



Southend High School for Girls

Year 9 Options Choices



Aims of the evening

Meet key members of the options process

Gather information about the options process

Gather information about GCSE subjects from teachers and students

Thursday, August
2026

GCSE Results day 2023





Year 9 Option Choices Timeline

Date	Event
Monday 12th February	Year 9 Subject Choices launch assembly
Tuesday 13th February	Year 9 Parents Information and Subject Fair
Monday 26th February - Friday 8th March	GCSE subject presentations in lessons including business studies, media studies, design & technology and classics
Thursday 7th March	Year 9 Parents' Evening
Friday 15th March	Online subject choices deadline
w/b Monday 19th March	Students confirm order of preference
	Subject changes if oversubscription
Friday 26th April	Subject choices confirmed by letter
May	Careers event
Summer term	Window for changing choices*
First 4 weeks of autumn term	Window for changing choices*

*dependent on option blocks and availability

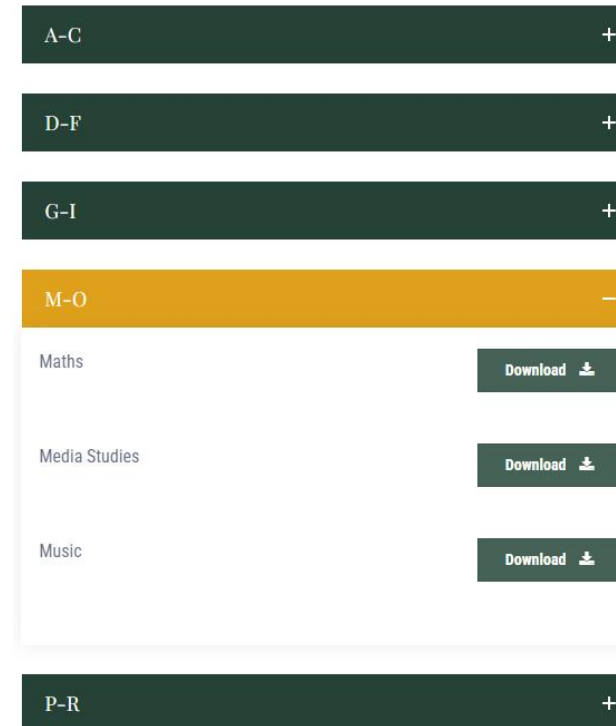


Course information

- Website
- Subject Fair
 - Teachers
 - Students
- Presentations in lessons
 - Lessons
 - Assemblies
- Parents' Evening



GCSE Subject Choices 2024





Middle School Curriculum

Ambitious, academically challenging, broad and balanced

Wide ranging options

Flexible options model with no pre-set option blocks

Compulsory	Option 1: Language	Option 2: Humanities	Option 3	Option 4
English Language	French	Geography	2 nd Humanities	3 nd Humanities
English Literature	Spanish	History	2 nd Language	2 nd Language
Maths	German	Religious Studies	Classics	Classics
Biology			Computer Science	Computer Science
Chemistry			D&T Textiles	D&T Textiles
Physics			D&T	D&T
			Food and Nutrition	Food and Nutrition
			Fine Art	Fine Art
			Drama	Drama
			Music	Music
			Media Studies	Media Studies
Life Skills			Business Studies	Business Studies
Core PE			Physical Education	Physical Education



Middle School Curriculum

7 lessons	Maths	Maths	Maths	Maths	Maths	Maths
7 lessons	English Literature	English Literature	English Literature	English Literature	English Language	English Language
4 lessons	Biology	Biology	Biology	Biology		
4 lessons	Chemistry	Chemistry	Chemistry	Chemistry		
4 lessons	Physics	Physics	Physics	Physics		
5 lessons	Option A	Option A	Option A	Option A	Option A	
5 lessons	Option B	Option B	Option B	Option B	Option B	
5 lessons	Option C	Option C	Option C	Option C	Option C	
5 lessons	Option D	Option D	Option D	Option D	Option D	
3 lessons	Core PE	Core PE	Core PE			
1 lesson	Life Skills					



Middle School Curriculum

Extra and super curricular opportunities

- Clubs and societies
- Day trips, residentials and exchanges
- Subject mentoring schemes
- Leadership roles
- Competitions and challenges
- Extension reading lists





Student Advice: Choosing subjects



Good reasons to choose a subject

Enjoyment and interests

Past success

Facilitates post 16 and post 18 career aspirations

Assessment structure

Poor reasons to choose a subject

Your friends are taking it

You like the teacher

You think it will be easy





Student Advice: Top tips for success



Hit the ground running!

Subject vs extra / super curricular balance

Student choice





Making subject choices

- Log into SIMS **Parent** app
- SIMS Options
- Select 4 subjects and 2 reserves by 15th March - **remember to save**
- Any questions, options@shsg.org for assistance
- Order of preference – main choices and reserves



Making options choices

Save

Religious GCSE Full Course
This course is also available in Optional Choices

Optional Choices
You have chosen 2 of 2 courses and 2 of 2 reserves from this list

Art GCSE Full Course	Reserve	Computer S GCSE Full Course	Reserve
German GCSE Full Course	Reserve	Drama GCSE Full Course	Reserve
<small>This course is also available in Modern Foreign Language</small>			
French GCSE Full Course	Reserve	Foodtech GCSE Full Course	Reserve
<small>This course is also available in Modern Foreign Language</small>			
Geography GCSE Full Course	Reserve	Graphics GCSE Full Course	Reserve
<small>This course is also available in Humanities</small>			
History GCSE Full Course	Reserve	Media Stud GCSE Full Course	Reserve
<small>You have selected this course in Humanities</small>			
Music GCSE Full Course	Reserve	Physical E GCSE Full Course	Reserve
Religious GCSE Full Course	Reserve	Spanish GCSE Full Course	Reserve
<small>This course is also available in Humanities</small>		<small>You have selected this course in Modern Foreign Language</small>	

My Reserves in Order of Preference (Total Reserves: 2)
To change your order of preference select a reserve and click the position in the list you would like to move it to.

- 1 French**
GCSE Full Course Optional Choices
- 2 Computer S**
GCSE Full Course Optional Choices



Life in the Sixth Form

- 26 Subjects currently offered
- Enjoyment and Achievement
- A Level progression
- More details on the Sixth Form tab of our website





Year 10

- Unifrog
- A level taster day

Year 11

- Unifrog
- Careers consultations
- Open Evening
- Head of Department presentations
- Subject Fair
- A Level taster day





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