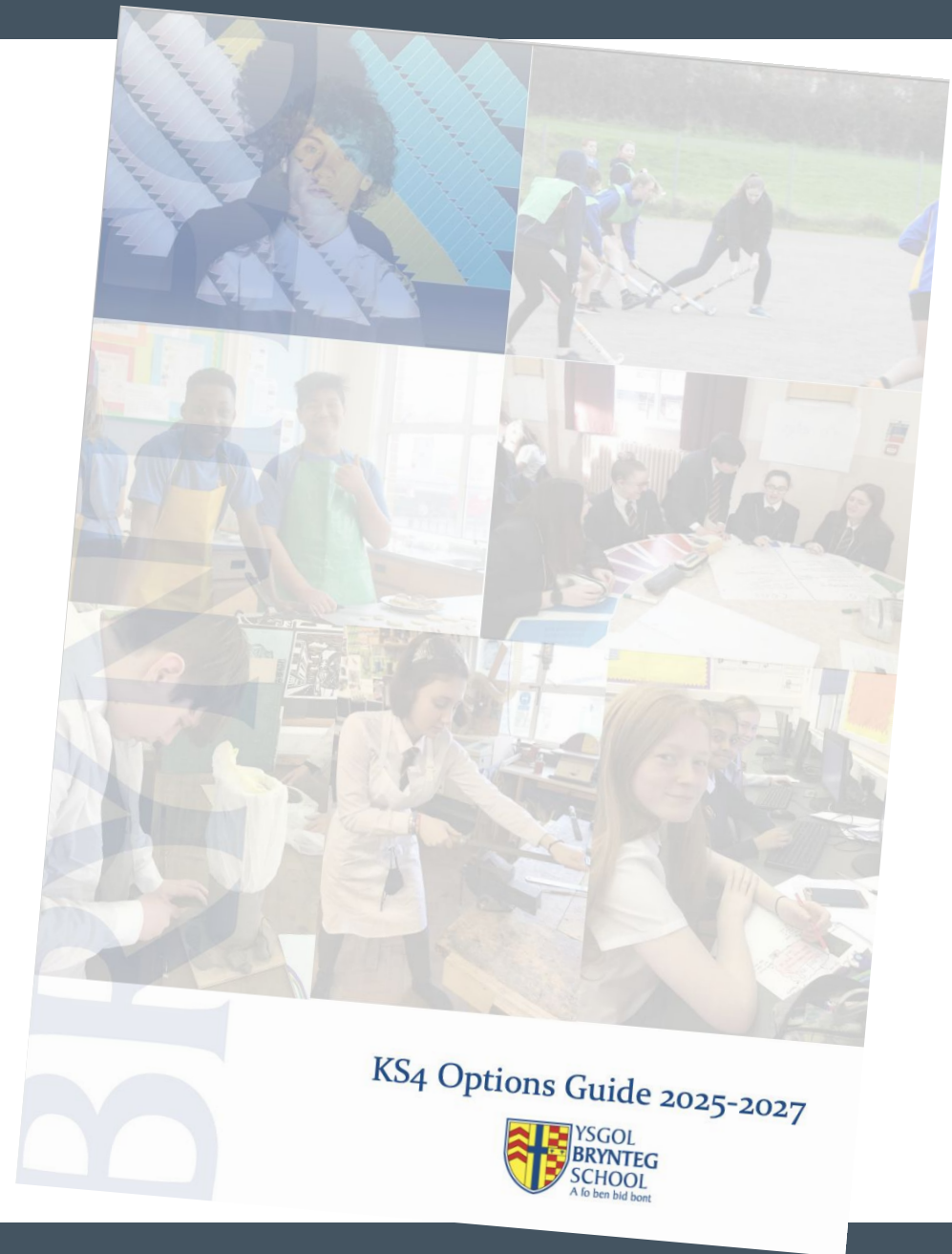


Year 9 Options Process

Meeting with Parents and Carers

Thursday 12th February, 2026



KS4 Options Guide 2025-2027



In 5 years, what would you like to be doing?



