JACK HUNT
ACADEMY

Hard Work, Integrity and Kindness

Year 9 Options Information Evening 2026

Proud to be part of
KEYS
ACADEMIES
TRUST

Purpose of the Evening

- To outline the opportunities available in years 10 and 11
- To explain the options process and how we will help with it
- To provide you with an opportunity to raise any queries

JACK HUNT ACADEMY

E: info@jhs.pkat.co.uk | T: 01733 263526 | W: www.jackhunt.net

Year 9 Options

Choosing the right courses now is the key to:

- How students will engage with their next two years
- Their chances of achieving excellent qualifications
- Future courses, employment and potentially, salary

We really want to help our students successfully achieve their future career, job and life aspirations.

JACK HUNT ACADEMY

E: info@jhs.pkat.co.uk | T: 01733 263526 | W: www.jackhunt.net

jobs with training
school
6th form
college
apprenticeships

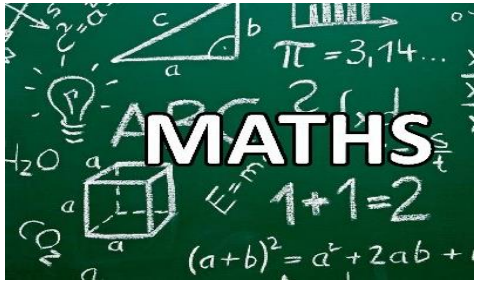
The Core Curriculum

GCSE

- ✓English (Language and Literature GCSEs)
- ✓Mathematics
- ✓Science - either
  - Combined Science (worth 2 GCSEs)
  - Separate Science (Biology, Chemistry and Physics worth 1 GCSE each).

Core

- ✓RPE
- ✓PDE (applications, work experience, PSHE)
- ✓PE (including Sports Leaders Award and continuation of core PE offer)



HOW TO MAXIMISE GRADES

- Work Hard in all Lessons!
- Completion of homework on the Sparx platform and any other revision tasks set to be completed.
- Make sure they have the correct equipment with them for their learning eg iPad fully charged / Maths Equipment
- Setting a routine at home where work and revision can be completed. Ideally a quiet space
- Encourage reading every day, this will help in all subjects

Year 9 Option Choices

It's time to decide what subjects to study in Years 10 and 11 (key stage 4)

- ✓ **GCSEs**

  In subjects that students know, or 'new' subjects

- ✓ **Technical or Vocational subjects**

What do students choose?

Students have 4 option ‘choices’, within the guidance provided by the school

To help get the best results in Year 11 and to make the decision easier we will guide students onto the most appropriate pathway

This is based on *thorough* analysis of current levels, target grades and forecasted grades in the context of past trends.

Purple Pathway

Some students will be guided to the EBacc (English Baccalaureate)

This is a combination of:

- A Humanity (either Geography or History)
- A Language

- The Government are keen to see as many students as possible leave with GCSEs in these subjects, but we know this combination does not suit everyone; we only guide students who we are confident will achieve at least a 5 in each of these subjects onto this pathway.

- Students who are not on this pathway can still choose this combination if they wish.

Guidance – Purple Pathway

If we think students have a very strong chance of doing well at all the EBacc subjects, we will guide them to do Geography or History plus a Language.

This will then leave them with 2 more ‘free’ choices from the list (which ***can*** include any subject they didn’t tick as choice 1 or 2)

Orange Pathway

To make sure all Jack Hunt students have a balanced set of courses we make sure that everyone chooses at least one EBACC subject to go with their English, Maths and Science.

This way everyone will leave with a broad set of subjects that people will be looking for:

French, Spanish, Urdu

Geography, History

This leaves students with **3** more choices to make

Orange Pathway

Students will need to tick one of the subjects from box 1 leaving 3 free choices

These free choices can be a subject they didn't tick as choice 1, or any other subject.

It may even result in them choosing a combination that matches the EBACC pathway anyway!

Pathways - a summary

PURPLE (EBacc) - 1 Humanity, 1 Language,
any 2 others

ORANGE - 1 from the EBacc list,
any 3 others

Optional GCSEs at Jack Hunt School

- Art and Design – Fine Art
- Art and Design - Graphic Communication
- Business Studies
- Citizenship
- Design and Technology
- Drama
- Geography
- History
- Ancient History
- Language*
- Music
- RPE
- Separate Science*
- Sport Science
- Sociology

Students would not have experienced Subjects in red during KS3.

*Separate Science

This is where students study Biology, Chemistry and Physics separately and in more depth.

There is not enough time in the Science timetable slot to cover all three subjects, so *Separate Science takes up one option choice.*

Invited students only (based on attainment in Science and Maths in Year 8 & 9).

If invited it is not compulsory.

