



Year 9
Personalised Learning Programme
2021 - 2022

Year 9 Personalised Learning Programme

In Year 9 you will be able to select two subjects that you can study in much greater depth, according to your interests, alongside the core key stage 3 curriculum. This will allow you to gain the necessary knowledge, experiences and skills to become curious, reflective and resilient learners, who are ready to reach your potential in a complex and rapidly changing world.

Programmes of study will be offered in art, computing, dance, drama, enterprise, music, Spanish and sport science. You will follow two programmes of study for one lesson each per week throughout Year 9.

Please choose carefully as, although you may be able to move between subjects within the programme, we will encourage you to complete each programme of study that you undertake.

It is important to note that the subjects chosen as part of the Personalised Learning Programme in Year 9 are not GCSE choices. You will not have to study your chosen subjects in key stage 4, although you will be better prepared to study them as GCSE options.

How to decide which programme to choose:

Do not choose a programme because your friend does. Start by asking yourself what you enjoy doing and what you're good at. Consider the following points:

- What you are interested in - other cultures and languages, writing projects, computer programming and learning how the body works or art culture?
- What types of activity do you enjoy most – working things out and thinking them through, practical activities, performing to others or linguistic activities?
- What are you like at home, as well as in school – what skills have you developed by following outside interests?
- What you might like to do in the future – which of the programme choices will give you a better idea of what might be required if you were to follow a particular career path?

How the choice process will work:

In this booklet, all the personalised learning programme subjects are described. Read it carefully, make sure you talk through your choices with your parents/carers then complete the online decision form. This process is explained in the back of this booklet.

You must choose the 2 programme courses that you would most like to study next year and number them 1 and 2 in order of preference. The numbering is important as we will allocate places on courses in order of preference. We will try to ensure that you get your top 2 choices where we can, however, we cannot guarantee every selection. Please choose a third programme course which you should rank as reserve. Please think carefully about this choice as you may be allocated this programme course if we are unable to place you in either of your top 2 choices.

Choices must be made by Monday 24 May.

Art

What will be taught in this course	<p>Across the year, pupils will work through a series of experimental printmaking workshops focusing on the theme of Marine Life.</p> <p>Pupils will take their own photography and use their own designs to produce monoprints, printed collages, etchings, reduction lino prints and collagraph prints.</p> <p>The course encourages creativity and independent thinking when planning artwork. Pupils will be looking at the work of several artists, for example Ernst Haeckel.</p>
Links to wider learning	<p>Pupils will develop photography, compositional and experimental skills, which are key to any art project. Some work will link very closely to biology and pupils will develop their knowledge of marine life.</p>
Independent learning opportunities	<p>Pupils will be encouraged to research the work of artists independently. They will develop key research skills and the ability to analyse and evaluate artworks.</p> <p>Pupils will be able to attend Art Club should they wish to experiment further with printmaking.</p>
Additional opportunities	<p>A trip to Tring Natural History museum in order for students to develop their knowledge of marine life and photography skills. (Covid restrictions permitting).</p>
End of course outcome	<p>Pupils will produce a series of prints. Each print will be assessed individually and skills will be tracked in order to support future learning. There will be an exhibition of the prints produced.</p>

Computer science

<p>What will be taught in this course</p>	<p>Computer Science covers a wide variety of theoretical and practical topics. Areas covered will include computational thinking, algorithms in mathematics, pseudo-code, Boolean and logic gates, object orientated programming, binary and hexadecimal, storage and compression, validation and verification, trees and Huffman coding, hardware, software, networking as well as social engineering, cyber security, ethics, the law and the environment.</p>
<p>Links to wider learning</p>	<p>Mathematics – Binary and Algorithms History – WWII – The Enigma Machine and Bletchley Park Science / DT – A variety of STEM projects Business – “Dragons Den” group task</p>
<p>Independent learning opportunities</p>	<p>Pupils will design, code, test and evaluate their own apps and software both individually and in groups. There will be a variety of opportunities to develop theoretical learning, programming experience and development of media elements. Pupils will work in small groups taking on the different required roles within a computer development team.</p>
<p>Additional opportunities</p>	<p>On site: “Cinema” trip – The Imitation Game – a film based around Alan Turing and his work at Bletchley Park during WWII.</p>
<p>End of course outcome</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create apps and computer programs. • Understand how hardware and software talk to each other. • Develop problem-solving skills to enable pupils to create algorithms and programs. • Learn at least two programming languages. • Understand binary and Boolean logic (the way computers see the world). • Understand how programmes and algorithms are stored in a computer system. • Develop theoretical understanding of hardware, software, the internet, computer networks, security and systems lifecycle.

