

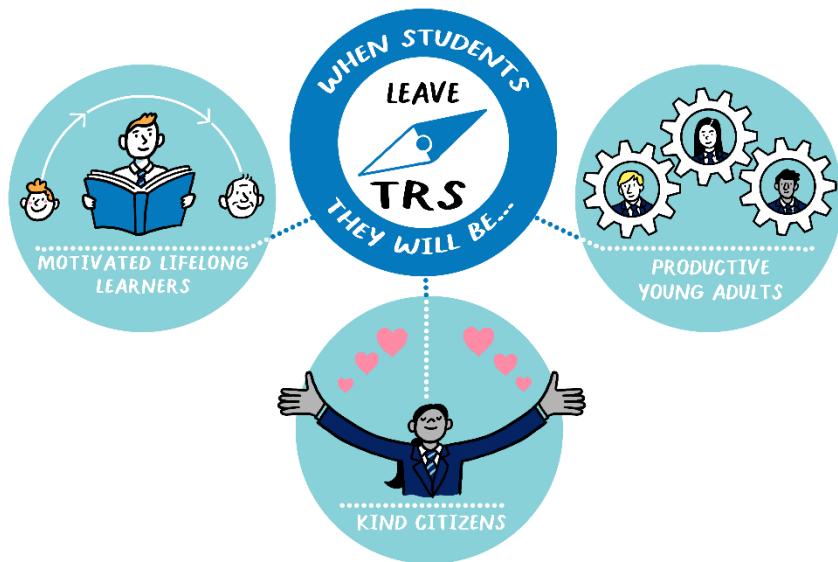


**The Regis School**  
The best in everyone™  
Part of United Learning

# KS4 Options

# Booklet

# 2026



# Principal's Welcome

At The Regis School, we aim to provide an excellent education for all our students; an education which brings out the best in all of them and prepares them for success in life. Our aim is to nurture their academic and personal talents to enable them to acquire the powerful knowledge and skills that ensure they are ready for the next stage of their education or life. When they are ready to leave us, we want them to leave as productive young adults, ready to make a positive contribution to the world around them.

We believe that continuing to study an ambitious and balanced curriculum through Key Stage 3 and into Key Stage 4 provides the foundations of that future success. However, we also recognise that Key Stage 4 offers the opportunity for students to begin to make informed choices that shape their future pathways and allow them to pursue some of their interests and talents more deeply. Whilst their curriculum remains ambitious and balanced it also becomes bespoke, tailored to their choices, strengths, and future aspirations.

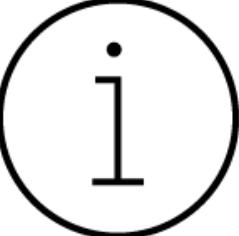
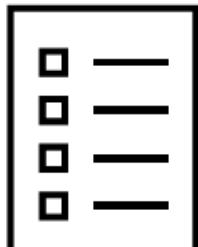
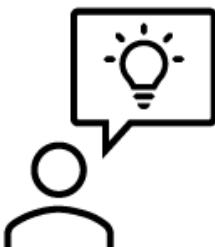
We know that our students can achieve great things in and beyond the classroom and that this success is, in part, based on making the right curriculum decisions as they move into Key Stage 4. Our aim is to do all we can to ensure students are able to make informed choices to secure a future pathway that is right for them. We recognise the critical role that parents and carers play in this transition and want to reassure you that we have incredibly knowledgeable and supportive pastoral and academic teams to guide you, and your child, through this process.

We look forward to working together in the best interests of the students and I hope that this booklet, along with the options evening, will provide you with the information you need, but please do not hesitate to get in contact using the key contacts page should you require further information or assistance.

Best wishes

**Mrs Lewis**  
**Principal**

# The KS4 Options Process

Launch	Options Evening	Research
		
<b>February 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>February 25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>February 26<sup>th</sup> to March 19<sup>th</sup></b>
<p>The options process is launched and introduced to students in an assembly with follow up activities in tutor time.</p>	<p>Year 9 options evening will take place on February 25<sup>th</sup> between 17:00 and 19:00.</p> <p>This event is an opportunity for parents to attend a short presentation on the options process and meet with subject specialists and senior leaders to learn more about the courses on offer.</p>	<p>Following options evening, students and parents have a three-week window to complete further research, if necessary.</p> <p>Subjects may hold taster sessions during this time to support this stage of the process.</p>
Submission	Review	Confirmation
		
<b>March 20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>From April 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Summer Term</b>
<p>The options selection form will be distributed via email on February 26<sup>th</sup>, this form will need to be completed and submitted no later than 15:00 on March 20<sup>th</sup></p>	<p>Each student's selection will be reviewed by the options team.</p> <p>Parents and students will be contacted if the selected options need to be discussed further.</p>	<p>We will write to parents and students to confirm their option choices in the summer term.</p> <p>At any point in the process, parents can contact the options team for support by emailing <a href="mailto:options@theregisschool.co.uk">options@theregisschool.co.uk</a>.</p>

# Pathways

At The Regis school, we want our students to be in the best possible position to prepare for their future. They may have a very clear idea of what they want that future to look like, but most students in Year 9 aren't completely sure what direction they want to take yet. This is usual at this stage, so it's important to keep their options open to give them the widest range of opportunities later. They will know which subjects they achieve well in, and those they enjoy. These will be significant factors when choosing their options.

The majority of students will follow one of two pathways that we believe give students the optimum level of guidance and choice when selecting their KS4 options. These are detailed below.

## **Gold pathway:**

Most students will follow the gold pathway and will continue to study an ambitious, balanced, and bespoke curriculum. We encourage students to pursue the EBacc pathway but recognise that this is not always aligned with a student's attainment, interests, and future aspirations. If students on this pathway wish to study the full EBacc they may do so but will need to select a language as part of their option choices as well as History or Geography.

Students on the Gold pathway will study the **core subjects alongside one of: Geography, History, French, Spanish or Computer Science plus three open choices.**

## **Platinum pathway:**

Students selected for this pathway will have the highest prior attainment and will be encouraged to follow what is referred to as The English Baccalaureate.

Students on this pathway will study the **core subjects alongside: Geography and/or History, French and/or Spanish plus two open choices.**

A study by the UCL Institute of Education showed that studying subjects included in the EBacc provides students with greater opportunities in further education and increases the likelihood that a pupil will stay on in full-time education. To support the academic challenge of this pathway, students will also have the opportunity to study Triple Science and/or Further Mathematics.