*Languages

- ✓Global community and speaking an additional language can be very beneficial and lots of employers are looking more and more at this
- ✓ Learning a language can also help with general communication and inter-personal skills, cultural awareness and public speaking therefore developing confidence.
- ✓ Part of the EBACC set of qualifications
- ✓ We believe you will get an excellent outcome. Languages students do very well!
- ✓ There is a Key Stage 5 Language pathway at JHA

Language Qualifications

Sometimes students speak another language fluently and they may be able to sit a GCSE in that language.

When students complete their option choices there will be a question asking them about additional languages spoken

Technical or Vocational subjects at Jack Hunt Academy

The final grade is mainly based upon ongoing classwork/coursework (60%) projects. There are fewer exams involved (approximately 40%)

- Cambridge National in Sport
- Cambridge National in Health and Social Care
- Cambridge National in Information Technologies
- WJEC Level 1/2 award in Hospitality and Catering
- NCFE Music Technology

Inclusion Base
Alternative Support Route

- Students who follow ALTERN8 will work in smaller groups where they can also focus on overlearning of core GCSE subject content
- 5-hour block spread across 2-week cycle
- ASDAN offers a range of nationally approved qualifications based around the development of personal, social and employability skills:
- Preparation for Adulthood / Life skills
- Support with P16 applications
- Y11 Revision support and planning
- Overlearning of GCSE content
- Personalised support package

ASDAN Awards

There are **three awards** that you can achieve through the Personal Development Programmes – Bronze, Silver and Gold.

You can progress from Bronze to Silver and Gold by completing more challenges over time and earning credits.

Confused?

Help is at hand….

- Year 9 Parents' Evening
- PDE lessons
- Year 9 Options Booklet
- Personal Tutor
- Head of Year/ Dep Head of Year
- Subject teachers
- Year 9 'New Subject' Assembly
- Reports

Mr Piper

Independent Careers Support is available this evening.

Please see him for any conversations about subjects / possible future career choices and courses that would support these

General Advice

- Talk to people
- Listen to advice
- Start researching online
- Remember it's for 2 years
- Plan ahead
- Our main aim is to get the best set of qualifications possible
- Don't base choices on favourite teachers
- Don't base choices on what friends are doing

Summary

- Make 4 choices – guided choices and 'free' choices
- Only choose Separate Science if you are invited
- Don’t choose Technical or Vocational subjects and GCSEs in the same subject e.g. Sport Science and Cambs Nat PE / Ancient and Modern History
- Avoid more than two Technical or Vocational subjects due to the heavy coursework element
- Subject staff may decide which course is best, e.g. VOCATIONAL or GCSE
- Make two reserve choices
- If you are fluent in another language, tell us when you do your online form as we may be able to support you to gain an additional qualification

Next?

Make your final choices (plus two reserve choice in case we can't get all 4 to fit on the timetable together)

Discuss this with your parents, teachers and personal tutor

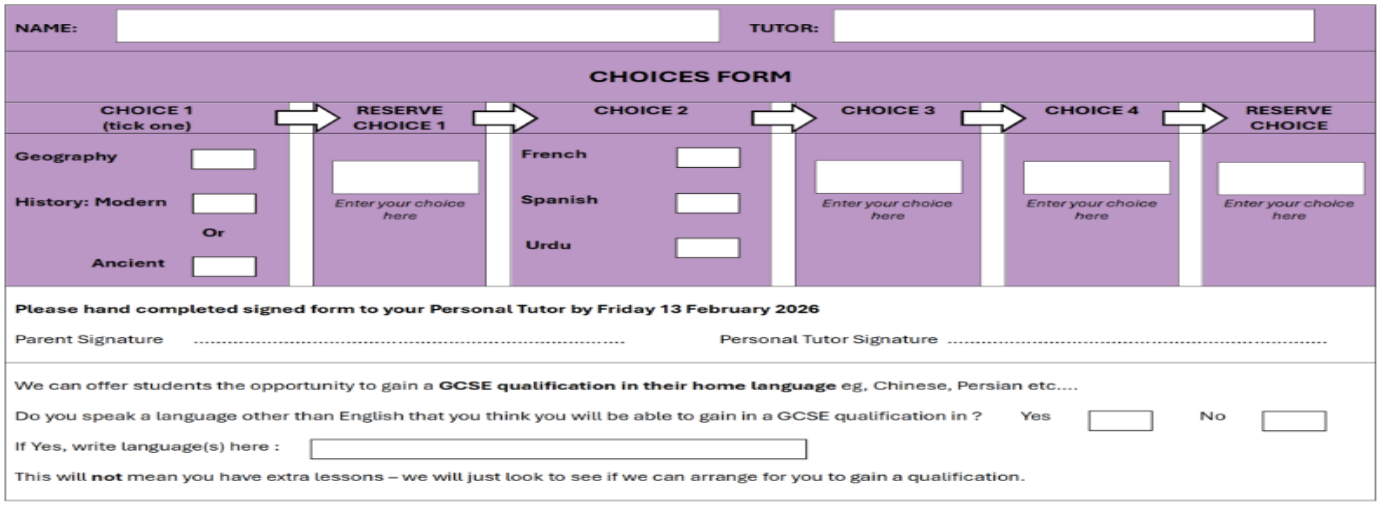
And then?

