



Options Information Evening

Thursday 5th February 2026

Mrs Duffy - Senior Deputy Headteacher





What do you study at KS4?



During year 10 and 11 students study...

Core Subjects

English Language
English Literature
Maths
Science (Triple or
Combined)

+

Option Subjects

3 GCSEs from a wider
selection of courses

Plus core PE

Science pathway

Combined Science

2 GCSEs

Biology, Chemistry,
Physics

*Reduced content with
students achieving 2
grades across all 3
sciences*

OR

Separate Sciences

3 GCSEs

Biology, Chemistry,
Physics

*Students receive a GCSE
grade in each science*

Both pathways receive the same amount of teaching hours. Course decision will be made by science teachers and communicated to you.

8 or 9 GCSEs

Core Subjects

English Language
English Literature
Maths
Science (Triple or
Combined)

5 or 6 GCSEs

+

Option Subjects

3 GCSEs from a wider
selection of courses

3 GCSEs

8 or 9 GCSEs in total



The Option Blocks and Process



Options Blocks

Block A	Block B	Block C
Business	Art	Art
Geography	Business	Business
History	Design Technology	Citizenship
Music	Food & Nutrition	Drama
PE option	French	Design Technology
Religious Studies	Geography	Food & Nutrition
	German	Geography
	History	History

- You must choose **3 different** options, **one from each block**, plus 2 reserves.
- One of your choices must be Geography, History, French or German.**
- PE option will be GCSE PE or Cambridge National Sports Studies allocated by the PE staff.
- We ask you to put your options in preference order.
- We will use reserves if an option is full in that block.
- If only a few students choose a subject, it might not run.
- If you don't choose from the blocks then you won't get your first choice.

The Options Form

Block A	Block B	Block C
Business	Art	Art
Geography	Business	Business
History	Design Technology	Citizenship
Music	Food & Nutrition	Drama
PE option	French	Design Technology
Religious Studies	Geography	Food & Nutrition
	German	Geography
	History	History

- There will be a form to complete on **MCAS** for your options choices.
- This form goes live on **Friday 6th February** and closes on **Friday 6th March 2026**.
- Choose 3 subjects in order of priority. Number 1 is the most important for you.
- Choose 2 reserves.
- The form will not allow you to submit unless you have completed it correctly.
- **Once submitted it can not be changed.**



Support and Advice



How to choose a subject

Good reasons

- You are good at it and you think you will do well.
- You enjoy it.
- You need it for post-16 or want to carry on with it.
- It combines well with other subjects.
- You like the method of assessment and teaching.
- Your teacher thinks it's a good choice for you.

Bad reasons

- Your friends are doing it.
- You think it will be easy.
- People are telling you to do it but you're not sure you want to.
- You like the teacher.
- You like the sound of it but haven't actually researched it fully.
- You can't think of anything else to choose.



Linking Options to Careers

Transition Learning



Preparing for Change

- Year 9 options = first big transition
- Aim: informed, future-focused choices

DOTS – 4 Kinds of Learning



D – Decisions

O – Opportunities

T – Transitions

S – Self

Change Is Coming

At 16: every student here will be moving on

Question: “How prepared will you be?”



Four Questions for Tonight

- Self – Where do I do best?
- Opportunities – What does this lead to?
- Decisions – What do I still need to know?
- Transitions – Will this help me stand out at 16?

Use Tonight Well

Here's your challenge...

- Visit as many subjects as possible – don't just visit what you think you like
- Ask 3 questions: What? How? Where next?
- Ask, don't decide – there is time for decision making

Support to help you decide

- Options booklet
- Instructions on how to complete the form emailed out tomorrow
- Talk to Heads of Departments this evening
- Year 9 Parents' Evening Thursday 12th February
- Options area on [school website](#)
- Any queries: options@ucc.rutland.sch.uk

**DEADLINE TO SUBMIT CHOICES VIA MCAS FORM:
FRIDAY 6TH MARCH 2026**

Subject Discussions

Fitness Suite	PE (GCSE and Cambridge National award)
EN4	French German
EN6	Drama Music
DT2	Design & Technology
DT4	Food & Nutrition
DT6 (upstairs)	Art
EN7	Business Studies
HU7 (upstairs)	Geography History Religious Studies Citizenship
ERP	SEND team: Mrs Norton