# **CORE**

# **Subjects**

# GCSE English

## Why should you study English?

Every day we use English to communicate. It is a vital part of our everyday lives and will often create the first impression a person makes on peers, potential employers and colleagues. English develops our skills in communicating ideas, opinions and in discerning what messages any text is conveying to us. Furthermore, English Literature is an important part of our heritage, and it is therefore essential that we study this and understand how our culture, society and language have developed across the centuries. Finally, colleges, universities and most employers expect applicants to have a grade 4 or 5 in English at GCSE level. Many of the skills taught in English will help you to be successful in other subjects too.

## How will you be assessed?

We follow the AQA exam board. Both courses are assessed by exam only.

**English Language** is assessed as follows:

- Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing (1 hour and 45 minutes) 50% of the final GCSE mark
- Paper 2: Writer's viewpoints and Perspectives (1 hour and 45 minutes) 50% of the final GCSE mark

**English Literature** is assessed as follows:

- Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th Century novel (1 hour and 45 minutes) 40% of the total GCSE mark
- Paper 2: Modern Texts and poetry (2 hours and 15 minutes) 60% of the total GCSE mark.



### English goes well with:

- Psychology
- History
- Sociology
- Religious Studies



### Further study opportunities:

- English Literature
- Linguistics
- Creative Writing
- Psychology



### Future career opportunities:

- Lawyer
- Teacher
- Journalist
- Archivist

## What our students say:

'English improves my reading skills which helps me in every subject I study. Without regularly practicing reading new texts, I wouldn't be as confident with crafting my own opinions about what I read in my daily life.'



Lead Teacher:  
Mr. Allen-Brown

Jason.allen-brown@theregisschool.co.uk

# GCSE Maths

## Why you study Maths?

Mathematics tackles the practicalities of everyday living – number, measure, data handling etc, but also enables us to spot patterns, make connections and develop our thinking. Ultimately, by studying mathematics we are able to solve all sorts of problems, both simple and complex.

## How will you be assessed?

There is no coursework for GCSE mathematics. Assessment at present is solely through three external exam papers each worth 80 marks.

- Paper 1 (non-calculator)
- Paper 2 (calculator allowed)
- Paper 3 (calculator allowed)

Level of entry for the GCSE examinations will be based on students' performance in summative assessments, professional judgement and Mock GCSE exam results. There are two tiers of entry:

- Foundation Grades 5-1 are awarded
- Higher Grades 9-4 are awarded.



### Maths goes well with:

- Physics
- Business Studies
- Geography
- Product Design
- Engineering



### Further study opportunities:

- Computer Science
- Chemistry
- Economics
- Psychology
- Engineering



### Future career opportunities:

- Accountant
- Economist
- Software Engineer
- Market Researcher
- Financial Trader

## What our students say:

"I enjoy my Maths lessons because my teacher gives me lots of support and using mini whiteboards lets me practice and not worry if I get stuck. It is interesting seeing the topics link together"



Lead Teacher:

Ms Jewell

Emma.jewell@theregisschool.co.uk

## What will you learn throughout this course?

In Key Stage 3 we follow a programme which embeds and extends core mathematical skills: number, algebra, geometry, and statistics. Our aim is to ensure that our students are achieving skills which are at least age related by the end of Year 8.

Key Stage 4 builds on the skills embedded in Key Stage 3 and uses these as a foundation for GCSE topics. Students will be taught the full GCSE specification following the Edexcel scheme of work.

## What skills do you need to be successful?

- Conscientious
- Logical
- Resilient
- Independent

# GCSE Combined Science

## Why should you study Combined Science?

This course is the standard offer for KS4 science at The Regis School. Most students will follow this path unless they opt to study the Triple Sciences. The combined science course provides an ambitious and balanced curriculum.

Achieving highly in GCSE Science is an excellent way to demonstrate a wide range of skills to support continuing your education post-16.

Combined Science offers you the chance to truly understand the world around you, including experimentation with energy and forces, chemical reactions, and the study of human anatomy & evolution.

## What skills do you need to be successful?

- Critical Thinking
- Problem Solving
- Excellent communication

## How will you be assessed?

At the end of Y11, students will sit six science papers. Two Biology, two Chemistry and two Physics. All papers are of equal weighting.

Each paper lasts 1 hour and 15 mins.

Students will receive two grades, which are calculated based on the combined score of all six papers taken.

## What will you learn throughout this course?

### Biology

Cellular Biology – Organisation – Infection & Response – Bioenergetics – Homeostasis – Inheritance, variation & evolution – Ecology

### Chemistry

Atomic structure & periodic table – Bonding, structure, & the properties of matter – Quantitative chemistry – Chemical changes – Energy changes – Organic chemistry – Chemical analysis – Chemistry of the atmosphere

### Physics

Forces – Energy – Waves – Electricity – Magnetism & electromagnetism – Particle model of matter – Atomic structure.



## Combined Science goes well with:

- Geography
- Engineering
- Maths
- BTEC PE
- Psychology

## Further study opportunities:

- Biomedical Science
- Chemical Engineering
- Environmental Science
- Forensic Science

## Future career opportunities:

- Meteorologist
- Forensic Technician
- Laboratory Manager
- Cartographer

## What our students say:

"I love the variety of topics we do in science. There is always something new and interesting to learn"

"I really enjoy the practical skills we learn in science. They are skills that can help in lots of other subjects too"



**Lead Teacher:**

Ms Stephens

[Michelle.stephens@theregisschool.co.uk](mailto:Michelle.stephens@theregisschool.co.uk)

# Option Subjects

# GCSE Art

## Why should you choose Art?

Independence and creativity have been listed as the highest skill set that global markets have identified as needed from 2025. A GCSE in Art give you both. The creative industries are some of the biggest and fastest growing industries in this country, and there is a lot of money to be made in them!

Visual Arts gives you the opportunity to explore and express your own ideas, with support from the teacher to create individual more personal artworks in a variety of media.

## How will you be assessed?

Portfolio (coursework) 60%

Externally set task (exam project) 40%

Within this, for both parts, you are assessed on 4 assessment objectives that cover the following:

- Recording ideas whether this be through photography, drawing or other media.
- Studying artists and using this to develop ideas of your own.
- Refining ideas by experimenting and trying them out in a controlled way
- Creating a final piece that is backed up by the above.