Dance

<p>What will be taught in this course</p>	<p>The course will link to three strands of learning: Performance Skills, Choreographic Skills and Appreciation Skills. Pupils will develop an understanding of dance through physical challenges, choreographic problems and analytical appreciation.</p> <p>Pupils will be introduced to new dance styles and concepts and their place in the evolution of dance. The course includes learning the theory of dance appreciation and developing an understanding of how dance can communicate with an audience. Pupils will become part of the Y9 PLP Dance Company which will be involved in local dance performances.</p>
<p>Links to wider learning</p>	<p>Dance develops an appreciation of how the body can be used to express, challenge and communicate with the world around us, whilst building resilience, team work, and confidence.</p>
<p>Independent learning opportunities</p>	<p>Pupils will take ownership and lead an aspect of the organisation of Goldington Academy's PLP Dance Company.</p>
<p>Additional opportunities</p>	<p>Pupils will be inspired to develop their own work through studying and working with professional dance artists. There will be a variety of workshops held at the University of Bedfordshire. Performance opportunities include U: Dance, Milton Keynes Youth Dance Festival. Pupils will be able to attend optional theatre trips.</p>
<p>End of course outcome</p>	<p>Pupils will be assessed on all three strands; performance, choreography and appreciation. These will be a combination of practical and written assignments.</p>

Drama

What will be taught in this course	<p>Drama will focus on interpreting theatre and offer experience of the rigour and challenge of the more academic side of drama and theatre studies. Pupils will study (mostly in a classroom setting) two play texts in their entirety whilst exploring the social, political, cultural and economic influences. Pupils will research in depth the writers and their times and strive to answer the question: what is drama?</p>
Links to wider learning	<p>English Literature Theatre Design Creative Careers Politics Debate</p>
Independent learning opportunities	<p>Pupils will experience live and pre-recorded performances. Independent reading and research</p>
Additional opportunities	<p>There will be an opportunity to see a professional production.</p>
End of course outcome	<p>Pupils will complete the course with a comprehensive knowledge of two set texts. Pupils will be able to process and clearly articulate their own response to the social, political and cultural influences on theatre and playwriting.</p>

Enterprise

What will be taught in this course	<p>Pupils will be taught a range of topics in Enterprise. They include market research, finance, drafting and designing ideas, promotional techniques and advertising methods.</p> <p>Pupils will be able to use this knowledge to complete individual projects throughout the year.</p>
Links to wider learning	<p>There are links to numeracy within the finance topic. Data collection, art and ICT skills will be developed within draft and design.</p>
Independent learning opportunities	<p>Pupils will develop research skills within the course and be expected to work independently. They will have to use creativity to discover information. Pupils will develop communication skills through group work and leading presentations.</p>
Additional opportunities	<p>Pupils will have the opportunity to conduct their own market research in Bedford town centre.</p>
End of course outcome	<p>Pupils will have a greater understanding of how businesses are run and the thought that goes into designing and developing a product. Assessment will be through a variety of methods including exam-style questions, annotations of designs and presentations.</p>

Music

What will be taught in this course	<p>Music will be cover three of the areas of study: Rhythms of the World; The Concerto Through Time and Conventions of Pop.</p> <p>Through a range of integrated performing, composing and listening activities pupils will explore the traditional rhythmic roots of African drumming, Calypso and Samba, and find out what a concerto is and how this has changed over time. Pupils will look at how pop music started in the 1950s with Rock 'n' Roll and how this compares to music today. This will be supported by the core Year 9 music lessons which will focus on DJing and music written for films and video games.</p>
Links to wider learning	<p>Pupils will investigate different styles of music from different times and places which will deepen their understanding of the world, its people and their cultures.</p> <p>Extensive use of music technology will help to develop ICT skills.</p>
Independent learning opportunities	<p>Pupils will complete many practical activities in groups or pair work, which will require good independent learning skills. There will also be increasing opportunities to create individual compositions (which can be continued at home) and to develop solo performing skills.</p>
Additional opportunities	<p>Pupils will participate in Samba workshops with a professional percussionist and they will be provided with an opportunity to experience live orchestral music. There will also be a number of performance opportunities, including a chance to perform at the Summer Concert at the University Theatre.</p>
End of course outcome	<p>Pupils will perform and compose music in groups, pairs and individually. Listening questions will also form part of the assessment.</p>