Your options choices can help you build the pathway to get there!

WHAT WILL THE CURRICULUM LOOK LIKE NEXT YEAR?

You will study

English Language and English Literature

Mathematics and Numeracy

Double Science

Core Religion and Values

Welsh Second Language

Skills Challenge Certificate (Welsh Baccalaureate)

Physical Education/Games

Three other option subjects

What options subjects do we offer?

- Textiles
- Art
- Photography
- Drama
- Performing Arts
- Music
- History
- Geography
- Philosophy and Ethics
- Social Studies
- Business Studies
- PE
- Leadership through sport
- Hospitality and Catering
- Health, social and childcare
- Uniformed Public Services
- French
- Spanish
- Triple Science
- Engineering
- Product Design
- Digital Technology
- Computer Science
- Dance

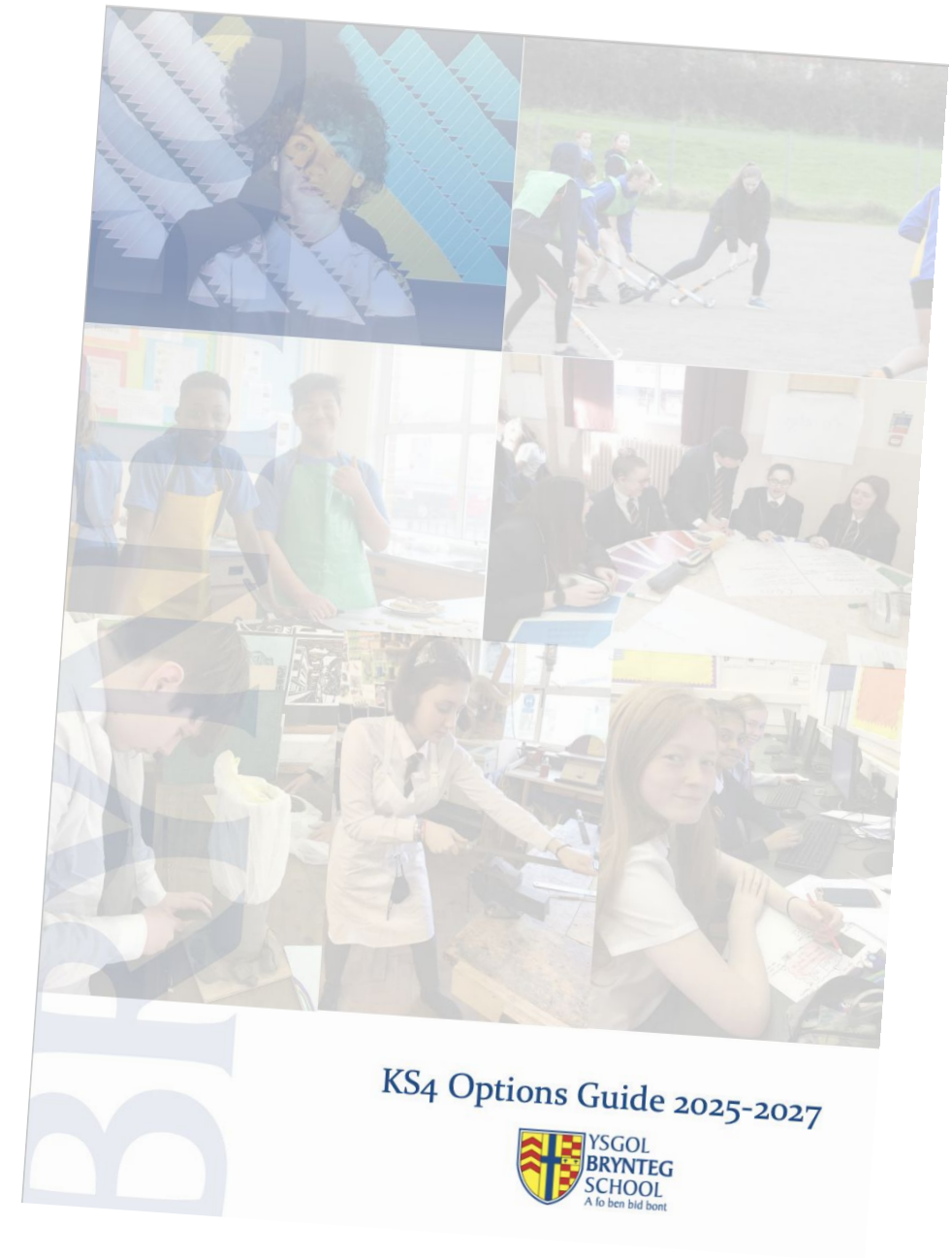
WJEC GCSE	BTEC (Vocational Qualification)
Grades – A* - G	Pass, Merit, Distinction
Mixture of final exams and controlled assessment/coursework	Mainly coursework and projects (some externally assessed units)