### Art goes well with:

- History
- Technologies
- Media Studies
- Modern Foreign Language



### Further study opportunities:

- Fine Art
- Illustration
- History of Art
- Graphic Design



### Future career opportunities:

- Architect
- Fashion Design
- Digital Content Creator
- Product Design

## What our students say:

“It's great to be able to explore my own ideas and our teacher encourages us to do things that are brave and different. I like having the opportunity to express myself in different ways”

“I like doing something creative. It's nice to take a break from doing revision or reading, to do something more expressive and less repetitive”

# GCSE Business

## Why should you choose Business Studies?

This is a qualification that is engaging and inspiring. It reflects the demands of a truly modern and evolving business environment which will enable you to develop a commercially and enterprising mind. It covers a huge range of business topics from an exploration of how and why businesses start, moving through to the issues and decisions businesses make as they grow. It contains real life business examples so you can relate to it straight away.

The many transferable skills you'll develop are in high demand, such as communication, decision making, numeracy, presentation and generally understanding how an organisation operates. As a business graduate, you'll have a wide variety of career choices along with the aptitude required to work in any industry.

## How will you be assessed?

There are two written exams in the Summer of Year 11, both 1 hour 45 minutes long, of equal weighting.



## Business Studies goes well with:

- Geography
- Engineering
- Media Studies
- Product Design
- English

## Further study opportunities:

- Management Studies
- Accounting
- Marketing
- Hospitality, Leisure & Tourism

## Future career opportunities:

- Entrepreneurship
- Advertising Executive
- Business Continuity Planner
- Market Research Analyst
- Fundraiser

## What our students say:

"I like this subject because it relates to the real world. I can see that what I am learning will directly help me when I leave school."

"This subject has hugely helped me with my confidence. It makes me put myself out there, something I am not used to doing."



Lead Teacher:

Mr Vassiliou

Vasos.Vassiliou@theregisschool.co.uk

## What will you learn throughout this course?

Theme 1 concentrates on the key business concepts, issues and skills involved in starting and running a small business. It provides a framework for students to explore core concepts through the lens of an entrepreneur setting up a business.

Theme 2 examines how a business develops beyond the start-up phase. It focuses on the key business concepts, issues and decisions used to grow a business, with an emphasis on aspects of marketing, operations, finance and human resources. It also considers the impact of the wider world on the decisions a business makes as it grows.

## What skills do you need to be successful?

- Research Skills
- Numeracy Skills
- Literacy Skills
- Communication Skills
- Creativity

# GCSE Computer Science

## Why should you study Computer Science?

The qualification will build on the knowledge, understanding and skills established through the Computer Science elements of the Key Stage 3 programme of study. The content has been designed not only to allow for a solid basis of understanding but to engage learners and get them thinking about real world application.

Pearson Edexcel GCSE specification in Computer Science encourages you to be inspired, and challenged through completing a coherent, satisfying and worthwhile course of study. The specification will help you to gain an insight into related sectors. It will prepare you to make informed decisions about further learning opportunities and career choices.

## How will you be assessed?

### 50% Paper Exam (1.5 Hours)

This exam is on the principles of computer science and covering knowledge learnt about Hardware and software of computers Computational thinking, Data representation, Networks, Issues and impacts.

### 50% Programming Exam (1.5 Hours)

This exam tests the students in various ways, asking them to identify programming concepts from existing code, Testing and Fixing code that isn't currently working, adding code to existing programs to add functionality and building a program using pseudo code, a flow chart or a project outline.



### Computer Science goes well with:

- Further Maths
- Business Studies
- Engineering
- Physics



### Further study opportunities:

- Engineering
- Robotics
- Aerospace
- Software



### Future career opportunities:

- Web Developer
- Broadcast Engineer
- Cyber Security Analyst
- Games Designer

## What our students say:

“I really enjoy being able to find coding solutions to problems, it is something that has always interested me and it's great that I can study this in school”

“I enjoy learning about how computers actually work and finding solutions to problems”



### Lead Teacher:

Mr Baker

[Matt.Baker@theregisschool.co.uk](mailto:Matt.Baker@theregisschool.co.uk)

# GCSE Design Technology

## Product Design route

### Why should you study Design Technology?

Design Technology is the study of the material world around us. This course develops our students to become responsible designers and creative problem solvers. They can choose whether to work with textiles or resistant materials such as wood and plastic.

### How will you be assessed?

**50% Non-Examined Assessment** - Students produce a design folder by researching a problem and designing a solution before making a prototype of their design.

**50% Exam** Subject content includes core DT theory as well as specialist plastics, timber and theory.

### What skills do you need to be successful?

- A Problem Solver
- Creative & Experimental
- Curiosity in how things work
- Courage and commitment to learning new skills & techniques
- Analytical
- Computer Literate



### Design technology goes well with:

- Art
- Geography
- H&S Care
- Science
- Maths

### Further study opportunities:

- Product Design
- Textiles
- Architecture
- Video Game Design
- Journalism

### Future career opportunities:

- Graphic Designer
- Architect
- Fashion designer
- CAD Technician
- Stylist



### What our students say:

“I enjoy studying product design because it gives us the opportunity to be creative and solve real life problems. Also, I can make projects from different materials, using different machines and equipment which is valuable because I will be able to use the skills in future.”



**Lead Teacher:**  
Mrs Smith

[nicola.smith@theregisschool.co.uk](mailto:nicola.smith@theregisschool.co.uk)

# GCSE Design Technology

## Textiles route

### Why should you study Design Technology?

Design Technology is the study of the material world around us. This course develops our students to become responsible designers and creative problem solvers. They can choose whether to work with textiles or resistant materials such as wood and plastic.

### How will you be assessed?

**50% Non-Examined Assessment** - Students produce a design folder by researching a problem and designing a solution before making a prototype of their design.

**50% Exam** Subject content includes core DT theory as well as specialist plastics, timber and theory.

### What skills do you need to be successful?

- A Problem Solver
- Creative & Experimental
- Curiosity in how things work and what they are made from
- Courage and commitment to learning new skills & techniques
- Analytical
- Computer Literate



### Design technology goes well with: Further study opportunities:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Art</li> <li>• Geography</li> <li>• H&amp;S Care</li> <li>• Science</li> <li>• Maths</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Product Design</li> <li>• Textiles</li> <li>• Architecture</li> <li>• Video Game Design</li> <li>• Journalism</li> </ul>
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### What our students say:

“Studying textiles is one of the best choices I’ve made because it lets me be creative while learning real-world skills. Textiles isn’t just about sewing — it’s about problem-solving, design thinking, and understanding how materials work. Textiles gives me confidence because I can see my progress with every piece I

### What will you learn throughout this course?

**Year 10** DT students quickly develop professional practical skills by sampling a range of cutting, joining and shaping techniques using fabrics. A ‘mock’ NEA design and make task begins later in the Autumn, where students have opportunity to choose an inspirational theme close to their own interests. They will then apply these in the design and manufacture of an interiors OR fashion piece suitable for a client of their choice.