Complete your option form at the back of your booklet

Deadline – **Friday 13 February.**

PARENTS AND TUTORS WILL NEED TO SIGN THE FORM. THIS IS REALLY IMPORTANT!

PURPLE



NAME: TUTOR:

CHOICES FORM

CHOICE 1 (tick one)		RESERVE CHOICE 1	CHOICE 2		CHOICE 3	CHOICE 4	RESERVE CHOICE
Geography		Enter your choice here	French		Enter your choice here	Enter your choice here	Enter your choice here
History: Modern			Spanish				
Or							
Ancient			Urdu				

Please hand completed signed form to your Personal Tutor by Friday 13 February 2026

Parent Signature ..... Personal Tutor Signature .....

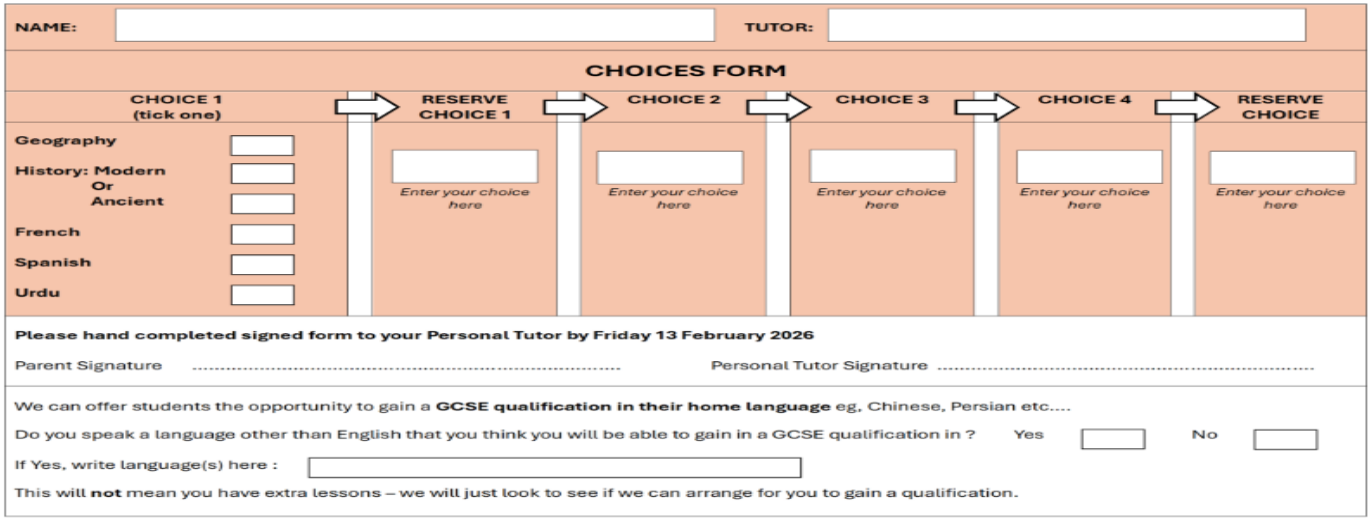
We can offer students the opportunity to gain a **GCSE qualification in their home language** eg, Chinese, Persian etc....

Do you speak a language other than English that you think you will be able to gain in a GCSE qualification in ? Yes No

If Yes, write language(s) here :

This will **not** mean you have extra lessons – we will just look to see if we can arrange for you to gain a qualification.

ORANGE



NAME: TUTOR:

CHOICES FORM

CHOICE 1 (tick one)		RESERVE CHOICE 1	CHOICE 2	CHOICE 3	CHOICE 4	RESERVE CHOICE
Geography		Enter your choice here	Enter your choice here	Enter your choice here	Enter your choice here	Enter your choice here
History: Modern						
Or						
Ancient						
French						
Spanish						
Urdu						

Please hand completed signed form to your Personal Tutor by Friday 13 February 2026

Parent Signature ..... Personal Tutor Signature .....

We can offer students the opportunity to gain a **GCSE qualification in their home language** eg, Chinese, Persian etc....

Do you speak a language other than English that you think you will be able to gain in a GCSE qualification in ? Yes No

If Yes, write language(s) here :

This will **not** mean you have extra lessons – we will just look to see if we can arrange for you to gain a qualification.

Please remember…

STUDENTS CANNOT CHANGE THEIR MIND ONCE THEY HAVE STARTED YEAR 10!