto an A level English course.
- You could use your knowledge and skills to enter the world of work.
- English skills open several doors in many areas. The communication skills you learn are required in any line of work you choose to take.

CAREERS

Sports Journalist, Lawyer, Film Director, Public Relations Executive, Fashion Journalist, Author, Newsreader, Politician, Actor, Architect, Creative Director, Scriptwriter, Teacher, Customer Service, Retail and many, many more!

Ormiston Forge Academy - Year 9 Options



How to find out about subjects

- Read the options booklet.
- Speak to staff who deliver the courses.
- Speak to older students who are on the courses.
- Careers Advice - Mrs Benson.
- SEND support – Mrs Kirby and Mrs Chambers.
- Trial the subjects on the taster day.



Taster sessions

- Many subjects will be running taster sessions for all students in their normal lessons from Monday 2nd to Thursday 5th March.
- Taster day - Friday 6th March 2026.
- Students have chosen 3 subjects that they wish to trial on the taster day.



Key dates

- **Friday 6th March** - Key Stage 4 taster day.
- **Monday 9th March** - Option sheets distributed to students.
- **Wednesday 11th March 3.45-6.00pm** - Year 9 Parents Evening.
- **Friday 20th March** - Deadline for submitting final option choices.
- **Friday 22nd May** - Letter sent home to parents confirming option choices.



**If you have any
immediate questions,
please come and speak to
us at the end ...**



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