



Year 8

Making the right choices

Welcome

Welcome to the Information, Advice and Guidance process

The Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) process is something that all Year 8 students moving into Year 9 undertake. It refers to helping students to select the right subject options to support their future study and career choices. Students have the opportunity to personalise elements of the curriculum but still maintain a broad range of subjects.

This guide provides a summary of what the curriculum looks like for students when they start Year 9. There will be an opportunity for students and parents to browse videos of what each course entails on the academy website.

We encourage parents and students to read this guide together. There is basic information about each subject to support students and parents to discuss possible options.



The IAG Process

1. Parents and students receive guidance booklets. Parents and students to access the IAG section on the website.

2. All students will have an assembly to talk through the Option process.

Date: Tuesday 20 February 2024.

3. Students will complete their preferences for Humanities and Option A electronically.

6. The allocated options are confirmed via email.

5. Students to select their options for Humanities and Option A by

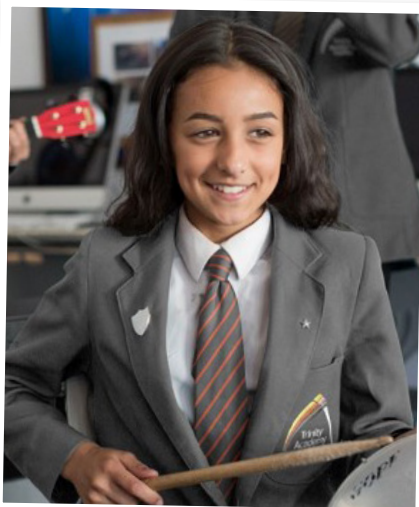
Monday 11 March 2024.

4. Parents will be emailed a link to Microsoft Forms to submit questions. These forms will be available from

Thursday 22 February 2024.

Important notice for parents

Please note, students will use Microsoft Forms to select their options. The survey will be available between **Thursday 22 February** and **Monday 11 March**. We strongly advise that you ensure that you have discussed the options that your child plans to select prior to them submitting their final preferred choices.



IAG section of the academy website

We have established a dedicated section of our academy website containing information and videos to support parents and carers with the options process. Here you will find the support available to students, along with an electronic copy of this booklet. There is also a frequently asked questions section which we will continue to update. Through the website page there is an opportunity to submit questions directly to the Options team.

Subject promotional videos

Promotional videos are available via the IAG section of the academy website to support students. These videos are made by Trinity Academy Bradford staff explaining the course and why students may wish to choose this option. Students can watch short videos for all the options subjects to ensure they are fully informed before making their choices.

Parental questions

If the information available in this booklet and on the academy website does not address questions you may have, then please complete the form by following the link sent out. A member of our staff will be in touch to answer your question.

The forms will be available from **Thursday 22 February**.

Options Assembly

There will be an assembly on **Tuesday 20 February** to talk to students about the options process and the subjects they can choose from. Students will also have the opportunity to ask any questions they may have.



Top tips...

We have a wide range of courses that you can choose from. Students and parents will naturally be keen to ensure that they choose the right ones to support future careers. Here we include our top tips for students and parents to make sure that selected options support future career and university ambitions.

The academy will fully support students to be successful, whatever their chosen career path. Advice will be available to ensure that final choices support both the student personally and their long-term ambitions.

Top tips...for students

- Have a think about what your future career might be. Some subjects have strong links. For example, if you want to become a lawyer then A-level history is often a requirement, and you would naturally need to consider specialising in history.
- Check out all your options. You may really like a subject now, or be keen to study a particular one, but don't discount other choices! Do have a shortlist, but be open to hearing about how opting for another subject may help you in the future.
- Remember you will submit your choices online and it is vital that you have discussed your choices with your parent(s)/carer(s) before you submit.
- Allow enough time to make your decision. You will be asked to choose a first, second and third option for Option A in the event that we cannot timetable your first choices.

Top tips...for parents

- Encourage your child to read this booklet, watch the subject promotional videos, and discuss with you their shortlist of choices. Whilst enjoying a subject is crucial, it is important that their choice supports their future plans.
- We ask that parents reinforce that students must choose a first, second and third choice in Option A, so students need to dedicate enough time to making this decision.
- Support your child to complete the Microsoft Form to select their choices in each option block, by the deadlines outlined in this booklet and on the IAG invitation email.



What does the curriculum look like during Year 9?

For students, moving into Year 9 will feel like a natural progression. The structure of lessons will remain the same, but opportunities will be made for students to go beyond the National Curriculum.

Students study a core curriculum, plus their options. The chart below illustrates the programme of study for students during their time in Year 9.

The curriculum during Year 9

Maths	English	Science	History	Geography	RS	PE	MFL	Computing	Option A	Creative Rotation
•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

Trinity Challenge

As part of our co-curricular provision at Trinity, we invite all students in Year 9 the opportunity to take part in 'The Trinity Challenge'. This leads on from our Graduation programme and is designed to offer students a range of opportunities, enabling them to become resilient learners with a thirst for learning and new experiences. This initiative provides a platform for students to build their character and promote and support health and wellbeing.



