

# Year 9

## KS4 Pathways and Parents' Evening

*Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2017*

**Information Sessions will  
take place in**

**Lady Mabel Hall at:**

*4:30pm, 5:15pm, 6pm,*

*6:45pm and 7:15pm*



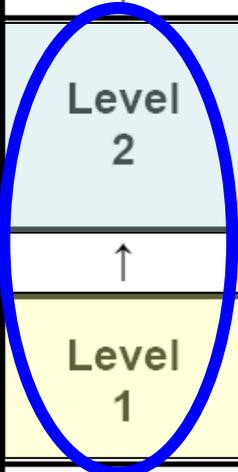
*C Evans (Deputy Headteacher: Curriculum)*

# Information Session

- To explore the choices and pathways.
- To explain the key terms used.
- To provide additional advice.
- To answer questions.

# Different routes

	Level 4 Qualifications – University			
Level 4	<b>Academic</b>		<b>Vocational</b>	
↑				
Level 3	AS/A2 Levels	BTEC National Diplomas	Apprenticeships NVQs	16-19 years old
↑				
Level 2	GCSE Grades 9-5	Technical Awards Pass/M/D	14-16 years old	
↑				
Level 1	GCSE Grades 4-1	Technical Awards Level 1 Pass		
↑				
Entry Level	Entry qualifications including Certificates of Achievement and Vocational Awards			



# Academic

Level 4	
↑	<b>Academic</b>
Level 3	AS/A2 Levels
↑	
Level 2	GCSE Grades 9-5
↑	
Level 1	GCSE Grades 4-1
↑	

GCSE courses are 'academic' qualifications.

They are seen as being a preparation for further studies (perhaps 'A' levels leading to university).

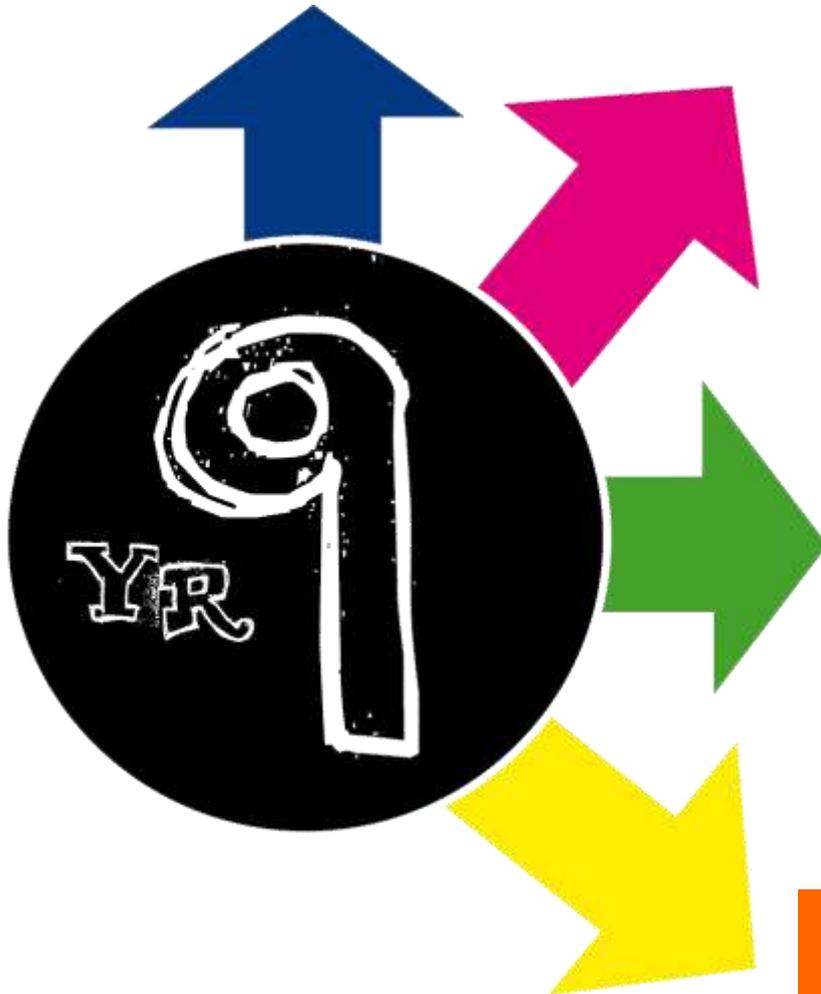
# Academic (GCSEs)

**GCSE:** GCSEs generally involve studying the theory of a subject as well as doing practical work.

The exam is worth from 60%-100% of the overall grade and is taken in year 11.

