



Ixworth
High School

Welcome to the Y9 Options Event 2025



Our process so far

- Assembly to explain the importance of Y9
- Careers week 1
- Options tasters
- Presentations by staff in class about their subject
- Taster lessons
- National careers week
- PSHE lessons building skills associated with post-16 life
- Enrichment opportunities designed around employability.



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Options event

- Speak to teachers about the subject demands
- Receive the booklet
- Online submission form goes live
- Understand the timeline



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Career choices?





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Informed decisions





Our curriculum offer

- 3 yr KS3
- Movement to GCSE in the final half term of Y9
- 16 different option subjects
- New report system that demonstrates where students are not projects where they might be in the future.
- A strong careers programme that is developing every year
- A mapped and planned tutor system developing key skills for GCSE, life and career success in the future.



Choosing your options

- Choose courses in which you are likely to achieve success, courses you like or have an interest in.
- Think about the variety within your curriculum as you select your subjects and try to arrive at a balance which matches your talents.
- Remember that all courses are of an equal standard and value.
- Choose courses that fit with your future needs, start at the end and work backwards.

Choosing your options

- Look carefully at the balance of subjects being considered.
- Pay attention to the method of assessment try to choose a subject where you know you can obtain a high percentage of marks.
- Talk to your parents/carers, your teachers and careers staff. Although they will not want to make the decision for you, they will each have an important perspective.



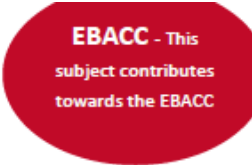
Avoid...

- Choose subjects just because your friends are choosing them.
- Choose a subject just because you get on well with your teacher. You might well have a different teacher at KS4.
- Choose a subject because you think it will be easy. All subjects have equally difficult elements and require full commitment.
- Choose too quickly or give it little thought.



- Exam board, contacts and assessment methods
- Careers associated with the subject

Optional subject **Ancient History**



Exam Board:
OCR

Assessment Methods:
2 Exams - 4 papers - Paper 1 & 2, Persia and Greece & Alexander the Great.
Paper 3 & 4, Foundation of Rome, Britannia - Conquest to province

Staff Contact:
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- Career paths**
- Military
 - Archaeology
 - Conservation and Restoration
 - Historian
 - Criminology
 - Theatre, TV and Film
 - Psychologist
 - Museum / Art Curator
 - Anthropologist
 - Lecturer
 - Security Service
 - Archivist
 - Heritage Work
 - Author
 - Investigative services
 - Secret service

Ancient History has been designed to help learners develop their understanding of the ancient world and the legacy of that world in today's society. It is a wonderful opportunity to study a period of history that does not cease to fascinate many people, providing inspiration to countless generations. This course is rarely delivered in secondary schools giving students at Ixworth a rare opportunity to set themselves apart from the rest!

The Persian Empire
The first study will explore a 94 year period in the Persian Empire. Students will investigate the substantial developments and issues associated with the period focusing on understanding of the process of change.



The Early Roman Republic
The longer period study on the Roman Kings and the early Roman Republic will focus on the most significant events and characteristics of different eras across a period of just over 300 years. The longer period of study will reveal wider changes in aspects of society over time and allow comparisons to be made between different eras. This will include political change, religious and social change, and the impact of warfare and military change.

The longer period study has a requirement for learners to understand the nature and origin of the historical evidence for this period. This allows learners to separate myth from the individuals and events.

Learners must study two depth studies. Alexander the Great, 356-323 BC, and Britannia: from conquest to province AD 43-C84.

In the depth studies, the focus will be on the critical use of ancient source material in investigating and assessing historical questions, problems and issues.

Learners will need to understand the detailed historical context of the events/situations for each depth study. The links between the depth studies and the period studies will make it easier to understand historical background, context and to develop awareness of how the study is located within the longer term developments of the topic. The focus of each depth study will focus on the ancient source material, and the use, analysis and evaluation of the evidence the ancient source material provides.



- If it is EBACC or links well with another subject
- Information about the subject



Next steps...

Attend the options evening, speak with the subjects you might have an interest in. (Remember, we can not guarantee which options will run and which you will be issued. Speak as many as you can!

Use the recommended websites, look at career pathways through these links, check what qualifications will get you into apprenticeships, University or the careers you are interested in.

Read the booklet, speak with your parents, tutor, teachers and pastoral/SEND if required. Past and present Y10/11s will happily speak to you about options, especially the prefect team should you like their support.

Complete the Microsoft form set as homework on Arbor, Select your four main options and your 2 reserve options. Please note the combinations that are not permitted (You may only select one from Art, 3D Design and Photography - plus one may be a reserve choice. You must choose at least one humanity)

Once the Microsoft Form is submitted, parent/carers must sign consent for the choices on Arbor through the trips section.
Entitled: Options form submission consent



All Year 9 move to Y10 starting their GCSE option courses. By making this alteration, students have an additional 6 weeks of study in their GCSE option subjects. In addition, a summer holiday project may be deemed suitable for the subject. This will support a higher outcome at GCSE later in the year.

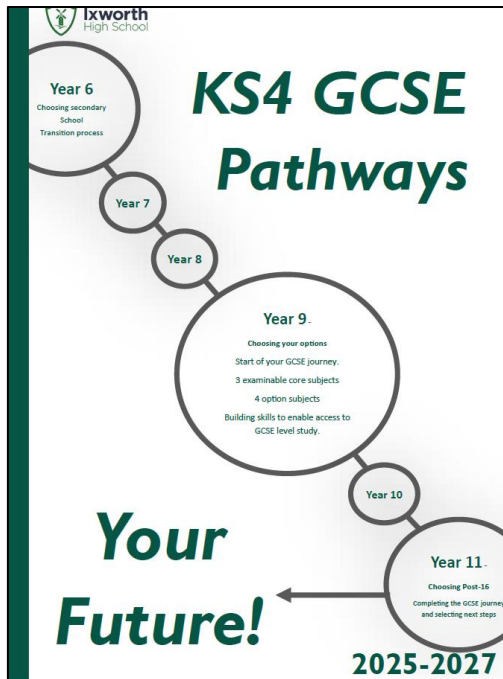
The School looks through the choices and confirms the subjects that are able to run. A new timetable is developed in order to progress Y9 into Y10 maximising the time available in KS4.

NB: Dates for confirmation of option choices and the new timetable arrangements will vary depending on the complexity of the option choices and the number of discussions that may be required around individual student choices.



Completing your choices

- The form is being sent via a number of methods.
 - Via Arbor homework – The link will take you to the options form – this should be completed by the student – available from tomorrow
 - Via Microsoft Teams for the year group – This will be placed online from tomorrow.
 - Via the website – Curriculum – KS4 Pathways – Available from tomorrow.
 - Via Arbor Trips – All parents **must** tick the consent section of the ‘options form submission consent’* once you are happy the form has been completed and submitted accurately.
- *Your child's options will not be considered submitted until this consent is given.





Note:

- Your attendance and punctuality really do count:
- The Grade impact in Y11 alone = 1.9x more likely to achieve a grade 5+
- Attitude towards lessons can significantly impact on outcomes – the higher your engagement, the higher the understanding and outcome
- No reduced route available due to evidence suggesting it does not improve outcomes for the students.
- Once choices are made and courses started, we will not support movement except in exceptional circumstances.