Theoretical content of this GCSE supports understanding of the design work by considering the design process in workshop and industrial scales. Students gain specialised knowledge of materials looking at where they come from and their environmental impact. Industrial practice in the modern World is covered, as well the history of design icons from the past.

The context for the Non-Examined Assessment is set by AQA during the Summer of Year 10 and is completed by the spring of Year 11. Students are challenged to design and make a prototype of a new product that answers issues that are relevant to our modern world. They can guide their work to areas that interest them and could create products with far-reaching uses. This involves a mixture of teacher led activities and independent learning.



### Future career opportunities:

- Graphic Designer
- Architect
- Fashion designer
- CAD Technician
- Stylist



Mrs Smith

**Lead Teacher:** Nicola.smith@theregisschool.co.uk

# GCSE Drama

## Why should you choose Drama?

Drama is fun! But it is also a fantastic subject that will help you with real life skills. It develops communication, creativity, team working skills, public speaking and so much more. Drama prepares you for life! Though we do lots of performance, there are also opportunities to go down other routes. Maybe you're really interested in lighting, sound or costume. In Drama, you work hard but it's great fun! Every lesson is active and exploratory. You get to create your own work as well as work on scripted pieces. We also have regular trips to the theatre and take part in workshops led by industry professionals. If you liked Drama in Year 9, wait until you get to Year 10! It's the best!

## What will you learn throughout this course?

You will explore different types of performance and techniques and learn how to create your own drama pieces. As well as this you will discover a range of new and exciting scripts that you will explore performing.

Drama students don't just learn about the skills of acting but they also get a taste for backstage, learning skills in lighting, sound, set and costume design. Some students will also explore directing.

This course is 40% practical and 60% written meaning there will also be written tasks you will need to complete. Some of this is in the form of coursework and some in the form of a written exam.



### Drama goes well with:

- Media Studies
- English
- Psychology
- Music

### Further study opportunities:

- Performing Arts
- Law
- Psychology
- English
- Drama Therapy

## What our students say:

'I love Drama. It's my favourite subject. It's so much fun! You get to do loads of different stuff and we've already been to the theatre. It's great. You should do it.'



### Future career opportunities:

- Actor/Designer
- Drama Therapist
- Script Writer
- Editor/Producer



**Lead Teacher:** Mrs Ward

Grace.ward@theregisschool.co.uk

# GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition

## Why should you study Food P&N?

Food Preparation and Nutrition is suitable for any student who is passionate about food and who enjoys working with a range of ingredients to cook and create new recipes. Studying FP&N allows students to acquire the knowledge that will enable them to make informed decisions about food and nutrition in order to feed themselves and others affordably and nutritiously, now and later in life.

This course helps students develop their creativity. They often excel in food preparation, achieving high levels of practical skills and understanding of a range of techniques. Food provenance, the working characteristics of ingredients and their scientific properties are also important theoretical elements.

## How will you be assessed?

**Non-Examined Assessment 1 - 15%** A food science investigation exploring the chemical properties of foods.

**Non-Examined Assessment 2 - 35%** Food preparation assessment - themes often include multicultural dishes, life stages and specific dietary needs.

**Written Examination - 50%**

## What skills do you need to be successful?

- Organisation & Time Management
- Creative & Experimental
- A love of food and culture
- Commitment to learning new skills & techniques

## What will you learn throughout this course?

Food Preparation and Nutrition focuses on the importance of nutrition, exploring the link between diet, well-being and health. Students will learn how to carry out nutritional profiling of the food they have made, allowing them to modify dishes to comply with current government health advice.

Students will learn how to plan, prepare, cook and present wide range of dishes to restaurant standard. They will become competent in a range of cooking techniques, for example; applying heat in different ways, making and shaping pastry, pasta and bread dough and setting proteins with heat through coagulation. They will develop awareness of taste, texture and smell to decide how to season dishes, combine ingredients and adapt recipes.

Students will study moral, ethical, social and sustainability issues involving the food industry as well as seasonality. They will learn about elements of the food industry, from sensory testing to health and hygiene.

Students are expected to be organised and **provide ingredients for regular practical lessons**. Demonstrating a range of high-level food preparation skills is essential to successfully complete the NEA elements of the course. However, individual circumstances will be taken onto consideration and supported by the department.



## Food P&N goes well with:

- Science
- Business Studies

“I really enjoy Food Prep because I know I am learning really useful life skills. I am learning new cooking and presentation skills and the food science lessons help me understand how recipes work”

## Further study opportunities:

- Food Technology
- Food Nutrition

## Future career opportunities:

- Dietician
- Product Researcher
- Food Marketing
- Culinary Management



# GCSE French

## Why should you choose French?

A GCSE in a Modern Foreign Language will ensure that you leave school with a new skill for life alongside an understanding of the culture and history of Francophone countries. Studying a new language provides a deeper insight into your own language, boosting your literacy and comprehension skills, both of which will be essential when applying for further study, jobs or apprenticeships. With French being a native language to France, Belgium, Switzerland, Canada and the French Caribbean, as well as an official language across Africa and Asia, your GCSE could lead to international travel and will certainly strengthen your CV when applying for jobs that involve communicating with clients and companies internationally or working within the travel industry. You will have the opportunity to study aspects from a diverse range of subjects in French, from Sociology to History and Literature, with the freedom to choose the topic that you are most interested in when completing the Speaking assessment. Language learners are risk takers as there are many grammatical, pronunciation and cultural mistakes to be made along the way, however the result is a transferable communication skill for life and a cultural appreciation which helps us to better understand the global, multicultural world that we live in.

At The Regis School we strongly recommend and encourage students to study one modern foreign language. Students will only be able to opt for the language they have studied in Years 7, 8 and 9 to ensure that they have the necessary skills and vocabulary knowledge to complete the GCSE.

## What will you learn throughout this course?

Whereas in Years 7, 8 and 9 pupils are introduced to the vocabulary and grammar basics needed to talk about a variety of GCSE topics, in Year 10 pupils are in a position to have more detailed and spontaneous discussions, showing an increased sophistication in their use of tenses, opinions and justifications. Pupils will explore questions ranging from “what do celebrations look like around the world” to more divisive debates such as “should Smartphones be banned at school, as they have been in France?” Opportunities are planned for pupils to practise the four skills of Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking alongside the taught content, grammar and translation.

