



Aston
ACADEMY

KS4 Parent/ Carer Options Information Evening

Monday 2nd February 2026

Mr Graham
Principal



Resilience



Pride



Respect



Ambition



Responsibility



Our Mission Statement.



At Aston Academy we are committed to providing high quality learning and teaching, enabling everyone to reach their full potential, whatever their age, ability, gender or ethnicity.

We believe that every person is unique and we work together in an inclusive environment of mutual respect and consideration, valuing everyone's contribution.

Through our partnership with the local and wider community, we aim to support our young people in successfully taking their place in society.

All adults in school have a responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

With your commitment, we will make a difference.



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KS4 Options 2025- The Key Dates

Monday 2nd February 5.30pm and 6.45pm- Y9 KS4 Options Information Evening

Monday 9th February – This is the date of the **Y9 Parent/ Carer Consultation Evening** which will provide an opportunity for you to discuss potential option choices with your current teachers. Students can complete options form online at home or in school from this point.

Friday 13th February – This is the **deadline for submitting the options form.**



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Core Curriculum

- GCSE English Literature
- GCSE English Language
- GCSE Maths
- GCSE Combined Science
- GCSE History or GCSE Geography
- GCSE RE
- Non examined Core PE
- Non examined Core PSHE (inc RE/ RSE)



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Geography

or

History



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Option Subjects x2

- Triple Science
- MFL- French/ Spanish
- Art
- Construction
- Hospitality and Catering
- Drama
- Music
- Geography (only if History chosen in core choice)
- Health and Social Care
- Computing- iMedia or GCSE Computer Science
- Business Enterprise and Marketing or GCSE Buisness
- Sport and PE**



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Option Subjects

- Sport and PE**

**If you choose this subject, the student will be placed on either a GCSE or Vocational course equivalent, dependent on the suitability of the course structure. This will be determined by the HoF and SLT.



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MFL- Spanish or French



- All students will have the **option** to continue either French or Spanish, depending on their KS3 language.
- New GCSE specification which is much more inclusive and accessible to all levels of ability.
- 4 exams taken at the end of the course: listening, reading, speaking & writing (each worth 25%)
- If you want to gain excellent communication, problem-solving and many other transferable skills, improve your memory, learn about other cultures and broaden your future opportunities, then this is the course for you!



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Construction



- 40% Theory – examined through end of course exam. Based on construction and the built environment.
- 60% Practical- includes written work as part of the practical. Learn and present three trades including electronics, brick laying and carpentry.
- Completion of both units required to secure a grade.



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Hospitality and Catering



- Referred to by many as 'Food'
- Students learn about the industry
- They design menus within different scenarios given by the exam board.
- Student learn a lot about nutrition and how to create a balanced menu within constraints such as budgets, clientele etc.
- Practical exam is 4 hour cooking exam where students present a menu they have designed.



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Enterprise and Marketing or GCSE Business



Enterprise & Marketing

A practical, coursework-based course focused on developing business ideas, understanding customers, and creating marketing campaigns.

Students design products, plan promotions, and pitch ideas, building strong creative and employability skills.

Learning is applied and industry-focused, supporting students who thrive in hands-on environments.

GCSE Business

Explores how real businesses operate, including marketing, finance, and customer needs.

Students develop analytical, decision-making, and problem-solving skills through real-world case studies, preparing them for further study or employment.

The course encourages critical thinking about business decisions and their impact on stakeholders, while building confidence with data and financial literacy.



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iMedia or GCSE Computer Science

Cambridge National iMedia

A creative, practical course focused on digital design and media production. Students develop skills in graphics, digital products, and media planning using industry-standard software.

The course encourages creativity, independent working, and problem-solving, with a strong link to real-world digital industries.

Assessment: Mainly coursework with a small examined unit.

GCSE Computer Science

Explores how computers work, including programming, algorithms, data, networks, and cybersecurity.

Students learn to think logically, solve problems, and develop coding skills using a high-level programming language.

The course builds strong computational thinking skills and is ideal for students interested in technology, engineering, or future digital careers.



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Booster Pathway

COMPULSORY SUBJECTS:

GCSE Maths	GCSE English Language + GCSE English Literature	GCSE Combined Science (Equivalent to 2 GCSEs)	Core Practical PE	Geography	Functional English	Functional Maths
8 Hours	8 Hours	10 Hours	2 Hours	6 Hours	2 Hours	2 Hours

+ 2 Options



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The Form

- Reserve choices are for the unlikely event we can not place your child in both their chosen subjects.
- If this is the case, we will notify you.
- 98% of all students got **both** their option choices last year.

First choice and reserve choice subjects

5. Please select an option for each Coloum.

Option choice 1 and 2 are your preferred first choice subjects. *It is important to note that if your first-choice option is oversubscribed or the subject is not viable because numbers opting are small, that you may be allocated your reserve option*

Reserve choice 1 and 2 are replacement subjects in the rare event your child can not get option choice 1 or 2. We will contact you if this is necessary.

	Option Choice 1	Option Choice 2	Reserve Choice 1	Reserve Choice 2
Triple Science (your teacher will guide you in making this choice. This option will be in addition to your 5 hours of combined science)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Art/Photography (if you choose from this box your teacher will advise which course is most appropriate for you).	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hospitality & Catering	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Drama	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
MFL – French (your teacher will guide and advise you about making this choice)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



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The Online form

DO

- ✓ Think about the subjects that you really enjoy!
- ✓ Talk to your family or influential adults in your life
- ✓ Talk to your teachers
- ✓ Google your dream job
- ✓ Choose a reserve
- ✓ Information on our website

DON'T

- ❖ Pick what your friends pick
- ❖ Choose a subject based on how much you like a teacher
- ❖ Choose something you don't really like
- ❖ Randomly choose



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What now?

- Read through the Options Booklet on the website
- Watch the subject videos on the website- update ongoing
- Google dream jobs and industries
- Talk to family members or other adults at home
- Attend parent/ carer consultation evening- book to speak with teachers of the subjects you are interested in studying at KS4
- Speak to our Careers Advisor at parent/ carer consultation evening



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Completing the Options Form



- You will be sent a link to complete an online form.
- If you are unable to complete the form on your phone, you may need to log on to a computer.
- The link will be specific to you, therefore please do not use a link forwarded from another parent.
- Do not choose the same subject more than once- this will limit your choices.
- Ensure the reserve options are viable choices.



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Key Contacts

Y9 Leadership

aa-y9leadershipteam@astonacademy.org

SEND

aa-send@astonacademy.org

Career Advice

James.Shaw@astonacademy.org

Monday 9th February: Parent/ Carer Consultation



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