Every student that completes 15 challenges will receive the Bronze Trinity Challenge Award. Students can also achieve Silver for completing 20 challenges, and Gold for completing 25 challenges. In addition, we have extended the Trinity Challenge to act as a platform for students to complete specific tasks that will support them in their completion of the DoF Bronze award.



Students sit the majority of their final examinations at the end of Year 11.

A small percentage of exams are taken in Year 10. This is to help students manage their workload and experience success in a wide range of qualifications.

Important information about the curriculum

All students will study the core subjects of English, maths, science, history, geography, MFL (Spanish), religious studies, computing and PE throughout Year 9.

History and Geography

Students will continue to study both history and geography in Year 9. They will select which subject they would like to specialise in for two lessons per week. They will continue to study this subject as one of their options for GCSE in Years 10 and 11. Students will then continue with the other subject for one lesson per week.

Option A

Option A provides students with six creative subjects to choose from. Students should select a first, second and third choice option (only one will be allocated). The subject will be a GCSE or equivalent qualification which will be completed in Years 9 and 10.

Creative Rotation

In order to ensure students have access to a broad and balanced curriculum, they will take part in a creative rotation. During Year 9 they will complete three rotations, enabling them to study three additional creative subjects. These subjects will be different to the one they select for Option A. Students do not choose any of these subjects in their options, the decision on which three they will study will be dependent on their choice of subject in Option A. All students will study Personal Development during the year.

The table below indicates the subject choices available to students:

Humanities	Option A	Creative Rotation
History Geography	GCSE Art GCSE Photography WJEC Performing Arts : Acting Music NCFE—Engineering WJEC Hospitality and catering	Music Performing Arts Art Food Product Design Personal Development
Students to give their preference as first choice	Students to give a first, second and third choice.	

Which subjects can students choose from?

The following pages provide a brief summary of the options available to students. We recommend that parents and students read these together. Please submit any questions about the subjects via the Microsoft Form link which can be found in the initial IAG parent email.

Humanities options

All students will continue with history and geography. However, students should pick which subject they wish to specialise in. Students will have two lessons per week of their first choice subject and one lesson per week of their second choice.

Geography

"The study of geography is about more than just memorising places on a map" (Barack Obama). Studying Geography allows students to understand the human, physical and environmental processes that shape our planet today such as the development gap, resource management and the growth of cities. During the study of the Year 9 course, we will look at big questions that overarch the study of Geography such as How extreme is our planet? How is the world interconnected? Looking specifically at India; How is the climate changing? How are resources having pressure placed on them? Is the world becoming more hazardous? The course will allow students to gain valuable insight into the processes, pressures and decisions that are made that impact our planet today. Using topical and relevant examples, students gain an understanding of the complex, interconnected and diverse planet that they live on. Geography holds the key to the future and understanding the planet's physical, human, and environmental processes and is essential to understanding our complex and dynamic planet. The study of Geography will equip students with analytical skills important for the workplace and allow them to look at the world through a critical lens.

History

The study of History in Year 9 will challenge students to answer even bigger questions from the past, such as what have the Romans really done for us? How measly really were the Middle Ages? How revolutionary was the Renaissance? What can we learn about our future from the past 100 years? The events that have unfolded over the last 1500 years have shaped the world that we live in. Through the study of political, technological, and social change, we will uncover the journey that humans have been on. We will consider what has changed over the years to create the world that we live in today along with areas that remain very similar to the Roman or Medieval period. The study of History will equip students with skills necessary to thrive in the modern world.

All students will study Religious Studies as a core subject.

Option A

WJEC Performing Arts: Acting

This course is practical with no written exam and compliments academic studies. Students are given the opportunity to nurture and develop valuable life skills, from decision-making and presentation skills to team work and empathy. Students will tap into their creativity, building self-confidence and will gain an understanding of future



prospects in the industry and how this subject supports careers in the wider world. Working as a performer requires the application of skills, techniques and practices that enable them to produce and interpret performance work. They will communicate intentions to an audience through a variety of acting styles. There are three units of study; Performing and Creating (internally assessed) and Performing Arts in Practice (externally assessed). Students choosing performing arts will develop commitment and focus through the enjoyment of inspiring and engaging practical lessons, they will experience live theatre trips and professional workshops and be enriched in the culture of performing arts.

GCSE Photography

Students looking to study photography at GCSE will be given an introduction into how to use a camera for a variety of techniques. Students will learn how to use a photography studio. They will also explore a range of image manipulation techniques using Photoshop. To begin with some content will be classroom-led to enable students to gain good understanding of how they will create an ePortfolio of work.

Themes that the students will cover include Natural Forms, Band, Repetition, which makes up 60% of their grade, then they move onto Component 2, the AQA Exam question which is 40% and they will use skills already obtained from coursework. Moving towards a visual journey for a 10 hour exam. A creative mind is essential to develop ideas into successful and original outcomes.



