

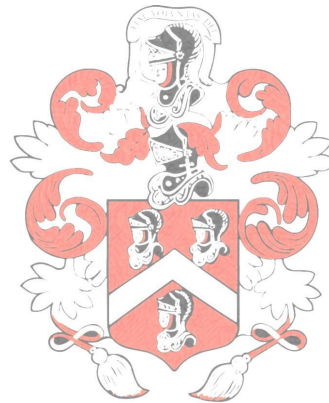
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# Welcome to Robert May's School

**Options Information Evening**  
**- Focusing on the Future -**



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# Welcome and Introduction

**Mrs J West**  
**(Headteacher)**

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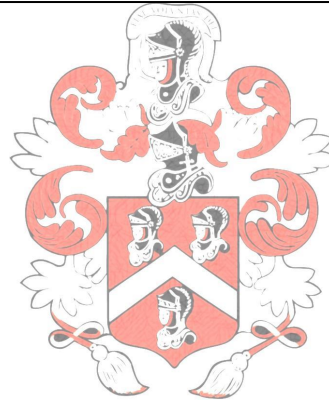
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# Ofsted May 2017

**‘The curriculum is broad, balanced, challenging and interesting. Robert May’s School ensures that the well-planned curriculum provides pupils with a firm foundation for the next stage of their education.’**





# Programme for the Evening

**Introduction** – *Mrs J West*

**The Options Process** – *Mr R Wilson*

**Beyond RMS** - *Mrs L Chaplin*

**Support, Guidance & Next Steps** –

*Miss S Theis and Miss K Harding*

**Final Thoughts** – *Mrs J West*

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# The Options Process

**Mr R Wilson**

**(Deputy Headteacher)**

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**Copies of this presentation and the Options booklet will  
be available from Friday 25th January on the school  
website under  
[Curriculum/Year 9 Options](#)**

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# The Options Booklet

**Part 1: Mostly for Parents: Information on the National Qualification Network**

**Part 2: Mostly for Students: Courses available at Robert May's School**

**The Options Form**

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# What will your child study?

**All students study**

# **The Common Core**

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## **The Common Core is...**

- **English Language (GCSE)**
- **English Literature (GCSE)**
- **Mathematics (GCSE)**
- **Science**
  - **(Double GCSE or Triple GCSE)**
- **RS and Ethics (GCSE)**
- **PSHEE**
- **Core Physical Education**

## **Please Note:**

- **All students at RMS study these subjects.**
  - **Therefore these subjects are not negotiable.**
  - **Students will sit external exams in the first five.**
  - **PSHEE and Core P.E. are not examined externally.**
-

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# Personalised Curriculum

# The Right Choices

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# How do you choose? - Interest and Enjoyment

- Choose courses that you enjoy - students probably already know which subjects they won't be doing
  - Choose subjects where students have an interest or a talent
  - Chose subjects that are right for the student, not friends or a teacher
  - Use the exam board's websites to find out more detail of subject content
-



# How do you choose? - Academic Progress

- GCSE Courses lead to grades 9-1 with the benchmark for progression to A Level being grade 6 or higher

<b>2016 onwards</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Up to 2015</b>	<b>G/F</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>C/B</b>			<b>A</b>	<b>A*</b>	

- First examinations for English and Maths were Summer 2017
- All other subjects are Summer 2018
- Your children will be examined in Summer 2020



# How do you choose?

## Academic Progress

- Choose subjects where students have a good chance of getting their aspirational target grade
  - Review data gives an indication of the final GCSE grade based on prior attainment at KS2 (End of Year 11 Target)
  - Target grades are likely to be the same in most subjects as they are based on ability to read and handle number
  - The difference between the current grade and the End of Year 9 grade shows the progress that has been made to date on the way towards the end of year 11 target
-



# How do you choose?

## Type of course

- Most classroom based subjects are **ONLY** examined at the end of year 11 - Summer 2021
  - Technology and Art subjects contain an internally assessed unit built up over 2 years as well as a final exam
  - Music, Drama and PE contain an assessment of performance
-



# How do you choose?

## Future Plans

- Keep as many paths open as possible - pick a range of subjects from different areas - these are indicated in Part 2 of the options booklet
  - If there is a specific career in mind, research to find out if any GCSEs are necessary
  - Remember that plans can change and courses 'dropped' at this stage can be picked up again in college or beyond
  - For A- Levels, pick GCSE courses where you can get at least grade 6
  - For technical or vocational courses, apprenticeship or employment consider a mixture of practical or vocational courses
-