## How will you be assessed?

There are 2 possible tiers of entry:

Foundation (grades 1-5) and Higher (grades 4-9)  
Listening, speaking, reading and writing are assessed separately by external exams at the end of the course. Each skill is worth 25% of the final grade. The speaking exam will be set and marked by the exam board but carried out by the class teacher.

## What skills do you need to be successful?

- Curiosity for other cultures and ways of experiencing the world
- Problem Solving
- Resilience when faced with new challenges
- Organisation
- Ability to independently research



### French goes well with:

- History
- Drama
- Sociology
- Psychology



### Further study opportunities:

- Travel & Tourism
- Linguistics
- European Studies
- French Studies

### Future career opportunities:

- Translator/Interpreter
- Travel Industry
- Publisher
- Content Creator

## What our students say:

“I really enjoy French. It’s nice to study something that I can see myself using in the future.”

“I enjoyed GCSE so much, I decided to take French further to A Level”



### Lead Teacher:

Ms Jones

[Sarah.jones@theregisschool.co.uk](mailto:Sarah.jones@theregisschool.co.uk)

# GCSE Geography

## Why should you study Geography?

Geography is everywhere; it teaches you about people, places and the natural and built environment; it also considers the challenges that arise when the relationship between people and their environment is unsustainable. Geography is rich and unique in that you study both social science, such as population and development, but also allows you to delve into earth science through the study of the physical landscapes such as rivers, coasts and plate tectonics.

How has globalisation created a sense of a 'shrinking world'? *How am I contributing to climate change through my everyday actions?* How are we going to feed the world's rapidly expanding population? *Why are some countries miles ahead in development, whilst others find themselves stuck?* What are our industries doing to the environment and what is being done to protect it? *What is happening to the overcrowded mega-cities of the world?* What are we dumping in the world's oceans? *How will we ensure enough clean water for our future?* How can people respond to natural hazards such as flooding and hurricanes?

Geography creates global citizens, something that is essential to life in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Global citizens are people who are able to think geographically, seeing how interlinked the world is, who are conscious of the consequences to the actions of continued human consumption, and know the steps needed to create a positive contribution to the world, both locally and globally.



### Geography goes well with:

- Biology
- History
- Sociology
- Languages



### Further study opportunities:

- Economics
- Agriculture
- Travel & Tourism
- Conservation



### Future career opportunities:

- Environmental Scientist
- Urban Planner
- Sustainability Consultant
- Market Researcher

## What our students say:

"Geography brings all elements of our world together, allowing us to look at what our future looks like and how we can impact it"



### Lead Teachers:

Ms Robinson

Katie.Robinson@theregisschool.co.uk

Ms Pellegrino

Laura.Pellegrino@theregisschool.co.uk

## What will you learn throughout this course?

You will study both the physical and human environment as well deepening your knowledge and understanding of the world around you by looking at current challenges such as migration and climate change.

- Physical topics include tectonic and atmospheric hazards, the changing nature of the natural landscape, and the threats certain biomes face through natural and human processes.
- Human topics include the opportunities and challenges faced by an ever-growing, ever urbanising world, and the factors which encourage or hinder development on local and global scales.
- Fieldwork and Geographical Skills – all students have to complete two days of fieldtrips and they will study a human and a physical environment. There is a small cost attached to this fieldwork, with the trips being a compulsory element of the course.

## How will you be assessed?

Paper 1: Global Geographical Issues

Paper 2: UK Geographical Issues

Paper 3: People and Environment Issues- Making Geographical Decisions.

*Each paper is 1hr 30 minutes long.*

## What skills do you need to be successful?

- Critical Thinking & Decision Making
- An Inquisitive Mind, interest in current affairs
- Conscientious & self aware

# BTEC Health & Social Care

## Why should you choose Health & Social Care?

Health and Social Care (HSC) is a subject that opens up a plethora of career options and is a completely new subject that you will not have had the opportunity to study before!

If you're interested in going into a career in care, childcare, the emergency services, medical profession or are just generally interested in health, H&SC is the subject for you.

Students will also be able to complete 30% of their HSC qualification in year 10 as it is a BTEC subject which relieves some of the pressure in year 11.

## What skills do you need to be successful?

- Good Writing Skills
- Problem Solving
- Inquisitive
- Resilient



### H&SC goes well with:

- English
- PE
- History
- Sociology
- Psychology



### Further study opportunities:

- Midwifery
- Early Childhood Practice
- Health & Social Care
- Nursing
- Social Science



### Future career opportunities:

- Social Worker
- Emergency Service Worker
- Nursery Worker
- Health Visitor



## What our students say:

“Health and Social Care is a great subject that has helped me to think about different career options I would like to pursue once I leave TRS. The lessons can be interactive and there are lots of opportunities to use the computers to research further into the subjects we are studying.”

Jemima.lawrence@theregisschool.co.uk

**Lead Teacher:**  
Miss Lawrence

# GCSE History

## Why should you choose History?

The study of history helps us to make sense of our dynamic and interconnected world. Studying history helps students to understand the complexity of people's lives, the process of change, the diversity of societies and relationships between different groups, as well as their own identity and the challenges of their time. History is a GCSE that is highly respected by both employers and colleges. The development of knowledge, analytical and literacy skills to present information can be applied to a wide variety of college courses and jobs.

## What skills do you need to be successful?

Essay writing skills-to be able to write extended responses which use specific fact to show understanding of the past and make substantiated judgements.

Chronological thinking, which is the ability to understand, organize and write in detail about events in chronological order.

Historical comprehension, the ability to read, understand and write about a range of interpretations and primary sources.

Historical analysis and interpretation, which is the ability to evaluate, compare different interpretations about past and then write about the differences.



### History goes well with:

- English
- Drama
- Sociology
- Religious Studies



### Further study opportunities:

- English Literature
- Economics
- Philosophy & Ethics
- Psychology



### Future career opportunities:

- Lawer
- Teacher
- Journalist
- Archivist



**Lead Teacher:**  
Mrs Challen

[Lynne.challen@theregisschool.co.uk](mailto:Lynne.challen@theregisschool.co.uk)

## What our students say:

"I really enjoy studying history because the content is relevant to what is happening in the world today. The Cold War unit has been particularly interesting because it links to events in the Ukraine"

# GCSE Music

## Why should you choose Music?

If you already play an instrument or sing, you can develop your skills whilst working towards a GCSE. If you already enjoy writing your own music or songs, you can use this ability and experience towards your GCSE. If you are a creative person who wants to learn to make music this course will give you that chance. If you love listening to music, and can spot all the details, sing every riff and “air-drum” every beat you have already developed some of the abilities you need.

## What skills do you need to be successful?

- The ability to play an instrument or sing to grade 3 standard.
- Imagination & Creativity
- Enjoy listening to different styles of music.
- Determination & Commitment

## What will you learn throughout this course?

You will develop valuable knowledge, practical skills and a wider understanding of the music performance and songwriting. The course will allow you to develop your skills through practical and creative application in a vocational context.



### Music goes well with:

- Media Studies
- English
- Drama
- Psychology

### What our students say:

“Music is so much fun! We get to learn how to create music using different software as well as performance opportunities”

### Further study opportunities:

- BTEC National Extended Certificate in Music
- Music Business
- Songwriting
- Sound Engineering

### Future career opportunities:

- Journalism
- Composer
- Performer
- Arranger

### Lead Teacher:

Mrs Boyes

[Tracey.boyes@theregisschool.co.uk](mailto:Tracey.boyes@theregisschool.co.uk)



# GCSE Psychology

## Why should you choose Psychology?

Explore the world of Psychology and discover the intricacies of human behaviour, mental processes, and social interactions. GCSE Psychology provides a comprehensive introduction to this intriguing subject, equipping you with the knowledge and skills to understand the complex workings of the human mind.

Psychology is gaining widespread recognition as an essential subject, with its popularity evident in GCSE enrolments. In recent years, the number of students taking GCSE Psychology has surged by over 50%, demonstrating a growing interest in the field. Choosing GCSE Psychology opens doors to a multitude of university courses. This subject is highly regarded by Universities, due to its reputation for critical thinking, analytical skills, and an interest in human behaviour.

Psychology is a stimulating and challenging subject that will stretch your intellectual abilities. Students will delve into scientific research, evaluate evidence, and form reasoned conclusions.

A GCSE in Psychology can pave the way for a diverse range of career paths. From counselling and therapy, to research and education, to data and analysis, this subject provides a solid foundation for various professional endeavours.

## What skills do you need to be successful?

- A scientifically and mathematically minded, with an understanding of anatomy & human mind.
- Critical thinking and Analytical skills
- Resilience and Perseverance



### Psychology goes well with:

- History
- English
- Biology
- Religious Studies



### Further study opportunities:

- Psychology
- Law
- Anthropology
- Politics



### Future career opportunities:

- Social Worker
- Psychiatrist
- Public Relations
- Human Resources

## What our students say:

"The topics are engaging and relevant to me, making learning Psychology both enjoyable but informative. Whilst there is a lot of information, I really enjoy the level of challenge in this subject."

## What will you learn throughout this course?

- **Development:** Understand stages of human growth and factors that shape us.
- **Memory:** Learn processes of memory, from encoding and storage to retrieval and accuracy.
- **Psychological Problems:** Explore addiction and depression, understanding causes, symptoms, and treatments.
- **Brain and Neuropsychology:** Investigate the brain's structure and function, exploring the impact of neurological conditions.
- **Social Influence:** Discover how social context influences our thoughts, beliefs, and behaviours.
- **Criminal Psychology:** Examine the causes of crimes and rehabilitation methods.
- **Sleep and Dreaming:** Understand the significance of sleep and dreams, understanding their influence and influencing factors.
- **Research Methods:** Enhance critical thinking skills by learning how psychologists design, conduct, and interpret research.

## How will you be assessed?

**Paper 1** - 1 hour and 45 minutes - 55% of the qualification

The topics assessed in Paper 1 are: Development, Memory, Psychological Problems, Brain and Neuropsychology, and Social Influence

**Paper 2** - 1 hour and 20 minutes - 45% of the qualification

The topics assessed in Paper 2 are: Criminal Psychology, Sleep and Dreaming, and Research Methods

**Lead Teachers:** Mr Potts  
[Michael.potts@theregisschool.co.uk](mailto:Michael.potts@theregisschool.co.uk)  
 Mrs James  
[Connie.James@theregisschool.co.uk](mailto:Connie.James@theregisschool.co.uk)

# GCSE Religious Studies

## Why should you choose Religious Studies?

Religious Studies has become increasingly popular at TRS with more and more students opting to take it at GCSE. Not only are there more students taking RS GCSE, but students who take Religious Studies tend to do very well in it – RS results are always among the best in the school on results day.

One reason for this is that RS is a very accessible GCSE – there are only 1, 4, 6 and 12 mark questions in the exam papers, which makes learning exam technique much easier. Students tend to feel confident in exams and know what is expected of them.

Also, RS is such an engaging subject. In RS we explore major ethical and philosophical questions like 'Is there a God?', 'Is the death penalty ever acceptable?', 'Is there life after death?', 'Why do we punish criminals?', and 'Should religious believers help the poor?'

RS is also a very relevant subject. RS will help you to better understand English, Geography, History, Politics and Sociology, as well as give you a deeper appreciation of books, TV, film, music and contemporary culture.

RS also benefits us as individuals. RS gives us the opportunity to develop empathy, compassion and critical thinking as we study lives and beliefs sometimes very different to our own.

## What skills do you need to be successful?

- Organisation
- Curiosity, Open minded and non-judgmental
- Engaged in the world around us and a willingness to learn



### RS goes well with:

- History
- Geography
- Sociology
- Art

## What our students say:

'I love taking GCSE RE – the topics are so interesting and I love getting to learn about so many different religions and big topics'

## How will you be assessed?

At the end of Year 11 we sit two papers:

The Study of Religions (Paper 1)

Thematic Studies (Paper 2).

There are five question types which are repeated throughout each paper:

- 1 mark multiple choice questions,
- 1 mark 'Give one...' questions,
- 4 and 6 mark question which ask you to 'Explain two...' religious beliefs,
- 12 mark questions. This 12 mark questions always involve a contentious statement (E.g. 'There is no God') which we evaluate.

## What will you learn throughout this course?

Religious Studies GCSE is split into two sections.

The first is the study of religions. In this part of the course we study the religions of Islam and Christianity to a greater depth than in KS3. For each religion we examine their beliefs and practices.

The second section is thematic studies. In this part of the course we look at religious approaches to particular 'themes', including life and death, ethical issues such as abortion and euthanasia, relationships and families, crime and punishment, human rights and social justice.



