

Year 8 Guided Choices 2023

Welcome!



The aim of this evening:

- To talk you and your children through the Key Stage 4 curriculum (Years 9-11)
- To explain the Guided Choices process which will inform that curriculum
- To give the opportunity to find out more from individual subjects
- To provide you with an opportunity to see where your children learn!

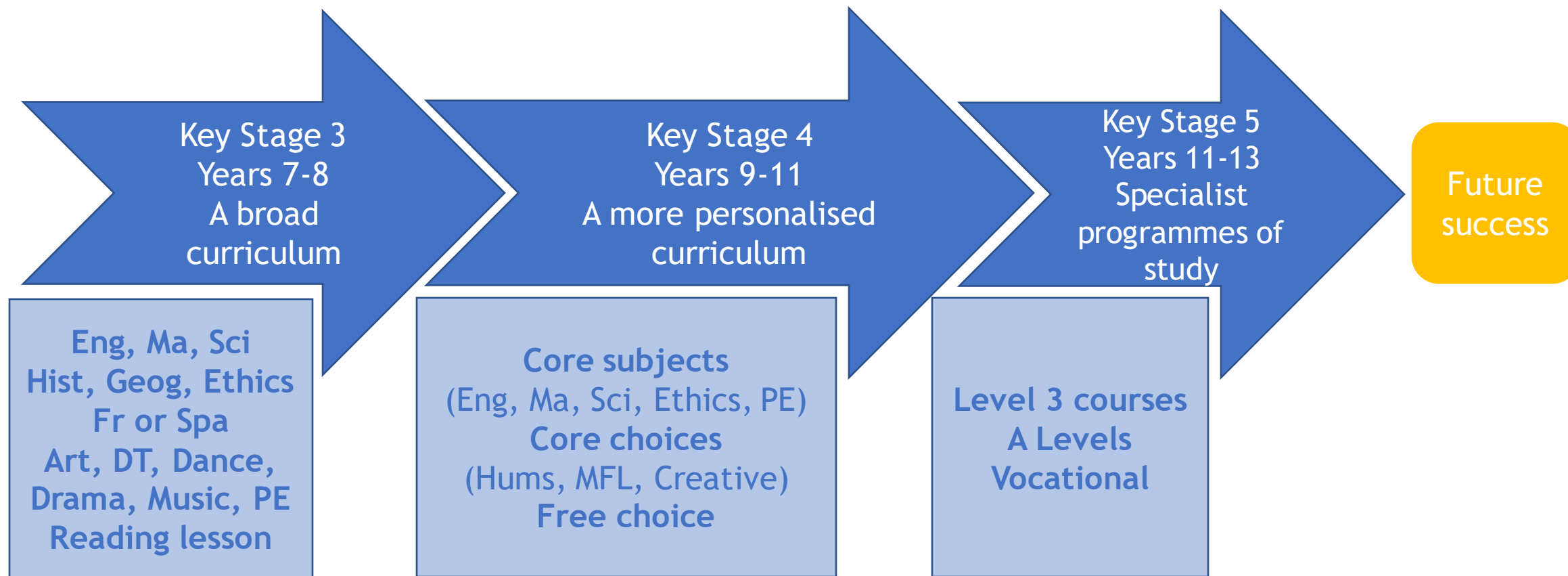
The vision for our curriculum



At Gordano school, we are ambitious for all students to experience, develop and secure the knowledge, skills and attitudes that will allow them to progress with curiosity and confidence through school and beyond. Our definition of the curriculum is *'the entire planned learning experience'* (Waters, 2017). Our aim therefore in planning and implementing both the taught and wider curriculum is to develop lifelong learners, with the agency and desire to positively contribute to the various communities to which they belong.

We cannot predict the knowledge and skills that will be needed in the future. We can however equip students with essential, 'powerful' knowledge across a breadth of subject discipline, along with the skills, attitudes and dispositions that will enable them to apply, adapt and build on this knowledge in the future.

