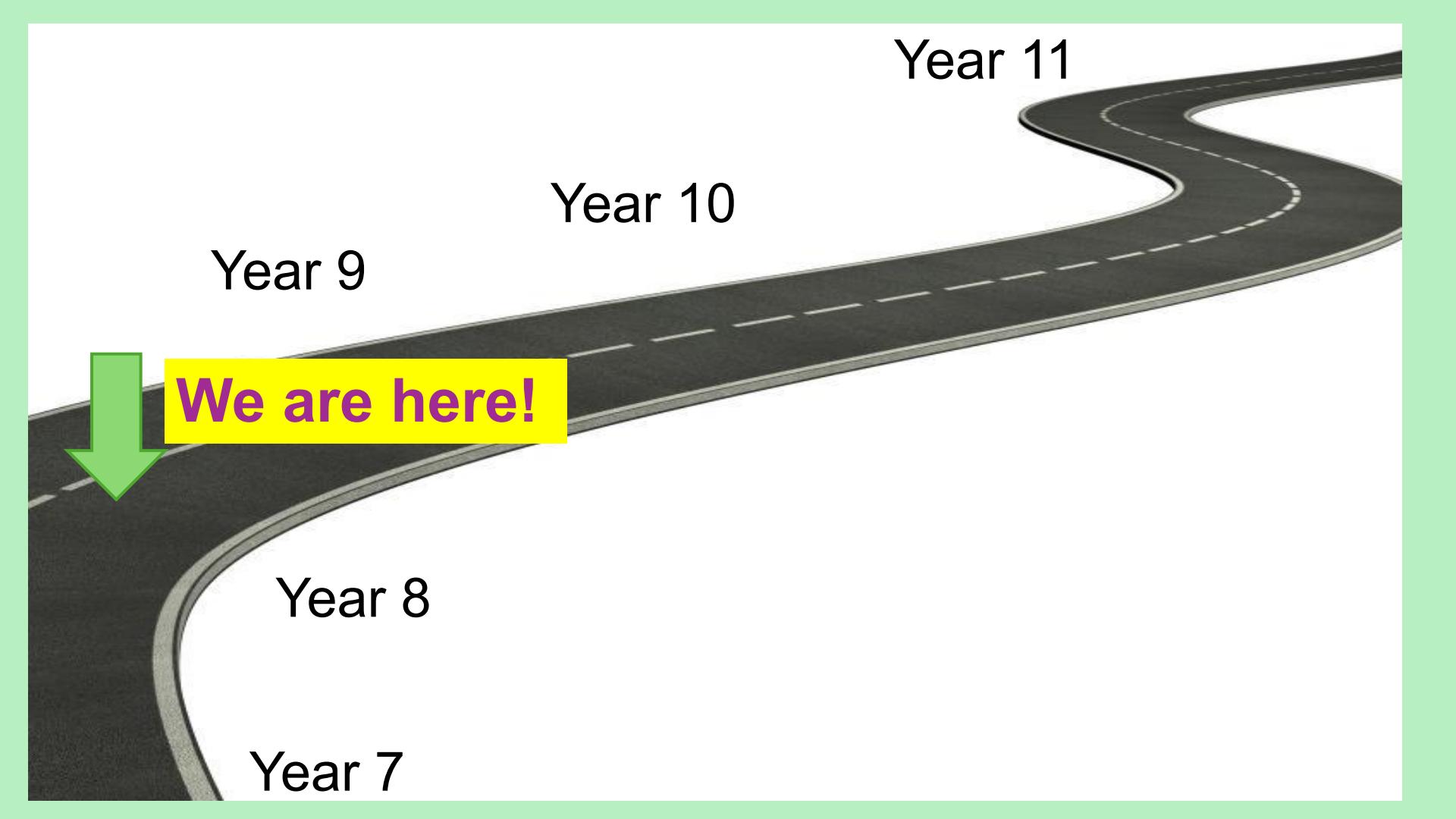


WE ARE BAYSGARTH



Strive. Believe. Achieve.



