



Great Marlow School

Excellence • Compassion • Integrity

Choosing your GCSE options at Great Marlow School

GCSE
OPTIONS
2024-26

This is a presentation for both students and parents to help guide them through the process of choosing their GCSE options.

The next step...

- At Great Marlow School, we aim to develop *'compassionate, successful and resilient contributors that will create a better society'*.
- The GCSE Options process is an important one and is the first time in your child's educational career that they have the agency to decide on what they want to do.
- The decisions they make now will contribute to how well they succeed in their education and in their life beyond school.

A poster for GCSE Options 2024-26. The background is a vibrant green with abstract geometric shapes in purple, orange, and pink. The text 'GCSE OPTIONS' is written in large, white, bold letters, with '2024-26' below it in a smaller, white font. In the top left corner, there is a small graphic of a book with the text 'topics for Humans and' visible.

GCSE
OPTIONS
2024-26

How not to choose



Choosing a subject because:

- You've heard it's easy
- Somebody else wants you to do it
- You like the teacher

- Your friend says they're doing it

A poster for GCSE Options 2024-26. The background is a vibrant green with abstract geometric shapes in purple, orange, and pink. The text 'GCSE OPTIONS' is written in large, white, bold letters, with '2024-26' below it in a smaller, white font. In the top left corner, there is a small graphic of a book cover with the text 'GCSE topics for Humans and...'.

GCSE
OPTIONS
2024-26

How to choose



1. Enjoyment: Choose subjects you think you will enjoy. This means researching content closely and asking teachers and others who know you well for advice.

2. Aptitude: Choose subjects which you think you will be good at - you will be more likely to enjoy them as well.

3. Prospects: Think seriously about future ambitions. If you already have a career in mind, check entry requirements for specific courses at university or internships and work back from there.

4. Balance: If you have no idea what you want to do in the future make sure that your options provide a broad and balanced programme.

5. Independence: Don't choose on the basis of what friends are doing or on the basis of favourite teachers. Make your own decisions!

A poster for GCSE Options 2024-26. The background is a vibrant green with abstract geometric shapes in purple, orange, and pink. The text 'GCSE OPTIONS' is written in large, white, bold letters, with '2024-26' below it in a smaller, white font. In the top left corner, there is a small graphic of a book cover with the text 'topics for Humans and' visible.

GCSE
OPTIONS
2024-26



Your electronic Options Booklet

- This will guide you through the options process
- It contains information about the option subjects and the core subjects students will study at GCSE
- You can locate the booklet on the school website and download /print to go through at home

GCSE
OPTIONS
2024-26





JAN - FEB - Students were given presentations from the option subject Heads of Departments; these are delivered during lesson or tutor time.

This will allow students to discuss any initial questions they may have with their tutors and subject teachers.

21st FEB – GCSE Options Evening in school.

Parents/carers can also access the options booklet to enable discussions at home.

Thursday 21st MAR - Year 9 parent and carer evening. A chance for parents and students to talk to the subject teachers.

GCSE
OPTIONS
2024-26

22nd FEB - Student options forms open

25th MAR - Final deadline for option submissions

The English Baccalaureate



Great Marlow School

Excellence • Compassion • Integrity

- This is a school's GCSE performance indicator which measures the percentage of students that achieve 5+ grades 5-9 in English, Mathematics, 2 Sciences, a Foreign Language and History or Geography.
- In the first option choice students will choose one of the following: French, Spanish, History, Geography or (**Computing**)
- Students have free choice with their remaining 3 options – which may include subjects above

A poster for GCSE Options 2024-26. The background is a vibrant green with abstract geometric shapes in purple, orange, and pink. The text 'GCSE OPTIONS' is written in large, white, bold letters, with '2024-26' below it in a smaller, white font. In the top left corner, there is a small graphic of a book cover with the text 'topics for Humans and'.

GCSE Computing 2024



Great Marlow School

Excellence • Compassion • Integrity

We have appointed a Teacher of Computing who will start with the school in the summer term.

As a result, we will be in a position to offer GCSE Computing in September 2024.

Due to the content of the course, the fact that students have not studied computing for 2 years at GMS and that we want students to succeed, it will only be available to those students who can demonstrate an aptitude for Computing.

We will write to you over the next few weeks to explain how that process will run.

A graphic with a green background and colorful geometric shapes. The text 'GCSE OPTIONS' is written in large white letters, with '2024-26' below it. In the top left corner, there is a small pink triangle with the text 'topics for Humans and'.

At this moment, please complete the option form in the current format – which does not have computing included.

Optional Curriculum- 40%



1. Pupils choose a total of **4** option subjects
2. Pupils choose one option from the 4 top choices and three choices from the bottom box
3. You will also select 2 reserve choices in case your original choices cannot be accommodated into the timetable

Spanish	French
Geography	History

One option from here

Art & Design	French
Business	Geography
Citizenship & Politics	History
Child Development	Media Studies
D&T – Graphic Products	Music
D&T – Textiles Technology	Physical Education
D&T - Resistant Materials	Religion, Philosophy & Ethics
Drama	Spanish
Food Preparation & Nutrition	Statistics
Hospitality and Catering	

Three options from here





Core Curriculum- 60%

- English Language GCSE
- English Literature GCSE
- Maths GCSE
- Science Trilogy (Double Award) GCSE or Separate Sciences
- Core PE (not examined)
- Core RSHE (not examined)

GCSE
OPTIONS
2024-26

Design & Technology

Students can choose one Design and Technology subject:

- Resistant Materials
- Graphics
- Textiles

All Design & Technology subjects involve lots of practical work; students should consider their skill level when selecting an option.



GCSE
OPTIONS
2024-26

Food related options:

We also offer either

- Food Preparation and Nutrition GCSE (more academic)
- Hospitality and Catering Level 1&2 (one course covers level 1 and level 2) (more vocational)

All Technology subjects involve a lot of practical work; if students are considering a Food Technology course or a combination of D&T and Food Technology then we recommend a discussion with Mr N Taylor or Mrs Dale prior to selection.



Great Marlow School

Excellence • Compassion • Integrity

A poster for GCSE Options 2024-26. The background is a vibrant green and yellow geometric pattern. The text 'GCSE OPTIONS' is written in large, bold, white letters, with '2024-26' below it in a smaller font. In the top left corner, there is a pink triangle with the text 'topics for Humans and'.

Options Booklet



Great Marlow School

Excellence • Compassion • Integrity

There is more information about each GCSE option in the online Options Booklet such as course content and assessment information.

ART, CRAFT & DESIGN

(AQA 8201)

WHY STUDY GCSE ART, CRAFT & DESIGN?

This new specification is rich in content and offers students a diverse, challenging and meaningful learning experience. Art and Design offers opportunities for students to further develop their learning in higher education and into exciting creative career paths.

COURSE CONTENT

In Year 10, students will develop a range of skills through workshop style lessons. Students will experiment and explore techniques using a range of media including drawing, painting, printing, photography, computer manipulated design, assemblage, art textiles and conceptual art forms.

Students work on three projects over two years: a project exploring the subject matter of Food and Drink; a second project based on a theme of their choice; and in Year 11, AQA's externally set task. At the start of each project, students will have the opportunity to make contextual visits to places such as Borough Market, Oxford Natural History Museum and the local surrounding area in order to aid their research and understanding.

Students will be expected to purchase a basic equipment pack at the start of the GCSE course, which will ensure they are able to complete the coursework in school and at home.

At the end of the coursework projects, students will learn how to mount and present their work.

The externally set task will require students to utilise their skills and knowledge from the course to independently select and develop a project and final outcome, which is produced in a ten hour controlled assessment time.

ASSESSMENT

Coursework, which includes both the Food and Drink and second project, is worth 60% of final grade - teacher assessed then externally moderated.

There is an externally set project with a 10 hour controlled test in the spring term of Year 11 worth 40% of final grade - teacher assessed and externally moderated.

Grades 9 - 1 are available.

All practical work from Year 10 and Year 11 is assessed as part of the final grade. Students submit a portfolio of artwork which includes one extended coursework project.



Subject Videos



Great Marlow School

Excellence • Compassion • Integrity

Every Head of Department has completed a short video outlining the content of the course(s) that they offer. You will find these on the school website.



Art & Design



Business Studies



Child Development



Citizenship & Politics



Geography



Design & Technology



Drama



Food Preparation & Nutrition
Hospitality & Catering



Music



History



Media



MFL

GCSE
OPTIONS
2024-26

Top Tips for Choosing the right GCSEs

1. **Read** the Options Booklet carefully.
2. **Watch** the Head of Department (HoD) presentations and have a discussion at home.
3. **Parents** - Any subject specific questions please contact the relevant teachers or HoDs.
4. **Encourage** your child(ren) away from decisions based on friendship groups.
5. **Students** - Communication; speak to your subject teachers/form tutors and family.
6. **Consider** recent progress reports.
7. **Ask yourself** - What do you enjoy?; Choose subjects that are engaging and enjoyable.
8. **Careers** - Are there certain careers that need specific qualifications from certain subjects?



Great Marlow School

Excellence • Compassion • Integrity

A poster for GCSE Options 2024-26. It features a green background with colorful geometric shapes (triangles and rectangles) in shades of purple, orange, and pink. The text 'GCSE OPTIONS' is written in large, white, bold letters, with '2024-26' below it in a smaller font. In the top left corner, there is a small graphic of a pink triangle with the text 'topics to Humans and'.

Think carefully!

- Options choices affect the next 2 years and beyond.
- DO NOT RUSH THE PROCESS!

Thank you

- Thank you for taking the time to attend Options Evening to support your child(ren) through the options process.
- For subject specific questions, please contact subject teachers or the Head of Department.
- For questions regarding the process, please contact Mr S Taylor (staylor@gms.bucks.sch.uk)



Great Marlow School

Excellence • Compassion • Integrity

A graphic with a green background and colorful geometric shapes. The text 'GCSE OPTIONS 2024-26' is written in white. In the top left corner, there is a pink triangle with the text 'topics to Humans and' partially visible.

GCSE
OPTIONS
2024-26