Your child's Curriculum Journey



Understanding the Guided Choices



- From Year 9, students will study subjects that will prepare them for a successful future
- It's essential that they continue to study a range of different subjects, particularly because students are starting KS4 in Year 9
- It's important that they have some choices

The subjects that students will study in Year 9 - 11 fall into three groups; Core Subjects, Core Choices and Free choice

1. Core Subjects

English, Maths, Science *Triple Science will begin in Year 10*
Core PE, Ethics

2. Core Choices*

1. History or Geography
2. French or Spanish
3. Creative Choice (from the Creative Arts or DT courses)

*For the majority of students.

3. 1 Free choice

A second Humanities subject, a second language, Creative Art, DT, Social Sciences, PE or Computing subject
Twilight RE (additional subject)
This includes vocational choices as well as GCSEs

Why a Creative, a Humanities and a Language?

- ✓ Curriculum variety in terms of subject content and ways of learning
- ✓ A broad view of the world through different and diverse perspectives and cultures
- ✓ Critical thinking
- ✓ Development of memory
- ✓ Self-expression
- ✓ Transferrable skills



- The EBacc is a set of subjects at GCSE that **keeps young people's options open for further study and future careers**. These subjects are considered essential to many degrees and are held in high regard by employers.
- UCL Institute of Education study showed that studying EBacc subjects provides students with greater opportunities in further education and increases the likelihood that a pupil will stay on in full-time education.
- Sutton Trust research reveals that studying the EBacc can help improve a young person's performance in English and Maths.
- A student will achieve the EBacc if they achieve a Grade 5 or above in English Language, Mathematics, 2 Sciences, a Modern Foreign Language and History or Geography (6 specific GCSE qualifications in total).
- Most students will follow an EBacc curriculum for these reasons. However we are rightly proud of the achievements of all our subjects and all our students, whether part of the 'EBacc' or not.

Choices available

GCSEs	Vocational (BTEC/ Cambridge National)
Creative Arts: Art, Art-Photography, Dance, Drama, Music	
Computing	Creative I-Media
DT: Food prep and Nutrition, Product/Graphic Design, Textiles	Construction (Level 1 only: limited numbers)
Humanities: Geography, History, Religious Studies (Twilight)	Travel and Tourism
Languages: French, Spanish	
Physical Education	Sports Science Uniformed Services (limited numbers)
Social Sciences: Business, Psychology	Health and Social Care



