

KEY STAGE 4 OPTIONS (2023-25)

Wednesday 18th January 2023

Mrs Rebecca Saunders - Head of Secondary
Ms Olivia Mason – Assistant Headteacher (KS4)
Mrs Jamie Legg – Progress Leader (KS4)



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RESPONSIBILITY
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Welcome



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We aim to develop every student as an individual through the continuation of high expectations, encouragement and support for students and parents.

- ✓ Well-being and mental health support services
- ✓ Careers education
- ✓ MUN
- ✓ ECA



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The aim of the Park House curriculum:

- ✓ Challenging
- ✓ Rich
- ✓ Broad
- ✓ Develops knowledge and experience



The aim of the Park House curriculum for students:

- ✓ Control over your curriculum
- ✓ Greater workload
- ✓ Focus on fewer subjects
- ✓ Achieve the best grades



Why the curriculum at key stage 4 is different to key stage 3:

- ✓ Spend more time learning subjects you enjoy
- ✓ Choose the subjects you do well in
- ✓ The expectation of increased levels of homework
- ✓ Some subjects require independent work outside lesson time
- ✓ Allows more options post-16

The IGCSE



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- Exams are taken at the end of Year 11
- Most subjects are 100% assessed by exam
- Some practical subjects have controlled assessment/coursework

The Grading Structure



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Ofqual

Grading new GCSEs

New grading structure	Former grading structure
9	A*
8	
7	A
6	B
5	C
4	
	D

All GCSE courses are now graded 9 to 1 (Sociology is the exception with grading from A* to G).

This diagram shows how these 9 to 1 grades correspond to the previous A* - G grades.

At Park House we have high expectations of all students.

- At least a grade B (level 6) at IGCSE in the subjects to be studied in Year 12.
- A minimum of a grade C (level 4) pass at IGCSE in English Language and Mathematics, although a minimum of grade B (level 6) is required if either subject is to be studied in Year 12.
- In total, a student must have achieved a minimum of four passes at grade B (level 6) or above at IGCSE level and two passes at grade C (level 4) or above at IGCSE level.

Core Subjects



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The FOUR core areas that students must take subjects in:

CORE 1: All students must study **English**.

Students that study English will also usually study English Literature within their curriculum time for this subject (2 IGCSEs as standard).

CORE 2: All students must also study **Mathematics**.

Some students may also be invited to study an additional Mathematics related GCSE such as Further Mathematics (1 IGCSE as standard).

Core Subjects

The FOUR core areas that students must take subjects in:

CORE 3: All students must also select two of the three **Sciences** (i.e., any two from Biology, Chemistry and Physics). If a student wants to take all three Sciences, then this will be selected as an option on the IGCSE Options Form (2 IGCSEs as standard)

CORE 4: Languages - All students must also study a Language from **either Arabic, French or Spanish**. This will continue on from their language choice in Key Stage 3 (1 GCSE as standard).



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NOTE 1: Arabic is compulsory for Qatari pupils and other Arab passport holders. This is non-negotiable and is a Ministry requirement. (4 hours per week.)

NOTE 2: Students studying French or Spanish (Non-Qatari or Arab passport holders) will also study Global Citizenship in addition to their Language within the 4 hours of curriculum time per week.

Optional Subjects



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The **optional subjects** are those subjects that students have a choice in progressing further with:

- Art
- Business Studies
- Computer Science
- Drama
- Economics
- Geography
- History
- ICT
- Physical Education
- Sociology

(Triple Science options of Biology, Chemistry or Physics)

Options Form Muslim Students

- **Islamic Studies** is a compulsory subject (Ministry requirement) for Muslim students in Qatar.
- Taught in either Arabic (for Arabic students) or in English (for non-Arabic Muslim students).

For students wanting to study the three Science subjects:

- ONE further subject choice must be made from TWO of the option blocks

For students who only want to study two Science subjects:

- ONE further subject must be made from the THREE option blocks
- You must also indicate which two Science subjects you would like to study.

KS4 Options Form 2023-2024

OPTIONS FORM FOR **MUSLIM** STUDENTS

Full name:		Form Group:
For the following questions, please circle your answer.		
Are you an Arabic passport holder?	Yes	No
Would you like to study THREE Sciences?	Yes	No
If no , please circle your TWO chosen Sciences		
Biology	Chemistry	Physics
<small>Option Block A is compulsory. You only need to indicate if you will take Islamic Studies in English or Arabic. If you are studying the three Sciences, only choose two options below from Blocks B, C and D. These choices must be from different blocks. If you are studying two Sciences, choose three options below; one each from Block B, Block C and Block D.</small>		

OPTION A	Tick one only	OPTION B	Tick one only	OPTION C	Tick one only	OPTION D	Tick one only
Islamic Studies (in English): This is compulsory for non-Arabic Muslim students		Art		Computer Science		Business Studies	
		Business Studies		Geography		Drama	
Islamic Studies (in Arabic): This is compulsory for Muslim students who study Arabic		Computer Science		History		Economics	
		History		Physical Education		ICT	
		Physical Education		Sociology		Sociology	

Student's signature: _____ Parent's signature: _____

Date: _____ Date: _____

Please note that our core subjects are:

- English Language and English Literature
- Mathematics
- The language studied in Key Stage 3 - French, Spanish or Arabic. *Students studying French or Spanish (Non-Qatari or Arab passport holders) will also study Global Citizenship in addition to their Language within the 4 hours of curriculum time per week.*
- Two Sciences chosen from Biology, Chemistry and Physics

In addition to the above subjects, students also have regular PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) and PE (Physical Education) lessons.



