



PUDSEY
GRAMMAR SCHOOL
EST.1905

Key Stage 4 Guided Choices 2026

Name

Form

Welcome to the guided choices process in Year 9. This is an exciting time for you, as you now have the opportunity to choose some of the courses you would like to take in Years 10 and 11.

This guidance will help you and your parents/carers understand the process and will give you some suggestions about how to choose the courses. There is also a lot of support at hand and you can discuss your choices with your subject teachers, form tutor, Director of Studies and parents/carers.

All students will be guided with their choices. We want the courses chosen by students to provide them with the best possible chance of success, as well as ensuring that their curriculum is broad, balanced and enjoyable.

Core Subjects

All students will take the following subjects in Year 10 and 11:

English Language and Literature GCSE,

Mathematics GCSE,

Combined Science (2 x GCSE).

Some students will take Triple Science.

Students will also take the non-examined courses of PE, Core RE and PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education).

Important Dates in the Guided Choices Process

Guided Choices Assembly- Tuesday 17th March

Guided Choices pamphlet given to students – Wednesday 18th March

Subject Fair-Wednesday 18th March 5-7pm (presentations at 5pm and 6pm)

Guided Choice forms open - Friday 20th March

Deadline for completed forms – Friday 27th March

Meetings with some students to discuss choices – After Easter holidays

Letters to go to parents/carers with course selection -End of May

Guided Choices

In addition to the Core Subjects, you are strongly encouraged to choose at least one subject from History, Geography, Computing or a language (French, Spanish or Mandarin). You must then pick 3 more courses. This gives 4 courses in total. The courses must fit into the Guided Choices Blocks, with one course from each of the 4 blocks. You must also pick 2 reserve courses from any of the blocks just in case we are unable to offer your preferred courses.

How to choose

You should select courses that;

- you are interested in,
- you have the relevant skills in, or are keen to develop those skills,
- you can be successful in,
- may be relevant to any future career aspirations.

Combinations of subjects

You **cannot** choose the following subjects together;

- Enterprise (BTEC) and Business (GCSE),
- ICT (BTEC) and Computing (GCSE),
- Child Development (BTEC) and Health & Social Care (BTEC).

Guided Choices Blocks

The courses must fit into the Guided Choices Blocks below, with one course from each of the 4 blocks. You must also pick 2 reserve courses from any of the blocks just in case we are unable to offer your 4 preferred courses.

*These are vocational courses.

Block 1	Block 2	Block 3	Block 4
Art GCSE	Art GCSE	*Enterprise BTEC	*Enterprise BTEC
Business GCSE	Business GCSE	*Hospitality & Catering BTEC	Geography GCSE
Computing GCSE	*Construction Technical Award	Geography GCSE	History GCSE
Extra Core (Maths/English) GCSE	Geography GCSE	*Health & Social Care BTEC	*Child Development BTEC
French GCSE	History GCSE	History GCSE	*Hospitality & Catering BTEC
Geography GCSE	*IT Cam Nat	Mandarin GCSE	*Media Cam Nat
History GCSE	*Media Cam Nat	*Music BTEC	PE GCSE
*Construction Technical Award	PE GCSE	PE GCSE	Photography GCSE
Spanish GCSE	*Performing Arts BTEC	Photography GCSE	RE GCSE

Types of courses

You should also consider the type of course as well;

- Many GCSEs (e.g. Maths, History) are 100% examined at the end of Year 11.
- Practical GCSEs (e.g. Art, Photography) and vocational courses (e.g. Enterprise, Media) have a controlled assessment/ coursework element (60%) as well as an end of course examination (40%).
- Vocational courses have internally assessed units which are set by the exam boards. You must have excellent attendance to prepare and complete these units in the given time.

What will happen if a course is oversubscribed or undersubscribed?

There is only one class for each of the courses in the blocks. The maximum size of a class depends on the type of course. For example, History GCSE classes can have a maximum of 32 students, whereas practical subjects like Construction are smaller with a maximum number of 20 students. If a course is oversubscribed we will use students' KS3 assessments and ATLs to help decide if they are suitable to take the course. A course may not run if the numbers are not viable.

How to find out more about the different courses

At the Subject Fair each of the subject areas will be represented and will have information about the courses they run. You will be able to find out more about the different courses by talking to the teachers on that evening. There is also a great deal of information on the school website about each course including the content of the course, how it is assessed and examples of students' work;

www.pudseygrammar.co.uk

then click on the tabs; Year 6-11/Year 9/Guided Choices 2026

Or use the QR code below;