GCSE Photography

GCSE Art

While studying GCSE art, students will have a general introduction to the subject and will be given the opportunity to develop skills in a wide range of materials and techniques. Students can expect to do drawing, painting, sculpting, printmaking, illustration and photography based on an overall theme which could include nature, portraiture or landscapes etc. To begin with some content will be classroom-led to enable students to gain a good understanding of how to create a extensive portfolio of work. This leads into year two where students will select and complete work under the theme of Natural Forms. They will then be given an AQA Exam question in which they will utilise skills obtained all the way from phase 1, showcasing concepts and skills working towards a 10 hour Exam. Students need to have a creative mind and understand the process of art and be able to develop ideas into successful outcomes.



Music

In Music we will explore a range of different types of music, with projects to play and create music in different styles from various eras and traditions. The course is made up of three parts overall, which include performing, composing and appraising (listening/analysing). We will use a variety of different instruments and music technologies throughout the years, however,

students have the opportunity to focus on their chosen instrument/voice to really develop their skills and musicianship. The course is challenging, but creative, and could lead to further musical study and exciting careers such as Session Musician, Live Sound Technician, Artist Manager, Music Journalist and Musical Director.

NCFE Engineering

Within NCFE Engineering you will focus on different disciplines of engineering and how they have shaped products and projects in the modern world. Pupils will study the engineering process from start to end, learning core skills such as production planning techniques, Computer-Aided Design (CAD), and applied processing skills and techniques, helping to begin their journey into further study or a career in this exciting industry.

Math's and Science are included in most of the units but taught in a practical way so that students gain a better understanding of how they are used in the real world. In the first year students will be dedicated to teaching and learning with all summative assessments taking place in their final year including examined assessment and a

coursework task. The course is weighted 40% Examined Assessment and 60% Non-Examined Assessment (coursework).

Learners will be required to use critical thinking as well as apply math's and science to overcome everyday problems. They will do a mixture of team and independent learning.

By taking Engineering there are endless opportunities for jobs, from Civil to Aerospace engineering the list is endless making it a fantastic subject to take.

WJEC Hospitality and Catering

The aim of the Hospitality and Catering course is to develop student knowledge and understanding related to a range of hospitality and catering providers.

The providers include restaurants, hotels, pubs and bars and also airlines, tourist attractions, hospitals and sports venues. The qualification looks at how the industry operates and what students have to take into account to be successful. Students will also learn about

issues related to nutrition and food safety and how they affect successful hospitality and catering operations. In addition, they will develop food preparation and cooking skills, preparing numerous dishes and learning about nutrition and ingredients. They will gain an understanding of future employment opportunities within the hospitality and catering sector which can range from waiting staff, receptionists and catering assistants to chefs, hotel managers and food technologists in food manufacturing.



Creative Rotation

Music

The Year 9 music carousel will give students an experience of live performance, band work and creation of popular music and music for media, including Gaming music. Students will be able to choose an instrument/voice to improve on and will have the opportunity to create music using music technology and software such as Ableton to write and arrange music of their own.



Performing Arts

Students will experience a series of fun and engaging practical workshops studying various styles of theatre. The lessons aim to enhance their knowledge from Year 8, develop memory recall, group work and build upon their reading, speaking and listening skills. Students will work towards a group performance enriched in creative devices and cultural influences.

Be innovative, be inspired, be expressive, be performing arts!



Art

The students will have the opportunity to experiment and try a wide range of artistic techniques and processes. You can expect to enjoy taking part in drawing, painting, sculpting, ceramics, printmaking, illustration and photography activities to kick start a life-long love for the subject. Lessons will be tailored to the group of students that have chosen the carousel and will look at the strengths of the students, as well as working on weaknesses they have identified. The work will be inspired by a range of artists, designers and taking references from different cultures.

Food

Understanding nutrition and learning how to cook are crucial life skills that enable people to feed themselves and others affordably. In food technology students will therefore have the chance to apply the basic baking and cooking skills learned in Year 7 and 8 to create tasty predominately savoury dishes so that they will be able to provide themselves in later life a healthy and varied diet. They will understand the source, seasonality and characteristics of a broad range of ingredients and use these to adapt recipes and improve their awareness of taste, texture and seasoning.



Personal Development

The health and well-being carousel is a 12 week block of educational lessons to raise awareness of the importance of physical, mental and social well-being. This will include a range of lessons that will focus on topics such as mindfulness, outdoor education, core values, and how to lead a healthy lifestyle. In Year 9, all students will complete both Trinity Challenge and the Duke of Edinburgh Award. These sessions will be used to deliver content for each award, but will also offer student's different life experiences which will help develop the whole 'Trinity Student'

Product Design

Design and Technology is a constant presence in our lives. From the minute you wake up, you interact with products that have been designed by someone to solve a problem and make our lives better. Your bed, smartphone, tablet, clothes, shoes, and toothbrush are the results of countless hours of intense design work dedicated to turning out merchandise that looks, feels, and operates just right. Within the creative carousel students will continue the study of product design to improve their creative appreciation of the world around them, while getting the chance to develop their practical skills in the workshop.



In product design students will learn about the use of structural elements and mechanical systems to achieve product solutions. The practical focus will be on the manufacture of a contemporary product that will allow the use of traditional tools but that also incorporate more advanced practical skills, such as CAD/CAM and electronics.