Spanish

What will be taught in this course	<p>Pupils choosing to study Spanish will learn how to speak and write about a range of different topics including school life, friends and family, where they live, hobbies, and food and drink.</p> <p>The course aims to develop speaking and listening skills through the use of songs, whole-class games and pair work. Lessons are exciting and interactive, with an emphasis placed on these two fundamental skills to develop confidence in the language.</p>
Links to wider learning	<p>Pupils will learn useful conversational skills, which they will be able to use when they travel to Spain or to a Spanish-speaking country and about aspects of Spanish culture. The course will develop a pupil's listening, speaking, reading and writing skills.</p>
Independent learning opportunities	<p>Pupils will complete weekly tasks, which will include learning the key vocabulary studied in lessons. There will be access to a number of Spanish websites to practise listening, reading and writing skills.</p>
Additional opportunities	<p>Pupils will have the opportunity to watch Spanish films to support their understanding of language and culture. There may also be the opportunity to see a Spanish play and take part in a cinema visit to view a relevant film.</p>
End of course outcome	<p>Pupils will be assessed by means of listening, speaking, reading and writing tests on completion of each topic. Pupils will develop useful conversational skills alongside linguistic and grammatical knowledge in Spanish.</p>

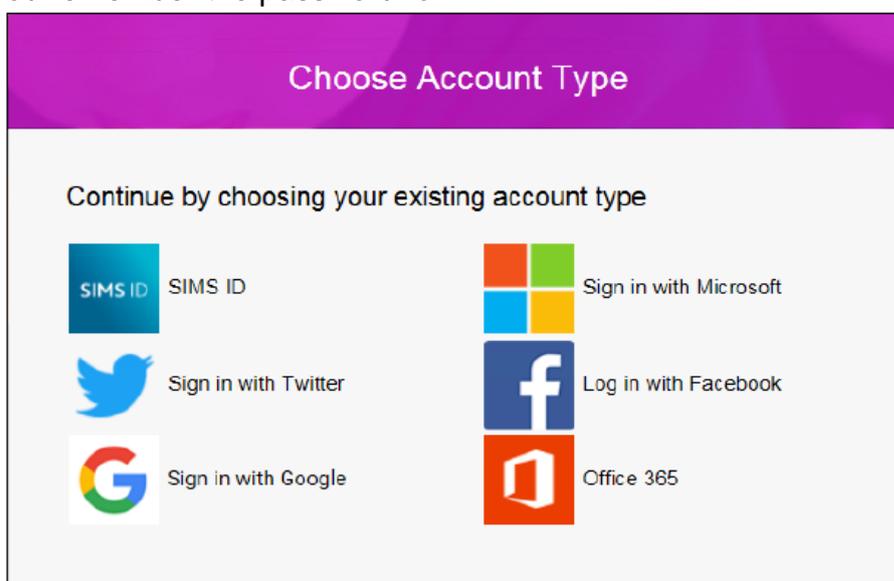
Sports Science

What will be taught in this course	<p>This course will be theory based but will include practical application where possible.</p> <p>Pupils will develop their knowledge of a variety of body systems and how they change when exercising or playing competitive sport.</p> <p>Pupils will also learn how social and ethical issues impact sport in society and how psychology can be used to improve overall performance.</p>
Links to wider learning	<p>Sports Science links to science, particularly biology, where pupils will develop their understanding of how the body works.</p> <p>Links to PSHE Health and Wellbeing topics where pupils will look at the physical and psychological impact of health and fitness.</p>
Independent learning opportunities	<p>Pupils will complete a presentation task set on one of the topics covered where they will develop research, oral presentation and ICT skills.</p> <p>Pupils will have access to a specialist PE website to assist their learning.</p>
Additional opportunities	<p>Pupils will undertake a trip to the University of Bedfordshire physiology laboratories to test different components of fitness.</p>
End of course outcome	<p>Assessment will be held in a variety of topic tests and through a larger written project at the end of the course.</p>

Options Online – Personalised Learning Programme Choices How to Guide

REGISTERING TO USE THE SYSTEM

1. You will receive a registration email from noreply@sims.co.uk containing a unique invitation code. You will need this code to set up your SIMS Online Services account. If you have not yet received a registration email, please check your junk folder.
2. Follow the link in the email which will direct you to the sign in page.
3. Users will be asked to sign in using an existing log in for one of the following accounts: Microsoft, Twitter, Facebook, Google or Office 365. **DO NOT SIGN IN USING SIMS ID.** For example, if you click the Microsoft icon, you will be asked for the user name and password you already use for your Microsoft account – you will not be setting up a new account; so, it is wise to use an existing log in that you remember the password for!