**GCSEs are graded 9-1.**

*Grade 5 = good pass (C+/B-)*



*Sixth Form  
College*

*Level 3*

*A levels*

*BTEC  
Nationals*

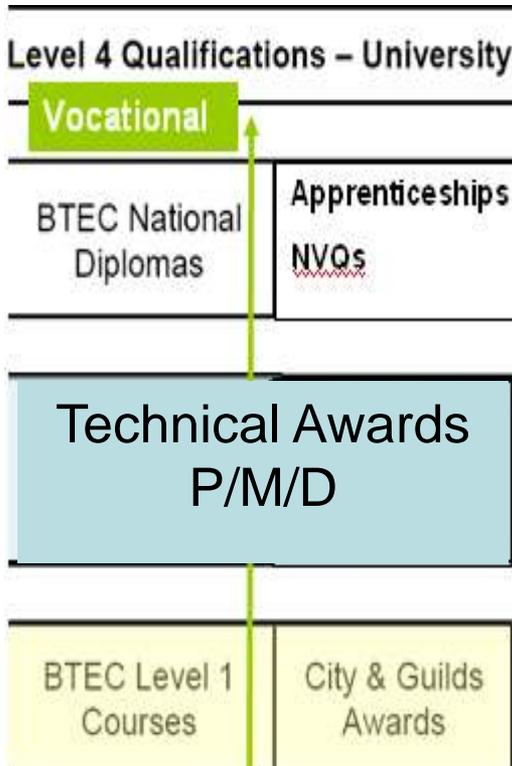
*University*

*Employment*

*Apprenticeship*

# Vocational courses 'Technical Awards'

All vocational courses have been reformed.



**Ecclesfield School offers several types of vocational courses** (*now called Technical Awards*).

Vocational qualifications are seen as preparing students for the work place.

They are mainly coursework based, but **40% of the final grade will be an exam.**  
*Graded with a Pass, Merit or Distinction.*

**Students MUST have good attendance**  
to take a vocational course.



# Anything is possible...

- **Hard Work**
- *Good Attitude to Learning*
- **Self confidence**
- *Ask questions*
- **Setting goals**
- Being at school every day

**90% attendance  
= 20 days  
missed every year.**

*Research  
shows that just 17  
days missed from  
school usually leads to  
a drop of one  
GCSE grade in  
ALL subjects taken.*

Feel free to drop in on the  
EWO and Attendance Officer  
who have a desk near the  
refreshments tonight.



Q. When is **90%** not considered to be good enough?

A. *When it is linked to **attendance**.*

**90% attendance requires immediate improvement because it is equal to:**  
*= 1 day being missed every two weeks!*  
*= 4 weeks of learning missed in a year!*  
*= 1/2 year of school missed over 5 years!*

**EVERY DAY COUNTS!**



# No more '5 or more A\*-C including English & Maths'

To encourage all students to follow a broad curriculum and to ensure that students aim to be the best they can, rather than just aim to get a 'good pass' the way students' results is now judged (since Summer 2016) is quite different.

Students' performance will be judged on the progress they make in **8 subjects** - including at least 5 EBacc subjects.

This is called **Progress 8.**

# Changes to GCSE grades

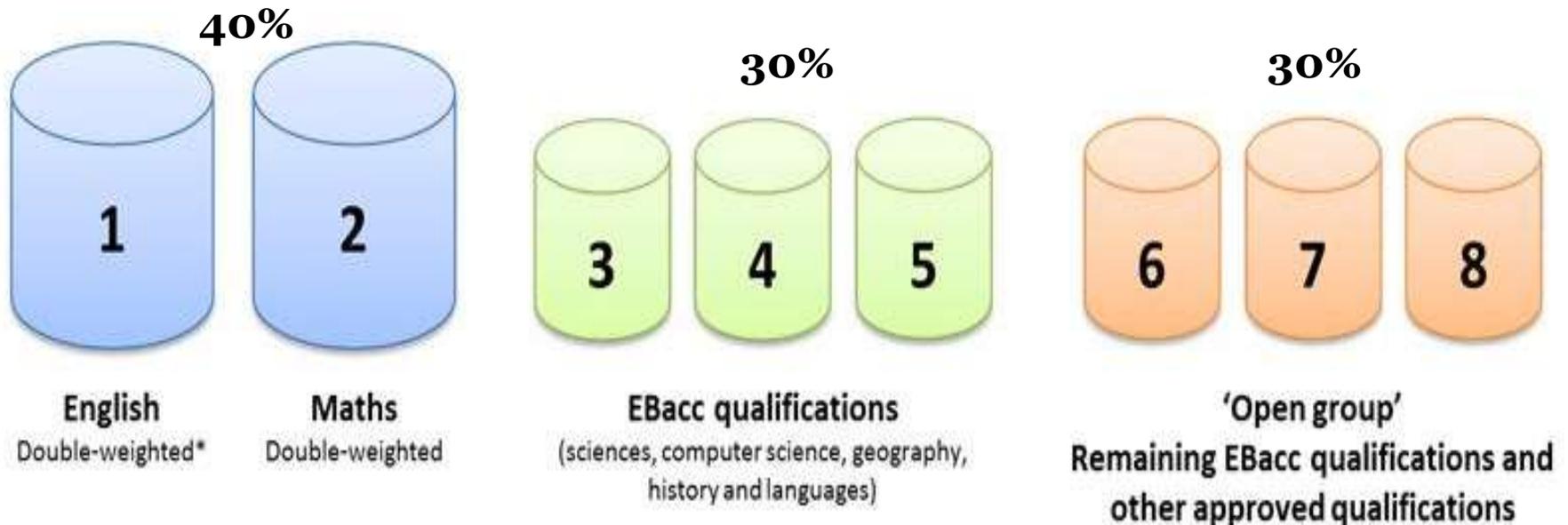
current GCSE Grades	New GCSE Grades
	9
A*	8
A	7
B	6
C+/B-	5
C	4
D	3
E	2
F/G	1