Year 11

Year 10

Year 9

We are here!

Year 8

Year 7



Strive. Believe. Achieve.



Grades

Values (3Rs)

Employability
Skills

Leadership
Experience

Extra
curricular

Core Skills

New Curriculum

The Government's new focus is on creating a **broader, more flexible curriculum**.

The rationale is simple: the world of work is changing rapidly.

To thrive, students need more than just rote knowledge; they need **transferable skills** like digital literacy, critical thinking, and communication.



What's changing....

No Ebacc

GCSEs

Broad
Programme

Triple
Science



What's not changing....

English,
Maths and
Science

GCSE
Statistics

Core PE /
ICE

3 Options

Gateway



Gateway



Gateway



Unique

2 Projects
(Sept-April)

Real life

Work
Experience

GCSE Skills/
Knowledge

What if your child does not like their Option choice in Y9?

Gateway

One of the things that makes Baysgarth unique and special is our determination to give our students a broad, balanced and varied curriculum which gives opportunities over and above those students will receive in other schools.

Because our teachers are so effective and our students well-motivated, we can cover the elements of the compulsory Key Stage 3 National Curriculum in Years 7 and 8. We allow two years for our students to cover their GCSE courses from Easter of Year 9 to Easter of Year 11, with time to revise and prepare for their exams in the summer term of Year 11.

This allows us two terms in Year 9 where we do not have to follow the compulsory elements of the school curriculum and can deliver an exciting and innovative programme that is both unique and enriching.

We call this curriculum Gateway and it is based on the belief that our teachers can deliver outstanding lessons in areas of their specialisms, skills and interests, and our students get to learn the critical employability skills that will support them to be successful later in life.

The Range of Options at Baysgarth:

Art and Design	Hair & Beauty
Business Studies	Health & Social Care
Childcare	History
Dance	IT
Drama	Music
Engineering	Photography
Food	Religious Studies
Geography	Sport Science
German	Textiles
Graphics	Travel and Tourism

It's not all a free choice...

To ensure all pupils receive a broad and balanced curriculum the government has said that all students must take the following subjects:

GCSE English
GCSE Mathematics
GCSE Science
1 hour of PE/PHSE per week



The Core Curriculum (The Non-Negotiables)

Before you make your choices, remember that everyone will continue to study the core subjects that employers and universities value most:

- **English Language & Literature**
- **Science (Combined)**
- **Core PE & PSHE (Personal Development)**
- **Mathematics + Statistics**
 - *Note:* All students will study **Statistics** alongside Mathematics. This provides an extra GCSE qualification and vital data-analysis skills needed for the modern workplace.

What are Pathways?

Options run two pathways, A and B.

Pathway A is our Triple Science pathway, and those placed on this pathway have the best chance of success completing three Science GCSEs. The decision to be placed on this pathway is made based upon your assessment over the course of your time at Baysgarth. 14 hours a fortnight. 10.5 hours of exams.

Pathway B is for those not doing Triple Science. Students will still study Science and receive 2 GCSEs. 9 hours a fortnight. 7.5 hours of exams.

Step 1 - The "Breadth" Choices

You must choose **TWO** subjects from the categories below to ensure a balanced education. **The Golden Rule:** You can only pick **ONE** subject from any single category.

*(Example: You could pick Geography + Art. You **cannot** pick History + Geography).*

Category A: Humanities

- History
- Geography
- Religious Studies

Category B: Creative Arts

- Art, Textiles, or Graphics
- Photography
- Music, Drama, or Dance

Category C: Languages

- German

CATEGORY A: Humanities	CATEGORY B: Creative Arts	CATEGORY C: Languages
<input type="checkbox"/> History	<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> German
<input type="checkbox"/> Geography	<input type="checkbox"/> Textiles	
<input type="checkbox"/> Religious Studies	<input type="checkbox"/> Graphics	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Photography	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Music	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Drama	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Dance	

Step 2 - Your Professional Pathway

This is your opportunity to specialise in a sector relevant to the world of work. These subjects are focused on **employability, practical application, and real-world skills**.

