

# Year 9

# Options Evening 2026

Wednesday 5th March

Mrs R Hesmondhalgh (Headteacher)  
Mrs H Jeffrey (Deputy Headteacher, Quality of Education)  
Mr C Elstub (Assistant Headteacher, Quality of Education)



# Year 9 Options Evening 2026

**WHITCLIFFE MOUNT, A SHARE ACADEMY**

**Wednesday 5th March 2025**



# Welcome

Rebecca Hesmondhalgh  
(Headteacher)

Helen Jeffrey

(Deputy Headteacher, Quality of Education)

Chris Elstub

(Assistant Headteacher, Quality of Education)

## Vision, values, and updates



### SHARE MULTI ACADEMY TRUST (Sept 22)

- "Valuing people, supporting personal best"
- [Share Multi Academy Trust - Home \(sharemat.org\)](https://sharemat.org)

### Whitcliffe Mount Academy (2022/23)

- "Together, we are proud to be our best"
- [Whitcliffe Mount, A SHARE Academy - Home](#)

### Whitcliffe Mount Ungraded Ofsted (Spring 2025)

#### [Whitcliffe Mount, A SHARE Academy - OFSTED Report](#)

- "Pupils enjoy attending this welcoming school. Pupils recognise the improvements the school continues to make."
- "They enjoy learning in purposeful classrooms. Many pupils achieve well in public examinations. As a result, they are well prepared for their next steps."
- "The school has refined the ambitious curriculum. It identifies the important knowledge and skills that pupils need to learn."

### WMA curriculum

- Broad, balanced & ambitious
- Support good outcomes and high aspirations for all



# Year 9 options evening – our aim

## **Informing you/your child(ren) of:**

- National context
- WMA context

**To support you/your child(ren) in selecting the right option choices.**

**Guiding you through the options application process and timeline.**

# Hints and tips: Don't's

Think

Think that you are expected to know at this stage what you will do for the rest of your life

Choose

Choose a course because your friend is choosing it

Choose

Choose a course because you like the teacher

Imagine

Imagine there are gender specific courses

Choose

Choose a course because you think you have no other options – talk to us

# Hints and tips:

## Do's



# What will I learn in Yr10 and Yr11?

- The Core Curriculum  
*plus*
- GCSE Options  
*and/or*
- Vocational Qualifications

# Core Curriculum

- English (2 GCSEs: Language & Literature)
- Mathematics
- Science (2 GCSEs)
- Learning for Life, Form time and assemblies (PSHCE/ Careers-Personal Development)
- Physical Education (Core PE)

# The English Baccalaureate (EBacc)

To achieve this, students must get a “good pass” in:

- English Language or Literature,
- Maths,
- Two Sciences,  
(Science (Trilogy), Separate Sciences/Computer Science)
- Modern Foreign Language (French/Spanish)
- Humanities (History/Geography)

This combination of GCSEs will entitle the student to the English Baccalaureate which will be looked at [favourably by colleges, universities and employers.](#)

# Pathways

These are calculated using key stage 2 results and most recent Year 9 data. There are four possible pathways :

Pathway	Cohort %	Curriculum studied
Triple	25%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Core curriculum</li> <li>• 3 separate science GCSEs</li> <li>• History or Geography</li> <li>• French or Spanish</li> <li>• 1 open choice</li> </ul>
Open+	40%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Core curriculum</li> <li>• Combined Science GCSE equivalent to 2 GCSE's</li> <li>• History or Geography</li> <li>• French or Spanish</li> <li>• 2 open choices</li> </ul>
Open	30%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Core curriculum</li> <li>• Combined Science GCSE equivalent to 2 GCSE's</li> <li>• History or Geography or French or Spanish</li> <li>• 3 open choices</li> </ul>
Public Services	5%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Core curriculum</li> <li>• Combined Science GCSE equivalent to 2 GCSE's</li> <li>• Public Services</li> <li>• 3 open choices</li> </ul>

# Pathways

Pathways	Cohort
Triple	25%

Core Curriculum

*plus*

Triple Science

*plus*

a MFL (French or Spanish)

*plus*

a Humanities (History or Geography)

*and*

One further qualification

# Pathways

Pathways	Cohort
Open+	40%

Core Curriculum (including combined Science)

*plus*

a MFL (French or Spanish)

*plus*

a Humanities (History or Geography)

*and*

Two further qualifications

# Pathways

Pathways	Cohort
Open	30%

Core Curriculum(including combined Science)

*plus*

a MFL (French or Spanish)

*Or*

a Humanities (History or Geography)

*plus*

Three other qualifications  
(Maximum of two Vocational qualifications)

# Pathways

Pathways	Cohort
Public Services	5%

Core Curriculum (including combined Science)

*Plus*

3 other qualifications  
(Maximum of 2 Vocational qualifications)

*Plus*

Public Services

# What option subjects are available at WMA?

## GCSE'S

History

Geography

**Triple Science**

Spanish

French

**Art**

Computer Science

Food & Nutrition

Religious Studies

## VOCATIONAL / OTHER

Musical Theatre

Health & Social Care

**3D Product**

Enterprise & Marketing

Sports Science

Music & Music Technology

Drama

Public Services

**Textiles**

# To summarise:

PROGRESS	DO consider how much progress you have made in a subject so far
INTEREST	DO take into account your interest in a subject; you are much more likely to succeed in a subject you like
ASPIRATIONS	DO consider your possible aspirations. This will mean looking very carefully at qualifications required to do certain jobs. You may need to choose a subject now in order to study it at college and/or university
READ	DO read the information in the booklet carefully and ask your teachers for any extra information that you may need
SPEAK	DO speak to others and listen to what they have to say. You should talk to: Parents/Carers, Subject Teachers, Your Form Tutor, Student Support Lead, Careers Advisors , Students in Year 10 and Year 11

# Key Dates

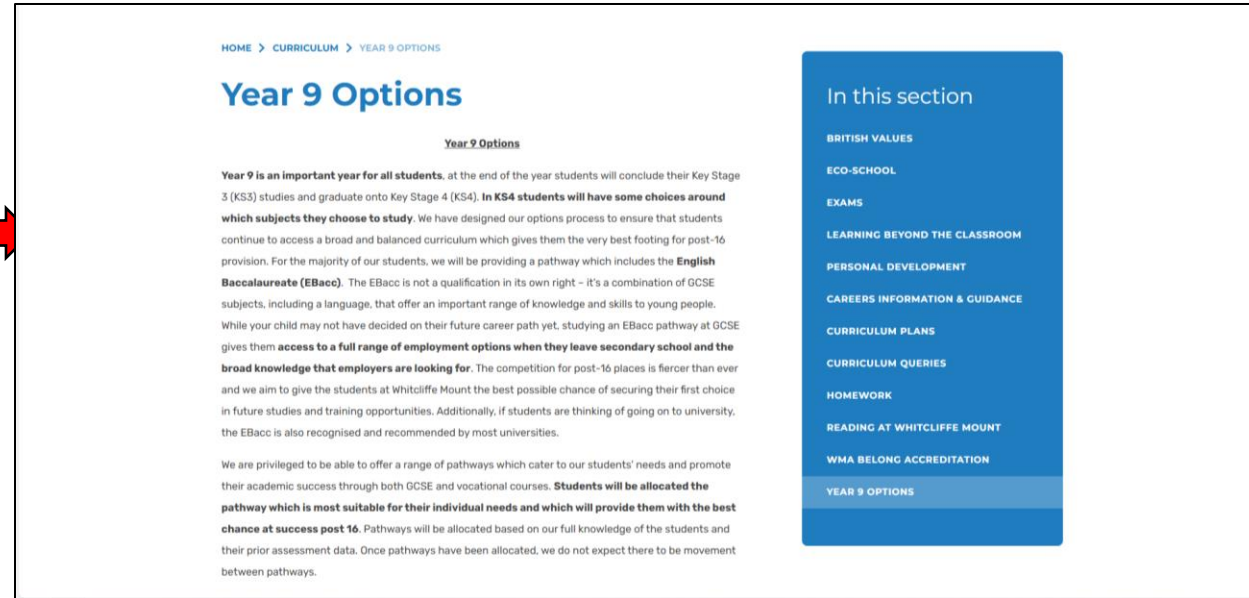
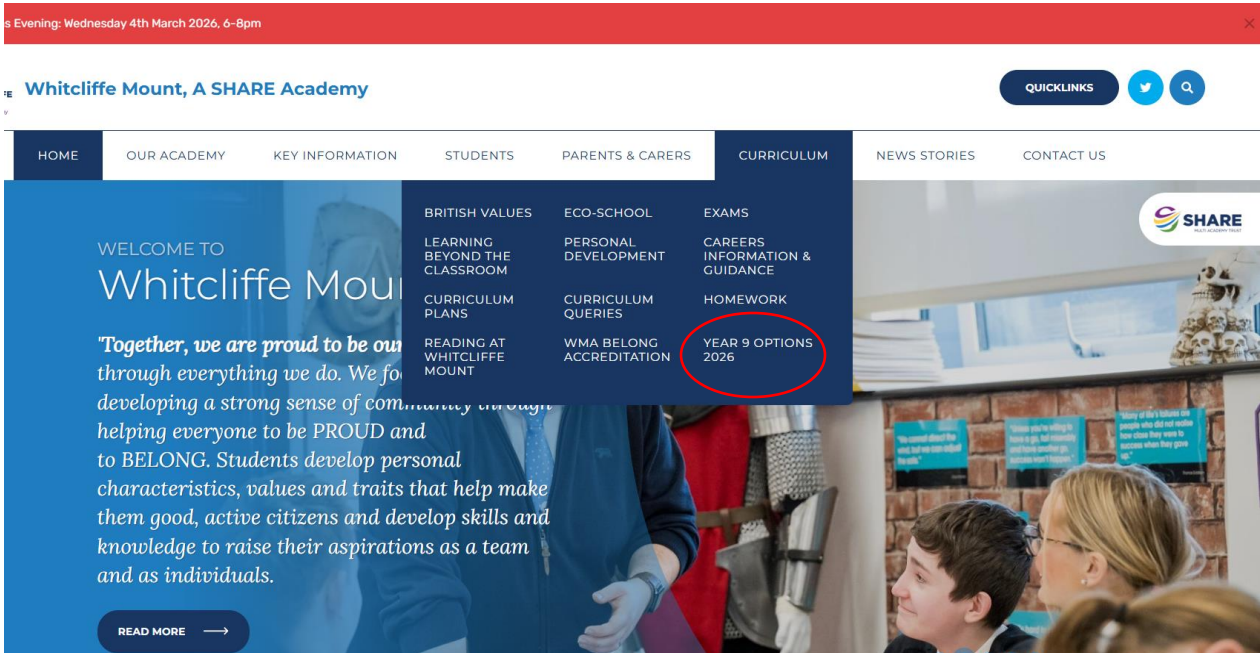
19/01		Options book uploaded to the website	Letter to parents <b>Options Timeline shared in assembly</b>		
26/01	Student interviews	Student interviews	Student interviews	Student interviews	Student interviews
02/02	Student interviews <b>Yr9 Options Assembly</b>	Student interviews	Student interviews	Student interviews	Student interviews
09/02	Student interviews	Student interviews	Student interviews	Student interviews	Student interviews
<b>February Half Term</b>					
23/02	Student interviews	Student interviews	Student interviews	Student interviews	Student interviews
02/03	Student interviews	Student interviews	Student interviews <b>Options Evening</b>	Student interviews	Student interviews
09/03					<b>Deadline for choices</b>
16/03					

# Next Steps

- Sit and discuss your options through as a family
- Complete your online options form **before Friday 13th March**
- Remember: There are no guarantees so select your reserve subjects wisely as you may be allocated them.

# Further Information

## Website



- Pathway information and options timeline
- Options Booklet
- Options Evening Presentation

# Further Information

## How does my child select their choices?

### Open : Entering your Choices over the Internet

Please follow these steps to enter your choices on-line using the 'TOOLS' system.

To start TOOLS, type the following URL into your internet browser:  
<https://opt-worange.sharemat.org>

Then login using your personal details:

Username: LARNO

Password:

Once in TOOLS, you should make your 4 Choices by following the instructions on screen.  
 Enter 'R' against a single Reserve Subject (which will only be used if it is not possible to provide the first 4 Choices).  
 To help you, you will see that an Example is provided - click the link to see the Example.

**\*\*The deadline for entering choices is Friday 13th March\*\***

### Step 1 of 3

[Start](#) > [Choice 1](#) > [Free choice \(with reserve\)](#) > [Confirmation](#)

Choose ONE of the following Subjects:

- French (Fr)                       History (Hi)  
 Geography (Gg)                       Spanish (Sh)

Next

### Step 2 of 3

[Start](#) > [Choice: History](#) > [Free choice \(with reserve\)](#) > [Confirmation](#)

Please enter your 3 choices by entering 2, 3, 4 in the box by your chosen subjects.

To mark your Reserve choice, put 'R' by that subject.

Subject	Choice
Art & Design (Ad)	<input type="text"/>
Computer Sci (Cm)	<input type="text"/>
Drama (Dr)	<input type="text"/>
Ent & Marketing (Em)	<input type="text"/>
Food (Fd)	<input type="text"/>
French (Fr)	<input type="text"/>
Geography (Gg)	<input type="text"/>
History (Hi)	Already selected
Health & Social (Hs)	<input type="text"/>
Musical Theatre (Mc)	<input type="text"/>
Music (Mu)	<input type="text"/>
Religious Stud (RS)	<input type="text"/>
Spanish (Sh)	<input type="text"/>
Sport Science (Sp)	<input type="text"/>
3D Product (Td)	<input type="text"/>
Textiles (Tx)	<input type="text"/>

Submit

Reset this form

Clear this form

# Further Information

**This Evening**

**Yr9 Options Evening –Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

Curriculum Presentation – Main Hall
6.00pm- 6.30pm
6.45pm- 7.15pm

Subject	Rooms
Core Curriculum	
Maths	214
English	107
Science	203
Further Qualifications	
Separate Science	203
French	117
Spanish	118
History	102
Geography	123
Computer Science	235
Religious Studies	034
Textiles or 3D Product	023
Art	023
Food Preparation & Nutrition	023
Drama or Musical Theatre	035
Music & Music Technology	028
Sports Science	110
Health and Social Care	008
Enterprise and marketing	131
Supportive	
Public Services	LRC
C&K Careers	Restaurant
Options online submission/ support	045

# Thank you



1

Thank you for joining us;

2

Enjoy your evening;

3

Ask as many questions as you need;

4

Remember that we are here to support and advise;