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Options Form

Non-Muslim Students

For students wanting to study the three Science subjects:

- ONE further subject choice must be made from THREE option blocks

For students who only want to study two Science subjects:

- ONE further subject must be made from the FOUR option blocks
- You must also indicate which two Science subjects you would like to study.

KS4 Options Form 2023-2024

OPTIONS FORM FOR **NON-MUSLIM** STUDENTS

Full name:		Form Group:
For the following questions, please circle your answer.		
Are you an Arabic passport holder?	Yes	No
Would you like to study THREE Sciences?	Yes	No
If no , please circle your TWO chosen Sciences		
Biology	Chemistry	Physics
If you are studying the three Sciences, only choose three options below. These must be from different option blocks. If are studying two Sciences, choose four options below; one from each block.		

OPTION A	Tick one only	OPTION B	Tick one only	OPTION C	Tick one only	OPTION D	Tick one only
Business Studies		Art		Computer Science		Business Studies	
Geography		Business Studies		Geography		Drama	
ICT		Computer Science		History		Economics	
Music		History		Physical Education		ICT	
		Physical Education		Sociology		Sociology	

Student's signature: _____ Parent's signature: _____

Date: _____ Date: _____

Please note that our core subjects are:

- English Language and English Literature
- Mathematics
- The Language studied in Key Stage 3 - French, Spanish or Arabic. *Students studying French or Spanish (Non-Qatari or Arab passport holders) will also study Global Citizenship in addition to their Language within the 4 hours of curriculum time per week.*
- Two Sciences chosen from Biology, Chemistry and Physics

In addition to the above subjects, students also have regular PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) and PE (Physical Education) lessons.



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Other non-examined subjects

These non-examination courses are designed to support the physical, mental and social well-being of all students whilst allowing students to formulate values, attitudes and beliefs within a secure and caring framework.

The skills that students will be encouraged to develop are complementary to the demands of the whole curriculum and are of vital importance in preparing our students for their future role as healthy, successful, caring and responsible citizens in society.

The **PSHE** curriculum includes aspects of Economic and Industrial Understanding, Health Education, Careers, Citizenship and Environmental Education.

The **core PE** course promotes the attributes of PRiDE: perseverance, responsibility, independence, dedication and engagement, but also modesty, humility and acceptance, through a varied and diverse range of sporting activities.



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Making Choices



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Key Questions



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Question 1: What subjects am I good at?

This is the key indicator for likely success in a subject.

Key Questions



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Question 2: What subjects do I enjoy most?

Choose subjects that you find interesting – you'll do better at them if you're genuinely curious about them.

Key Questions



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Question 3: Do I know what I want to do in the future?

If you're already thinking about a particular type of course, take a look at the entry requirements for specific courses at university and work back from there. If you don't have a preference, or you're not sure what you want to do long-term, balance the mix of subjects to give yourself a broad range of knowledge and skills, as this will keep your options open.

Key Questions



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Question 4: How will I be assessed in the subject?

You will find information about this in the **Options Booklet**

Key Questions



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Question 5: Does this suit my strengths?

Speak to the teachers that are here today or your own class teacher over the next few days if you are not sure about this.

Key Questions



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Question 6: Am I choosing the subject for the right reasons?

Tempting though it may be, don't select a particular subject just because you like the person who teaches it or your friend is taking that subject. Your IGCSE choices should be based on what's best for your future. Friendships can change and your favourite teacher might teach another class or even leave the school.

Support and Guidance

- No question is a silly question
- Please talk to the **subject staff** that are here today or your **form tutor or class teachers** over the next few days.
- Speak to **Mrs Walton** who can guide you about choices related to careers using the **Unifrog** platform.
- Talk to your **parents**
- Talk to **Mrs Legg or Ms Mason.**
- We know our students very well and will always suggest what we feel like is the best route for you

Our aim is to get all students happy with their choices for the start of Year 10.



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Deadline

The completed Options Form must be submitted by **Wednesday 25 January**.

- ✓ Check that you have completed the correct side of the form (Muslim or non-Muslim student).
- ✓ Check that you have filled in all details on **ONE** side of the form only.
- ✓ Check that you have selected the **TWO** Science you wish to study if you only want to study two
- ✓ Check that you have only placed the correct number of ticks on your form and that they are in **DIFFERENT** columns / blocks.
- ✓ Check that you have signed the form
- ✓ Check that your parent has also signed your form
- ✓ Place the form in the box placed on the shelf in Reception by the main school office.

Please note that you will not hear back from us about your options choices until much later in Term 3.

Occasionally we may be oversubscribed in a subject. We therefore reserve the right to potentially make changes to the selected options following discussion.



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