# How do you choose?

## Future Plans

- Piloted in 2019 and then widely available from September 2020 a new level 3 'Tech-Level' will be available for study post-16
  - Technical Qualification equivalent to an A-Level
  - Year 10 are amongst the first students able to study this type of qualification when they leave RMS
  - First three subjects will be:
    - Childcare and Education
    - Digital
    - Construction
-



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# The Options Form

**The Options Form is divided into  
Options A & B**

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# OPTION A

**Choose the most appropriate Science course from:**

- Triple Science GCSE (already started)
  - Double Science GCSE
-

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## OPTION B

In order of preference choose THREE subjects, and ONE reserve, from:

- ❖ GCSE Art and Design
  - ❖ National in Child Development
  - ❖ GCSE in Business Studies
  - ❖ GCSE Computer Science
  - ❖ GCSE Drama
  - ❖ GCSE Engineering
  - ❖ BTEC in Engineering
  - ❖ GCSE Fine Art
  - ❖ GCSE French
  - ❖ GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition
  - ❖ GCSE Geography
  - ❖ GCSE German
  - ❖ GCSE History
  - ❖ National in Information Technology
  - ❖ GCSE Music
  - ❖ GCSE Photography
  - ❖ GCSE Textiles
  - ❖ GCSE PE
  - ❖ GCSE Spanish
  - ❖ GCSE Technology - Materials
-

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# The Options Interview

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**CURRICULUM STATEMENT**

**SPRING 2017**

**OPTION CHOICES FOR YEARS 10 AND 11 - SEPTEMBER 2017 – JULY 2019**

Student's Name ..... **K. Harding** .....

Tutor Group 9..... **S**

Everyone will study English, English Literature, Mathematics, Science, Religious Studies (Ethics), PSHEE, and PE. Further to this you will need to choose one subject from Option A and 3 from Options B.

Remember to keep your options as broad as possible and to pick subjects you enjoy and can do well. Please enter your Option B choices in order of preference with choice 1 being the most important subject to you.

<p><b>Option A, Science: Pick 1</b> GCSE Combined Science (2 GCSEs - Double)</p> <p>GCSE Combined Science: Biology, Chemistry and Physics (3 GCSEs - Triple)</p>	<p>Choice</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u><b>TRIPLE</b></u></p> <hr/> <p>Enter 'Double', 'Triple' Your Science teacher will guide you on which course is best for you.</p>
--	--

**Option B: Pick 3 and 1 reserve**

Art GCSE Art and Design  
(You may GCSE Fine Art  
only do 1 GCSE Photography  
Art Course) GCSE Textiles

Computing GCSE Computer Science  
Level 1-2 National in ICT

Humanities GCSE History  
GCSE Geography

Languages GCSE French  
GCSE German  
GCSE Spanish

Performing GCSE Drama  
GCSE Music  
GCSE PE

Technology GCSE Design and Technology  
GCSE Engineering  
GCSE Food Prep and Nutrition  
Level 1-2 National in Child Development  
Level 1-2 National in Materials Technology

Vocational Level 1 Vocational Studies (Double)  
Literacy + Numeracy Support (Single)

Choices (in order of preference)

1. **TEXTILES**

2. **PHOTOGRAPHY**

3. **FOOD PREP**

Reserve Choice

4. **GEOGRAPHY**

You must pick a reserve choice.

Your reserve choice will only be used if it is impossible to accommodate your main three choices.

Students with statements of special educational needs may choose Learning Support as one of their 3 options.



# What if I change my mind?

- Please make the best choices for you that mean you will not have to change!
  - Summer term Y9 - Limited changes may be possible
  - First half of Autumn term Y10 - very limited changes may be possible
  - Second half of Autumn term Y10 - no changes are possible
-





# Remember

Make your choices based on:

- Subjects that you enjoy
- Subjects that you can be successful in

Do not make choices based on:

- What friends are doing
  - Wanting to have a specific teacher
-

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# Beyond RMS

**Mrs L Chaplin**

**(Assistant Headteacher)**

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# Beyond RMS

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UNIVERSITY OF  
CAMBRIDGE



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# The English Baccalaureate

## The DfE website states:

“The subjects we (DfE) have included are designed to **ensure** that **all pupils** have the opportunity to **study a broad core of subjects**, ensuring that doors are not closed off to them in terms of future progression ... for example, **for pupils hoping to go to university.**”

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# The English Baccalaureate

English Language GCSE and Mathematics GCSE  
and

1 of Science or Computer Science GCSE

1 of French, German or Spanish GCSE (or another language)

1 of History or Geography GCSE

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# RMS Interpretation

The majority of students intending to go on to A Level study or University already study English, Maths and at least 2 Science GCSEs

In order to compete for university places, especially Russell Group, students should study at least one of the following as well:

Computer Science GCSE

French, German or Spanish GCSE

History or Geography GCSE

In most local schools study of one or more of this group of subjects is compulsory. We do not do this, however we do believe that for 90% or more of our school population, study of one EBacc subject is a good idea

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# Assessment Review

## Three key questions to answer

### 1. When will my child sit examinations?

The DfE website states:

- "...all external exams will have to be taken at the end of the course ..."
- All external exams will be in summer 2020

### 2. Can my child re-sit examinations?

- There are no opportunities to re-sit GCSE exams
- We will run internal, formal 'mock' exam processes in the summer term of Year 10 **AND** the autumn term of Year 11

### 3. Does spelling, punctuation and grammar matter in examinations?

- Marks for accurate spelling, punctuation and use of grammar have been restored to all GCSE exams





# National Requirements

All students will need to stay in some form of education, employment or training until they are 18.

All students must continue to study maths and English unless they have already achieved grade 4 or higher.

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# Support & Guidance

**Miss S Theis (Head of Year)**

**Miss K Harding (Assistant Head of Year)**

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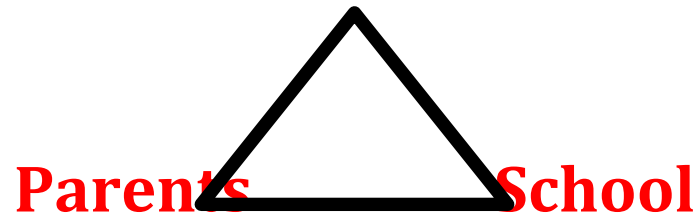
# Support & Guidance

Forward looking

Positive Ethos

Partnerships

**Students**



**Parents** **School**

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# **Support & Guidance**

***A student-centred process***

**Options and making effective choices discussed in assemblies  
*ended on 10th January 2019***

**Options Booklet issued this evening  
*24th January 2019***

**Parents' Consultation Evening  
*31st January 2019***

**Option Interviews  
*week commencing 11th February 2019***

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# Support & Guidance

## Top Tips

- **DO** read through the Options Booklet with your child.
- **DO** discuss Options with your child.
- **DO** attend Parents' Evening (with your child) and the Options Interview.
- **DO** ensure your child has a broad and balanced curriculum that opens doors to their future.
- **DO** encourage your child to pick subjects they enjoy and can be successful with.

**THE MESSAGE IS TO SELECT CAREFULLY.**

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# Where to find more information

- **Theresa Petzold- School Careers Adviser**
  - **National Careers Helpline**
  - **Kudos**
  - **UCAS (University and College Admissions Service)**
  - **Apprenticeship advice-**  
**[/www.gov.uk/topic/further-education-skills/apprenticeships](https://www.gov.uk/topic/further-education-skills/apprenticeships)**
-

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# Priorities for the Remainder of Year 9

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## **EXCELLENT BEHAVIOUR, CONDUCT & APPEARANCE**

- Thank you for your support with uniform.
- Please continue to help us look after the little things so that the big things don't happen.







# Attendance

**90% attendance over one year = 20 days of  
missed lessons = 120 lessons**

**90% attendance over whole school time  
= half a year missed**

**Research shows that 17 days absence means  
students' achievement drops by one GCSE grade**

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# Focus

- As you can imagine once students believe that they have chosen their options focus and effort levels can decline in the option choices they have not picked.
  - Please help us to reinforce the fact that students must work hard in every lesson, every day so that excellent work ethic is maintained into Year 10 and 11.
-



# Next Steps

**After receiving the Options Booklet please:**

- Read through. Discuss. Make initial selections.
  - Remember that **ALL** students study the **COMMON CORE**.
  - Then **FOUR** more choices:
    - **ONE** choice from **SECTION A** and
    - **THREE** choices from **SECTION B** and **ONE** reserve.
  - Seek advice.
  - Remember a broad and balanced curriculum to open doors in the future.
-

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# Final Thoughts

**Mrs J West  
(Headteacher)**

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# Reminder:

**Options Booklet issued this evening**

***24th January 2019***

**Options and making effective choices discussed in assemblies**

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