Choose ONE from the following:

- **Enterprise & Service:** Business Studies, Travel & Tourism
- **Technical & Engineering:** Engineering, ICT
- **Wellbeing & Care:** Health & Social Care, Childcare
- **Hands-on Skills:** Food, Hair & Beauty, Sport

Why choose a Professional Pathway?

"Employers don't just want you to *know* things; they want you to be able to *do* things."

What happens when?



W/C 12th January

Options letters sent to parents with information regarding Options.

Options website goes live where parents can find information about each subject.

Tuesday 20th January

Options fair in school for Year 8. Students will visit departments and gather information on new subjects before completing their choices for taster sessions.

Wednesday 4th February

Options taster lessons.

Options form released to students and parents.

Sunday 22nd February

Deadline for all final Curriculum Option forms to be submitted online.

Monday 9th March

Option blocks will be constructed in the school timetable.

End of March

Confirmation of your final option choices by letter. At this point pupils who are unhappy with their options will have a chance to re-select from the option blocks which have been created.

April

All pupils' options will be finalised and confirmed by letter.

Option Choice Form

Students will be sent the option choice form after their tester sessions, which looks like the below. The form goes through three pages, in line with the option categories from the previous slides.

Forms can only be completed when logged onto their Baysgarth School Google account, and can only be completed once. If your child changes their mind afterwards, they can contact the Data Office on the second floor.

Option Choices 2026

Please enter your choices for your Options subjects in Year 9.

Each choice and reserve must be filled in before you can submit. You do not have to enter your name as we automatically collect your email addresses when you submit the form.

Please note: You can only pick no more than one subject from Art, Graphics and Textiles - they cannot be studied together.

Take care over your reserve choices as well, as these may be courses you end up studying.

Deadline - Sunday 22nd February 2026.

* indicates required question

Email *

Record nicolien.lawson@riverviewfos.com as the email to be included with my response

Choice 1: you must select one of the following *

Choose

Next

Clear form

Choice 2 (A)

Choice 2: you must select one. *

Choose

Back

Next

Choice 3 and Reserves

Choice 3 - Careers experience choice *

Choose

Reserve choices
Your reserves will be considered if we cannot fit your choices in or the subjects do not run.

Reserve 1 *

Choose

Reserve 2 *

Choose

How do I make the right decision?

By making sure it is your decision and you've done your research.

Get advice from as many people as possible:

- Teachers
- Older students
- Options Website
- Careers adviser if necessary

Discuss it with parents/carers/form tutor/subject teacher

Make **YOUR** decision. **Be prepared to be flexible and settle for some second or third choices – remember it is unlikely every course will run**

Website

Year 8 Options 2026

Options 2026

The Options Process

As your child is currently in Year 8, they have reached the time when they will be able to choose what qualifications they would like to study at Key Stage 4.

At Baysgarth, we are committed to offering a broad and balanced curriculum, and we are proud to offer a wide range of subjects to our students as they prepare to choose their GCSEs.

We are confident that with the range and number of options available we can cater for the needs of all of our students to go on to be happy and successful.



Home Pathways Option Subjects

Other Important Points

There's a chance that not every course will run or that some course will be at capacity, so some students may be disappointed that they haven't received their first choices. **Take care over your reserve choices as they may be the courses you end up studying!**

You are not 'fixed' in this pathway. If you really want to do **triple science** or have been selected for **triple science** but do not want to do it, **please talk to me or Mrs Dolby (Head of Science.)**

Remember, students are allowed to change their options until April in Year 9. So even if you decide you've made a mistake with an option choice, you won't be stuck in that subject.

Next Big Event...

Tuesday 20th January

Options assembly followed by our
Options Fair in school for Year 8.

Any Questions?

Please come forward and have a chat.