

FAQs - Year 9 Preferences

What are Year 9 Preferences?

• The process where students in Year 9 and their family choose the qualifications to undertake in years 10 and 11. This will include traditional academic GCSEs that have to be undertaken and a mix of qualifications: traditional GCSEs and applied courses e.g. vocational equivalents to choose from.

What makes Broadoak unique?

• We build the timetable around what students want. This means subjects are not pre-set on a timetable and we listen to what qualifications the students want to do, then build a curriculum that allows the majority of students their first choices.

What is the process?

Explore different qualifications and types: tutor time/career advisor Test ideas: offer and attend taster sessions to understand the courses. Preference booklet available to read. Hear from the teachers: After School Preference Event (**Thursday 9th February 2022**). Discuss options and suitability

Decisions: Discuss and decide on preferences and submit by deadline (TBC) Timetable: Curriculum built and students informed of choices. Disucssions happen if further support needed or first preferences not met before end of year.

What will a student have to do?

All students in England have to take GCSE qualifications in:

- English including Literature and Language
- Mathematics
- Science either separate GCSEs or a combined qualification
- An EBACC subject from: Geography, History, Spanish or French
- Non-examined: Core PE and PSHE

How can you help?

Do not panic – focus on your young person's wellbeing. Be open-minded to the variety of courses on offer. Begin to consider the post-16 options and routes available, if a student knows what they want to do after school preferences often become easier.

Let us know any qualifications you are interested in taking – where possible, we will provide. For example: psychology, sociology etc.