**You** will be awarded numbered GCSE grades

# Progress 8 – The Best 8 grades

Progress 8 will determine whether students are making expected progress from KS2 (Year 6) - KS4 (Year 11).

The new measure will be based on students' progress measured across their best eight subjects which must fit into the 8 slots below. *Each student will fill the 8 slots in a different way.*



# Pathways tailored to individual students



What's best for one is not necessarily right for someone else.  
Different courses suit different people:

# What is the EBacc?

**The English Baccalaureate is the name given to this set of qualifications:**

- English Language**
- Maths**
- Two Sciences**
- a Language** (*French, German, Spanish or a community language*)
- either Geography or History.**

***Students have to get all of these GCSEs at grade 5 or above***

The 'EBacc' will be one of the nationally recognised measures used to judge school and student performance from Summer 2016 onwards. This set of subjects are called the 'facilitating subjects' and ensure that students are following a wide range of subjects thereby keeping all doors open for further study post 16 years.

All students are required to study History, Geography and/or a language in accordance with the 'Attainment 8' performance measure.

# Uni?

# Work backwards...

Here's an idea of some of the GCSE and A level requirements that you might come across for certain degree courses at Russell Group universities.

- *College students applying to study Medicine are usually required to have very good GCSE results in Maths, Triple Science and English.*
- *For a degree in English, universities often look for applicants to have a GCSE in a modern or classical language.*
- *For a Business degree, a grade B in GCSE Maths is often required.*
- *A grade B in GCSE Maths and sometimes Science is often required for a degree in Psychology.*
- *To study a science subject at university (including Biology, Chemistry or Physics) applicants who are not offering Maths at A level will often need to have achieved a grade C in Maths at GCSE.*
- *Students wishing to study a Music or Fine Art degree will need to have A levels in those subjects.*
- *For Drama, many universities do not have specific A level requirements (but some do so). Most will ask students to attend an audition and interview and look at school qualifications as well as involvement in theatre groups extra to the school curriculum.*

# College? Work backwards...

Here's an idea of some of the GCSE requirements that you might come across for certain College and Sixth form courses...