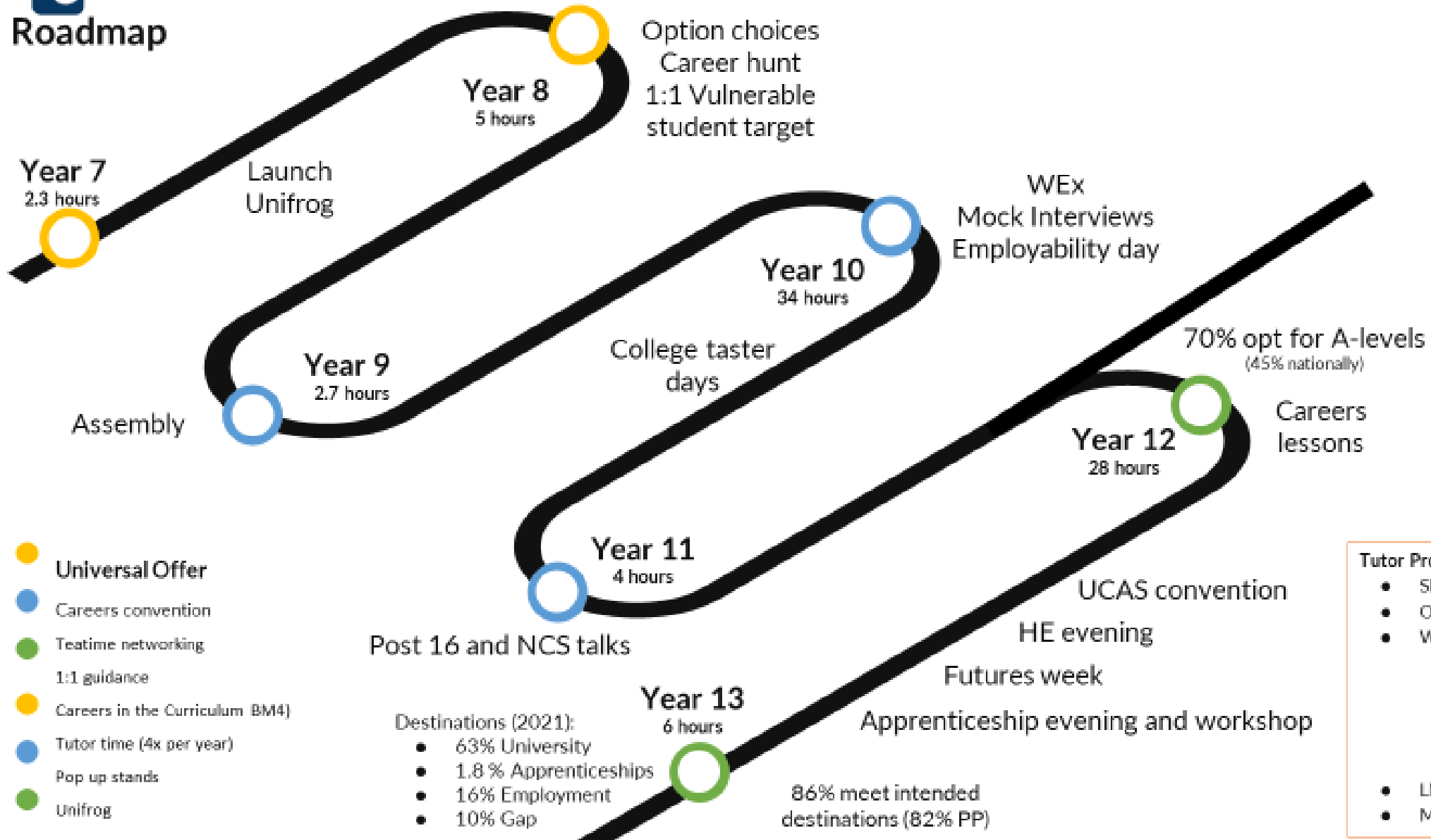
What happens next...



Date	Event
w/b 17th April	Students asked for preferences for taster sessions via Forms. Responses needed by Wednesday 26th April.
Thursday 20 April	• Guided Choices evening at Gordano School
28 April, 5 May	Taster sessions available in extended tutor time for Business Studies, Psychology, Health and Social Care, Travel & Tourism and PE.
w/b 28 April	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Guided Choices booklet published online (hard copies available on request)• Guidance letters issued to parents
Wednesday 10th May	Deadline for submission of Guided choices through the online portal (info on accessing the portal will be issued nearer the time)
April / May	Guided choices checking with Heads of Houses, Tutors and Careers team as needed.
Term 6	Guided choices allocations confirmed as early as possible in term 6.

Where to get further info...

- Careers team (see next slide for roadmap!) and UNIFROG.
- Tutors and heads of house will be talking to students in groups or individually as we go through the process.
- School website (go to "students" tab, and then Guided Choices page)
- Virtual school page. The link to this is on the website and the last page of the booklet too.
- Class teachers.
- Other students already following courses.
- Family and friends.



Other info...

- Our next letter home will include:
 - Guidance on the choices each student will need to make
 - Information on HOW to make the choices.
- Those students who work with student support will have already started conversations about their curriculum pathway, so will receive guidance as appropriate.

Taster sessions...

- There will be two opportunities for students to experience a "lesson" in the subjects they will not have studied previously. These sessions take place in extended tutor time:
 - Friday 28th April
 - Friday 5th May
- The subjects being offered are:
 - PE (the examined course is classroom based so not like lessons so far!)
 - Psychology
 - Business Studies
 - Health and Social Care
 - Travel and Tourism
- Students have a homework task set with the link to the form they must fill out.

Any questions?

- ✓ Thank you for coming in tonight, and your attention during the presentation.
- ✓ We are happy to answer questions now.
- ✓ Please visit as many of the subject areas as you can and enjoy seeing the school site.