Progression

Both qualifications:

- Are nationally recognised
- Contribute to school performance measures
- Can lead to Post-16 study, apprenticeships, or employment

Everything will be explained in the options booklet you will receive after half term



Pathways

We have developed a number of different pathways tailored to the learning needs of our pupils.

Your child's options choice booklet will present the pathway we think will provide the most appropriate level of challenge and lead them to the greatest success at the end of Year 11.

Option Columns - example

Your child will choose ONE subject from each column.

Option A	Option B	Option C
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Subject A• Subject B• Subject C• Subject D• Subject E• Subject F	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Subject G• Subject H• Subject I• Subject J• Subject K• Subject L• Subject M	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Subject N• Subject O• Subject P• Subject Q• Subject R

Option Columns - example

Option A	Option B	Option C
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Subject A● Subject B● Subject C● Subject D● Subject E● Subject F	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Subject G● Subject H● Subject I● Subject J● Subject K● Subject L● Subject M	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Subject N● Subject O● Subject P● Subject Q● Subject R

5 hours per fortnight

5 hours per fortnight

5 hours per fortnight

Subject Pages

A1	
Subject	Art and Design
Exam Board	WJEC
Qualification	GCSE



Course Content:

Pupils explore the concept of "Identity" for the 60% portfolio and work is produced in an A3 sketchbook; this will include work from the year 9 course, technique experimentation, design, artist research and analysis. A broad spectrum of disciplines ranging from drawing and painting, ceramic, digital and print work to three dimensional studies are explored at various stages in the development of the portfolio. A wide variety of experience is encouraged and tasks are set relating to personal objects, portraits and locations of significance to the pupil. Students are encouraged to adopt a personal approach and interpretation to their work and to generate their own ideas as far as possible. Typically, a pupil will complete a print, a ceramic and a painting or digital outcome.

Examination

This is an externally set, timed examination, comprising of a number of themes and tasks from which candidates choose one question. The paper is issued in January of Year 11 and a period of 10 weeks is allowed for research and preparation before the practical exam is started. The exam is a 10 hr session spread over 2 school days when pupils produce an artwork resulting from their research and design work.

Assessment:

Marks are allocated with the following weighting:
Portfolio-60% Exam - 40%

All work is internally assessed before May, and then externally moderated in June. Regular folio reviews are conducted throughout the course.

Progression:

GCSE provides an ideal platform for progressing onto AS/A2 level. After A level many opportunities exist within the field of Art and Design and this is seen as an excellent creative course that develops pupils' ability to design, develop ideas and pursue individual ideas. Many of our former pupils have achieved very successful careers in areas as diverse as Graphic Design (Package Design, Advertising, Illustration, Photography) Architecture, Product Design, Fashion, TV and Theatre Design, Ceramics, Interior Design and Computer Animation. The usual route into these careers is to progress from GCSE via A level to a one year foundation course and then on to a three year degree course. Art and Design is now widely accepted at most universities (including Oxbridge) as a third A level for many courses unrelated to the subject area.