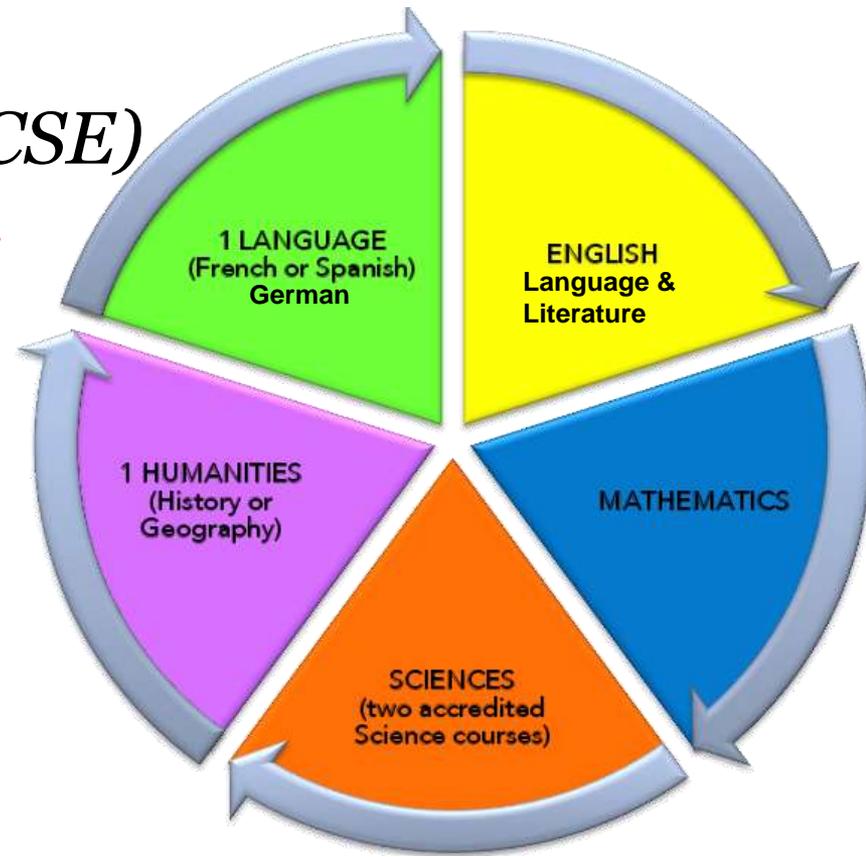
- *Students wishing to follow a career in medicine (doctor, surgeon, vet, dentist) will need to study 3 separate sciences (Triple Science).*
- *For those wishing to train as a midwife, Maths and English at grade 5 or above and Double Science at grade 6 or above will be required.*
- *To study Business at A level, Tech Award in Business is NOT required, but good passes in maths and English are.*
- *To study Health & Social Care at college, maths, English and a range of other subjects at grade 5 or above are required. It is NOT necessary to take Technical Award in Health & Social Care at school.*
- *Excellent maths and Science grades are required to study Computing at A level.*
- *To study a science subject at university (including Biology, Chemistry or Physics) applicants who are not offering Maths at A level will often need to have achieved a grade C in Maths at GCSE.*
- *Students wishing to study a Music or Art at A level/BTEC National level usually need to have GCSEs or BTECs in those subjects.*

# Ecclesfield's CORE subjects

*everyone studies these subjects...*



- English Language & English Literature (2 GCSEs)
- Maths (1 GCSE)
- Science (2 GCSEs)
- History **or** Geography (1 GCSE)
- *A large number of students will continue to study a Modern Foreign Language (1 GCSE)*
- P.E. (no exam)
- PSHCE & R.E.



# The Ebacc Pathways

- Ebacc T

On this pathway, students have Triple Science as one of the options on their form.

- Students are NOT compelled to take Triple Science (*entry requirement*)
- These students should make sure that they have opted for the Ebacc subjects - **one language and either History or Geography** and then *two other options and a reserve*.

- Ebacc

On this pathway, students take **one language and either History or Geography**, *two options and a reserve*.



# Alternative Pathways



- **Progress** Must make sure that they have **taken either History, Geography or a language.** They can take other Ebacc subjects if they want.



- **Foundation**  
These students all take English, Maths, Science, GCSE Photography and Life Skills in their core curriculum. They make **one option** and then follow a programme specific to their needs including further a Technical Award qualification.

# **GCSEs** (single option)

History

Geography

R.E.

French

P.E.

Spanish

German

Art

Computing

Music

Drama

# Technical Awards – newly reformed

**ICT/IT**

**Music**

**Sport**

**Health and Social Care**

**Materials, Engineering**

**Food**

**Performing Arts (Acting)**

**Travel & Tourism**

# The options forms

There are two copies of the option form so that you can use one as a work in progress.

**PLEASE choose carefully. Options cannot be changed easily once your form has been submitted.**

We cannot guarantee your option choices

Though we will work hard to avoid any disappointment, we cannot guarantee that you will get all your option choices.

Some options might clash. Others may not attract enough attention to run.

**You must choose a reserve subject and mark this clearly with the word 'Reserve'.**

# How to choose 'your choice' options

1. **Do** choose subjects which you **like and want to do.**
2. **Do** choose subjects which **you are capable of doing** and with which you feel at ease.
3. **Do** choose subjects which **give you a wide choice for the future.**
4. **Do** ask class teachers **what the course involves** in terms of practical work, written work, controlled assessments and final examinations.
5. **Do** make sure that you are as well informed as possible before you make any decisions. **People who can offer you guidance are:**
  - *Your class teachers*
  - *Your form tutor*
  - *Mrs Cassell, the Careers Adviser*
  - *Students in Yrs 10 who are already studying the new GCSE courses*



Don't follow me  
I haven't got a clue

## How to choose

- **DON'T choose a subject just because your friend is doing it.**
- **DON'T choose a *subject just because you like the teacher.***
- **DON'T choose a subject just because it's new to you. If there are any subjects which are new to you, find out about them.**

# Key Date

**17<sup>th</sup> February: OPTIONS DEADLINE**

*Mentors will start to accept completed option forms from Weds 15<sup>th</sup> February*



# Contacts

**Deputy Headteacher: Miss C Evans**  
[cevens@eccoschool.com](mailto:cevens@eccoschool.com)

**Heads of House and Pastoral  
Managers**

**Careers Adviser: Mrs L Cassell**  
[lcassell@eccoschool.com](mailto:lcassell@eccoschool.com)

**Useful website**  
[nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk](http://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk)

# Reminder!

## Teen Triple P Seminar: Raising Competent Teenagers

Takes the guesswork out of parenting teens...

Parents are given specific ideas on:

- Developing self-discipline.
- Establishing good routines.
- Getting involved in school activities.
- Being a good problem solver.
- Following school rules.
- Having supportive friends.

DATE: Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> of February 2017

TIME: 5:15 – 7:15 pm

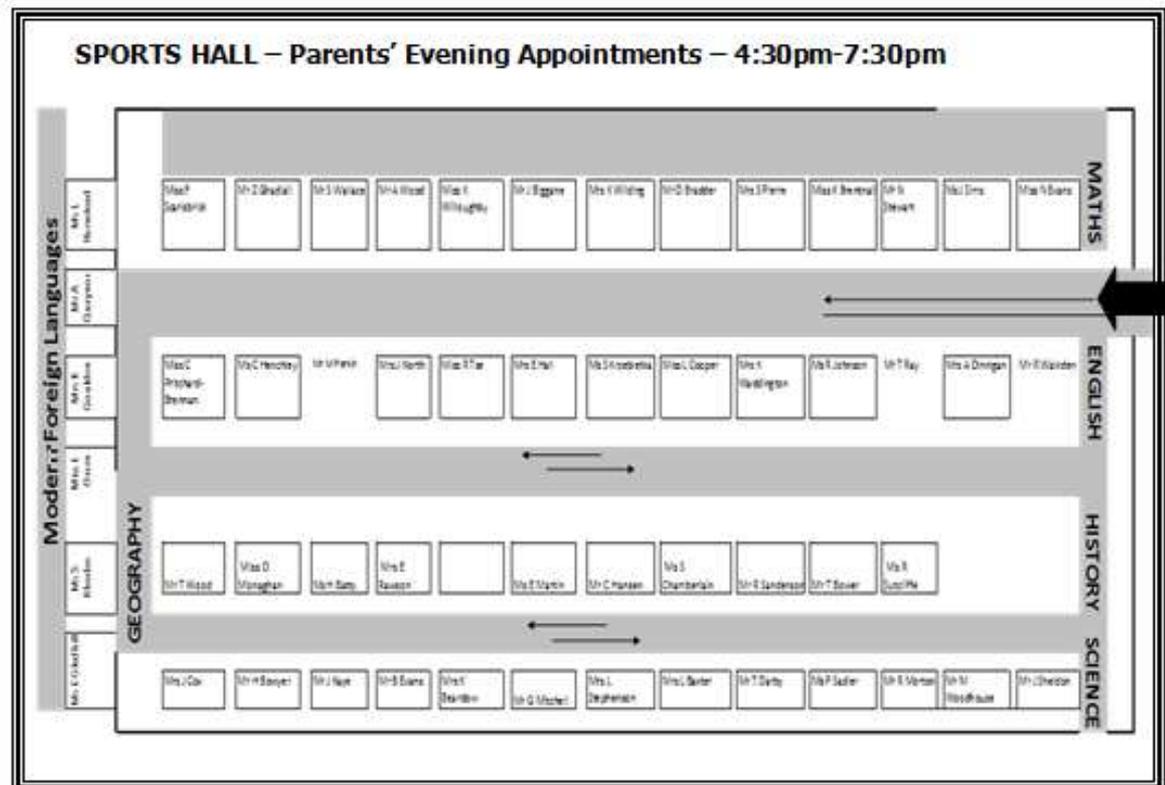
VENUE: Ecclesfield Secondary School

PRESENTER: Liz Hill

**BOOKINGS AND INFORMATION**

Email [attendance@eccoschool.com](mailto:attendance@eccoschool.com)

# Parents' Evening appointments with teachers of Ebacc subjects in the **SPORTS HALL**. (Maths, English, Science, History, Geography and Languages.)



# MAIN SCHOOL – Keppel classrooms