### Further study opportunities:

- Philosophy & Ethics
- Law
- Anthropology
- Politics



### Future career opportunities:

- Journalist
- Human Resources
- Social Worker
- Aid Worker

## Lead Teacher:

Mr May

Jonathan.may@theregisschool.co.uk

# GCSE Triple Science

## Why should you study Triple Science?

Triple Science is a fantastic option for those students on the platinum pathway who have a passion and interest for Science. It will give you the opportunity to study specific areas of Science in more depth which is great preparation for those wanting to study the Sciences at A level and beyond.

## What will you learn throughout this course?

You will learn all the same content as the Combined Science cohort in addition to the following:

### Biology:

- The brain and the eye
- Homeostasis in action (kidney)
- Theories of evolution (Lamarck vs Darwin)
- Food security

### Chemistry:

- Organic reactions (alcohols, carboxylic acids, esters)
- Polymers
- Using our resources (fertilisers, allows)

### Physics:

- Nuclear fission and nuclear fusion
- Force and pressure
- Ultrasound and seismic waves
- Light (reflection, refraction, lenses)
- Space



## Triple Science goes well with:

- Further Maths
- Psychology
- BTEC PE
- Geography

## Further study opportunities:

- Engineering
- Medicine
- Forensic Science
- Pharmacy
- Astrophysics

## Future career opportunities:

- Doctor
- Astrophysicist
- Marine biologist

## What our students say:

“I really enjoy studying human Biology in more detail and learning all about medical treatments such as dialysis”

“I love the variety of topics we do in science. There is always something new and interesting to learn”



**Lead Teacher:**  
Ms Stephens

[Michelle.stephens@theregisschool.co.uk](mailto:Michelle.stephens@theregisschool.co.uk)

# GCSE Spanish

## Why should you choose Spanish?

A GCSE in a Modern Foreign Language will ensure that you leave school with a new skill for life, alongside an understanding of the culture and history of Spanish-speaking countries. Studying a new language provides a deeper insight into your own language, boosting your literacy and comprehension skills, both of which are essential when applying for further study, jobs or apprenticeships. With Spanish being a native language in Spain and across Latin America, your GCSE could lead to international travel and employment opportunities within the travel industry and will certainly strengthen your CV when applying for jobs that involve communicating with international clients, companies, and organisations. You will have the opportunity to study aspects from a diverse range of subjects in Spanish, from Sociology to History and Literature, with the freedom to choose the topic that you are most interested in when completing the Speaking assessment. Language learners are risk takers as there are many grammatical, pronunciation and cultural mistakes to be made along the way, however the result is a transferable communication skill for life and a cultural appreciation which helps us to better understand the global, multicultural world that we live in.

At The Regis School we strongly recommend and encourage students to study one modern foreign language. Students will only be able to opt for the language they have studied in years 7, 8 and 9, to ensure that they have the necessary skills and vocabulary knowledge to complete the GCSE



### Spanish goes well with:

- History
- Drama
- Sociology
- Psychology



### Further study opportunities:

- Travel & Tourism
- Linguistics
- European Studies
- Spanish Studies



### Future career opportunities:

- Translator/Interpreter
- Travel Industry
- Publisher
- Content Creator

## What our students say:

“Spanish has really become my passion. The lessons are so fun - I learn helpful and useful phrases easily through group activities, vocab quizzes, and even learning songs!”

“I love that I am not only learning to speak Spanish, but I am learning about the culture too.”

## What will you learn throughout this course?

Whereas in years 7, 8 and 9 students are introduced to the vocabulary and grammar basics needed to talk about a variety of GCSE topics, in year 10, students are in a position to have more detailed and spontaneous discussions, showing an increased sophistication in their use of tenses, opinions and justifications. Students will explore topics ranging from global issues such as ‘climate change & the environment’ to more divisive debates such as ‘should bullfighting be viewed as an important cultural tradition, or animal cruelty.’ Students practise the four skills of Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking, alongside the taught content, grammar and translation.

## How will you be assessed?

There are 2 possible tiers of entry:

Foundation (grades 1-5) and Higher (grades 4-9) Listening, speaking, reading and writing are assessed separately by external exams at the end of the course. Each skill is worth 25% of the final grade. The speaking exam will be set and marked by the exam board, but carried out by the class teacher.

## What skills do you need to be successful?

- Curiosity for other cultures and ways of experiencing the world
- Problem Solving
- Resilience when faced with new challenges
- Organisation
- Ability to independently research



### Lead Teacher:

Mr Ramirez

Raul.Ramirez@theregisschool.co.uk

# BTEC Sport

## Why should you choose BTEC Sport?

You will explore three exciting units that allow participants to apply learnt knowledge and skills to a variety of relevant vocational contexts.

The first unit explores the different types of sport and physical activities, the barriers to participation in sport and ways to overcome these barriers. You will also research the equipment and technological advances in these chosen sports and investigate how this impacts participation in various sporting sectors.

In the second unit, you will investigate the components of fitness and their effect on sporting performance, take part in practical sport and analyse the roles and responsibilities of officials in sport. Throughout the unit, you will also develop your own sports leadership skills by planning, organising, and leading sporting drills and activities to improve other participants' sporting performance.

In the final unit, you will develop your knowledge of the positive effects of physical exercise on the human body along with the importance of regular fitness testing. You will also develop your knowledge of anatomy and physiology and the positive impact of sport and fitness on the human body.



### Sport goes well with:

- Biology
- Psychology
- Business Studies
- English



### Further study opportunities:

- Sports Performance
- Sports Education
- Sport & Exercise Science
- Sports Management



### Future career opportunities:

- Sports Coaching
- Personal Trainer
- Physiotherapy
- Sports Journalism

## What our students say:

"I like that BTEC sport deepens my understanding of the importance of a healthy and active lifestyle. I also like that it gives me a chance to develop my leadership skills."



### Lead Teacher:

Mr James

[Alistair.James@theregisschool.co.uk](mailto:Alistair.James@theregisschool.co.uk)

## What will you learn throughout this course?

Pupils will have the opportunity to develop applied knowledge and skills in the following areas:

- Investigating provisions for sport including equipment and facilities to enhance sport.
- Planning and delivery of sport drills and sessions and develop their own practical sporting performance.
- Fitness for sport including fitness testing and methodology.

## How will you be assessed?

The BTEC Tech in Sport qualification is made up of three components. Components 1 and 2 are assessed through non-exam internal assessments. Component 3 is a 1hour 30min exam that is externally assessed and completed at the end of the qualification.

## What skills do you need to be successful?

- Resilient
- Motivated
- Leadership
- Organised
- Passion for sport and physical health

# GCSE PE

## Why should you choose GCSE PE?

Studying GCSE Physical Education will open your eyes to the exciting world of sports performance. Not only will you have the opportunity to take part in three different sports as part of the non-exam practical assessment, but you will also develop a broad understanding of the how and why behind physical activity and sport.