Subject Pages



Subject Talks

Your child has already started receiving subject talks from teachers of GCSE and BTEC courses.

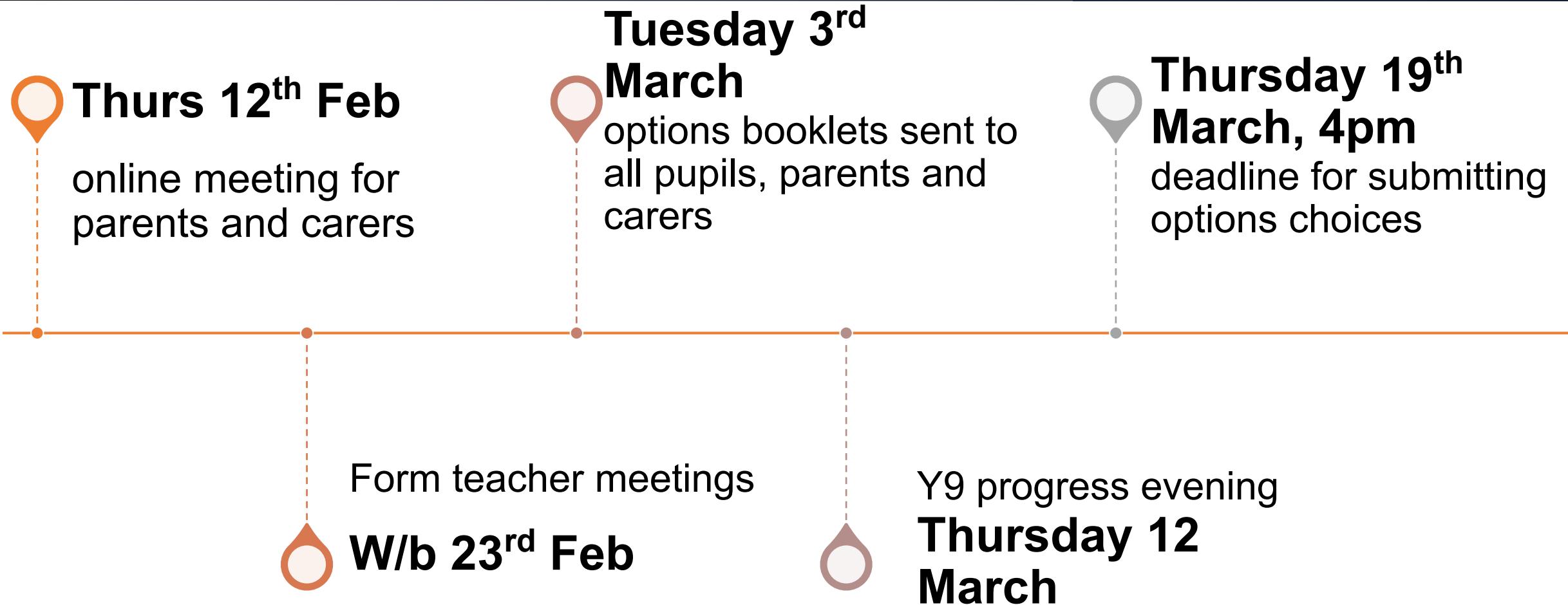
These talks are to help them understand each course and to be able to ask questions.

Week beginning 23rd February



Your child will be issued with an individual appointment time

The options timeline



- At the back of the booklet, you will see a QR code that you will need to scan using the camera on your phone.
- This will take you to a form where you will need to select one option from each column (A, B and C).
- Options must be submitted no later than Thursday, 19th March, 4pm.

How to Complete the Options Form

Click on the following link to complete the online options form:

<https://forms.office.com/e/DMuMhB9k3F>

OR scan the following QR code:



These links to the form can also be found at:



For Further information please contact:

