

GCSE Guided Choices (Option) process 2026



Academy Mission

At Joyce Frankland Academy, Newport, we provide exceptional opportunities to learn for every student, every lesson, every day; we are guided by our founder's vision: *'love I bear learning'*.

All students, staff, parents, and the wider community actively contribute to a culture where everyone feels a deep sense of belonging; a culture that is consistently supportive, kind, **aspirational**, **respectful**, and inclusive.

Everyone is empowered to take **responsibility** for their own success, strive for excellence, and become the best version of themselves.

At Joyce Frankland Academy, Newport, everyone grows in confidence, is celebrated for their uniqueness and achievements, has high aspirations for life, and is ready to make a meaningful difference in the world.

At Joyce Frankland Academy, Newport, everyone belongs. Through our values of Aspiration, Respect and Responsibility, we grow together, are valued for who we are, empowered to strive for excellence, and inspired to make a difference.



Mrs Warwick
Academy Principal

Our curriculum vision

Our intent is to provide an curriculum that enables children to strive for excellence, and feel inspired to make a difference.

Our curriculum is therefore:

- Aspirational
- Broad and balanced
- Individualised



'for the Love I bear to Learning'

Timeline

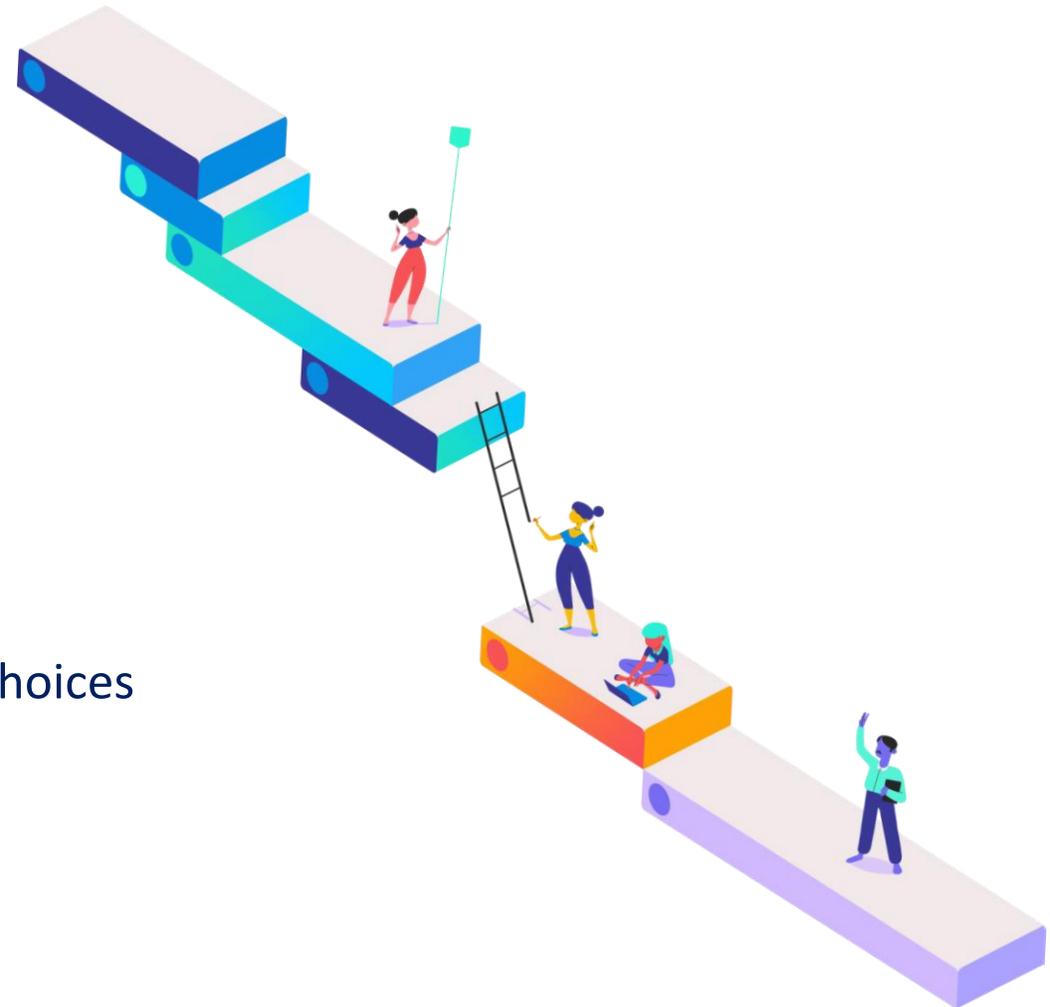
Thursday 5th March: On site talk to teachers about the different subjects on offer.

Week commencing Monday 9th March: “Initial poll”
Complete Microsoft form in allocated form time (or complete at home)

Week commencing 16th March: Students make their choices, opting for one subject from each of the four blocks, along with two reserve choices

Week commencing 23rd March: The Academy will check student choices and hold meetings where questions arise.

Summer term (after the May half term):
Confirmation of your curriculum next year

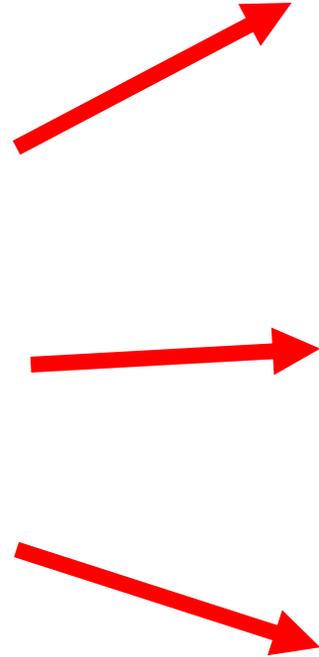


Choices to be made

In Year 10 and 11 all pupils will study:

- English
- Maths
- Science
- Core PE
- PSHE

**+ 4 of
the
subjects
across**



Art
Computer Science
Dance
Design Technology
Drama
Food Preparation and Nutrition
French
Geography
German
History
Languages
Media Studies
Music
Photography
Physical Education
Religious Studies
Spanish
Textiles
Additional Study Support

Choices to be made

- Balance
- Keeping your options open
- Challenging
- Enjoyable

Not one size fits all.

Personalisation is the key aim to delivering our curriculum vision for everyone.

Choices are guided after consultation between students, parents and teachers

Name: Year 10 StudentA

Compulsory subjects: English, Maths, Science, (PE), (PSHE)

Guided choices: History, Drama, Textiles, French

Name: Year 10 StudentB

Compulsory subjects: English, Maths, Science, (PE), (PSHE)

Guided choices: Spanish, Photography, History, Geography

Name: Year 10 StudentC

Compulsory subjects: English, Maths, Science, (PE), (PSHE)

Guided choices: PE, FPN, Music, DT

Name: Year 10 StudentD

Compulsory subjects: English, Maths, Science, (PE), (PSHE)

Guided choices: Art, Photography, Textiles, DT

GCSE Grading

New grading		Old grading
9	=	A*
8		
7		A
6	=	B
5		
4		C
3	=	D
2		E
1		F
		G
U	=	U

Careers

Unifrog careers checklist:

- **Have you completed the following on www.unifrog.org**
- **Interests profile** (complete the quiz)
- **Personality profile** (complete the quiz)
- **Careers library** (favourite a number of careers that you're interested in)
- **Subject library** (favourite a number of subjects that you're interested in)



Guided Choices Evening: Locations

SUBJECT	ROOMS
Art DT Textiles Photography	Great Hall
Computer Science PE	A1
Geography History Religious Studies	A2
French German Spanish Media Studies	A3
Dance Drama Music	Drama Studio Music Block

Questions to ask

What am I good at?

Why is studying this subject a good idea?

What do I like doing?



How does the GCSE work in this subject?

What will help me get where I want to go next?

Q&A

Guided Choices booklet



Year 9 Guided Choices (Options) Q&A

Q: How many choices will my child make?

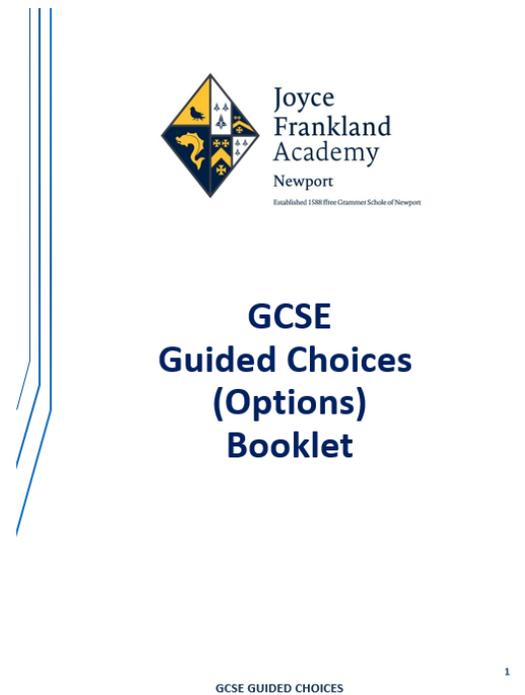
A: The vast majority of students will make four choices.

Q: How much freedom do I have regarding the four subjects I choose?

A: We have a range of subjects from which to choose. You cannot choose outside of those. We strongly advise choosing as broad a curriculum as possible. This helps to keep your future options open. It will not be possible to choose a combination of art, textiles, DT and food, for example. Option blocks will not allow for this, but these subjects are also too similar, requiring the same skills. Think about what you might want your future career to be, and make choices with that in mind. It is important you choose subjects you enjoy, where you know you will work hard, and where you will be committed to achieving as well as you can. We will guide you to make choices that best enable your future success.

Q: Is there more than one class/group in every subject?

A: The most popular subjects traditionally have four or even five groups e.g. history, but we



Making the right choices

Choose subjects which:

- you are confident you will do well in
- will **challenge you** and sustain your interest and engagement.
- you will be assessed and taught in a way that suits your strengths.
- **keep your academic options open** in the future.
- support your future career plans.

Enjoy and be excited by the conversations and the choices that you can now make