The combination of the physical performance and academic challenge provides an exciting opportunity for students. You can perform, and then through the academic study learn how to improve your performance through application of the theory.

Physical Education is learned about through a range of different contexts and the impact it has on both ours and other's everyday lives. You will learn the reasons why we do things, why some people outperform others, mentally and physically. You will also delve into the ethical considerations behind the use of drugs and gain an understanding of the consequences of inactivity and poor diet.

## What skills do you need to be successful?

- Resilient
- Motivated
- Organised
- Passion for sport and physical health



### Sport goes well with:

- Biology
- Psychology
- Business Studies
- English



### Further study opportunities:

- Sports Performance
- Sports Education
- Sport & Exercise Science
- Sports Management



### Future career opportunities:

- Sports Coaching
- Personal Trainer
- Physiotherapy
- Sports Journalism

## What our students say:

"I like that GCSE PE allows me to be practically assessed in sport. I really like that I have to develop both a team and an individual sport to ensure I get the very best outcome. I love that the theory is used and applied throughout the practical lessons to help me see and do it practically too!..."



**Lead Teacher:**  
Mr James

[Alistair.James@theregisschool.co.uk](mailto:Alistair.James@theregisschool.co.uk)

# Frequently asked questions:

## Which subjects/courses are not optional?

All students in Key Stage 4 study a suite of core subjects:

- GCSE English Language
- GCSE English Literature
- GCSE Mathematics
- GCSE Science
- Core RE (not examined)
- Core PE (not examined)
- PSHCE (not examined)

## What is the English Baccalaureate, or 'EBacc'?

Whilst not a qualification, the EBacc is a set of subjects which keep young people's options open for further study, future careers and allows students to select a breadth of qualifications appropriate for their stage in school.

The EBacc qualification consists of English Literature; English Language; mathematics; science; history or geography alongside French or Spanish.

We feel that if students *can* take the EBacc they should and therefore a number of students have been selected to follow the Platinum pathway as part of their options process. Students that have not been pre-selected for this pathway can still study the EBacc by simply selecting the appropriate combination on their options form. If a student has been pre-selected for the Platinum pathway and, with parents, wishes to discuss this pathway further, we are happy to facilitate this.

## What is the difference between a BTEC qualification and a traditional GCSE?

BTEC qualifications offer a more skills-based approach to learning compared with traditional GCSEs. While GCSEs focus on academic study and formal exams across a wide range of subjects, BTECs allow students to learn through real-world projects and coursework in specific areas such as business or health and social care. Both routes are well-respected by colleges and employers, and many students successfully choose a combination of GCSEs and BTECs to suit their interests, strengths, and future ambitions.

GCSE	BTEC
The General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE) is an academic qualification in a particular subject.	BTECs can be more practical, specialist courses that are focused on a specific industry or job area.
They focus on studying the theory of subjects with written and some practical work.	BTECs tend to involve coursework and are assessed via a mix of project-based assessments, as well as written tests, online assessments, and exams.
Studies for GCSE examinations usually take place over a period of two academic years starting in Year 10 for most students, with exams being sat at the end of Year 11.	There are assessment windows across the two academic years, rather than one final window.

## Will my child definitely get the subjects they have chosen?

It is important to note that whilst we will make every effort to give students their first-choice subjects, this may not always be possible due to class sizes and timetable constraints. If this should occur, students will automatically be placed in their reserve option. To support this process students will be asked to select one reserve subject.

## Are there any subjects, or combinations, my child can't do?

All students have entitlement to study any of the courses we have on offer. Where there are genuine concerns about a student's suitability for a particular course, we will have an open discussion with you about this to ensure all students are supported in their ambitions.

Please note, students cannot select to study both the Product Design and Textiles routes of Design Technology as these are the same qualification and are likely to be taught together.

## How do we submit option choices?

Students will receive an email on **26<sup>th</sup> February 2026**. This email will contain information and guidance along with a link to an electronic form where students can submit their options choices. It is important that parents and students discuss this selection before submitting the form. It can be very difficult for us to facilitate changes at a later date, so please do not rush this process. There is no advantage to submitting the form earlier than others.

## When do I have to submit my child's choices by?

The electronic form will need to be completed by **3pm on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2026**.

## I have no access to emails/have not received an email with a link to the form. What do I do?

If for any reason you do not receive an email with a link to the options form, please contact the options team at [options@theregisschool.co.uk](mailto:options@theregisschool.co.uk). If you are unable to complete the form from home, you can:

- 1) Complete using the computers in the school Hub.
- 2) Call and speak to your child's Head of Year or Director of Year who can complete and submit for you.

## What happens if we miss the deadline for submitting the options form?

If an options form is not submitted by the deadline, we will try to 'mop up' the missing forms. If this is not possible, we will select a student's options for them based on them maintaining an ambitious and balanced curriculum, their performance in subjects throughout KS3 and their attitude to learning grades. Please note there is no advantage to submitting a form early BUT late forms could result in a student not being able to study their preferred option choices.

## I feel unsure how to best guide my child through this important process, where can I get support?

We recognise that at this point your child may not be clear about their future career goals and aspirations and so our intention is to set students up with the best possible suite of qualifications which doesn't narrow their curriculum too early and limit choices as they reach the end of their GCSE studies.

Please seek out support during options evening or if you would like to discuss any aspect of the options process further, please contact us directly via [options@theregisschool.co.uk](mailto:options@theregisschool.co.uk), requesting support and someone will get in touch.

# Key Contacts

Useful Contact	Email Address
Year 9 Options Team	<a href="mailto:options@theregisschool.co.uk">options@theregisschool.co.uk</a>
Year 9 Director of Year	Jodie.Ship@theregisschool.co.uk
Assistant Principal for KS3	Misha.Bedassie@theregisschool.co.uk

Students who need **subject specific** support should email their **class teacher** in the first instance or the subject lead. Details of **subject leads** can be found on our website at [www.theregisschool.co.uk/contact-us-directions/all-staff-contact](http://www.theregisschool.co.uk/contact-us-directions/all-staff-contact).

If a student needs **general support**, they should contact their **tutor**, who will either support them directly or put them in contact with another member of staff.

## Contact Details

The Regis School  
Westloats Lane  
Bognor Regis  
West Sussex PO21 5LH



Main Switchboard - 01243 871 010



[www.theregisschool.co.uk](http://www.theregisschool.co.uk)