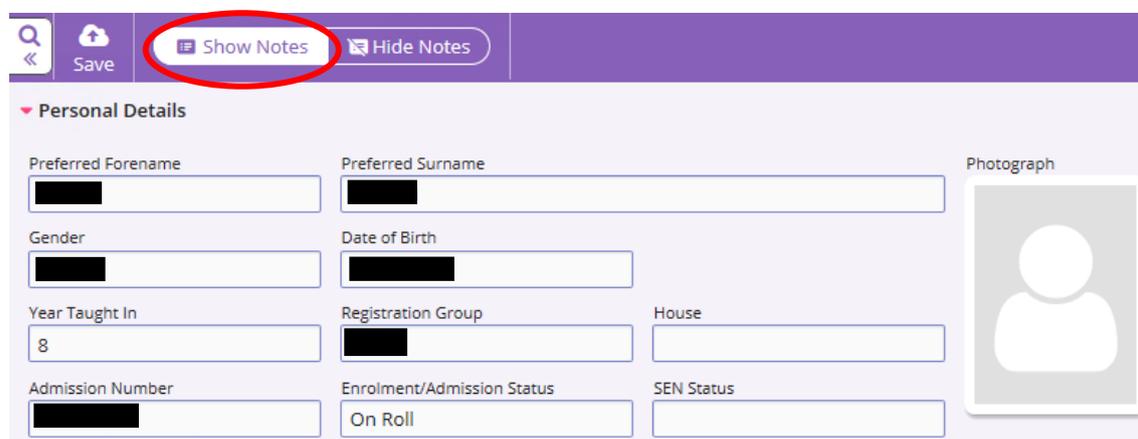


4. For verification purposes, parents are required to enter the date of birth of the child whose choices they are viewing. Students are required to enter their date of birth.
5. Once registration has been completed successfully, pupil/students can access their details and parents can access their child's details.

Once the registration process is complete, users can sign in via the following URL:
SIMS Options Online <https://www.sims-options.co.uk>

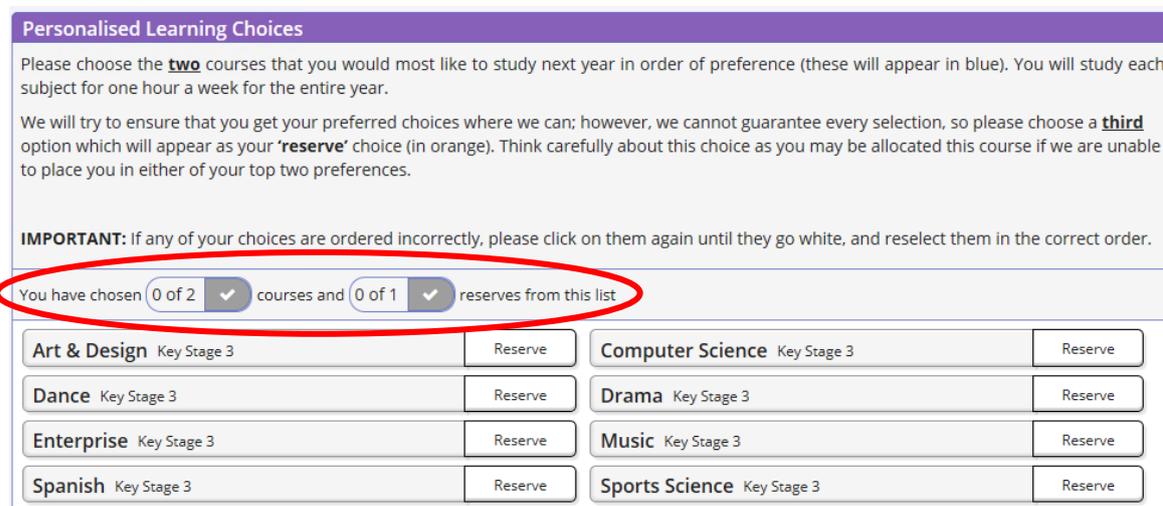
MAKING YOUR CHOICES

1. When you first navigate to the Options Online system you will see your/your child's information displayed. You will then see some helpful notes explaining what is required in order to select your/your child's preferences. (If the notes do not appear, please select 'Show Notes' at the top of the screen to the right of the 'Save' button.)



The screenshot shows the 'Personal Details' section of the Options Online system. At the top, there is a purple navigation bar with a search icon, a 'Save' button, a 'Show Notes' button (circled in red), and a 'Hide Notes' button. Below the navigation bar, the 'Personal Details' section is displayed with various input fields for personal information, including Preferred Forename, Preferred Surname, Gender, Date of Birth, Year Taught In, Registration Group, House, Admission Number, Enrolment/Admission Status, and SEN Status. A placeholder for a photograph is also visible on the right side.

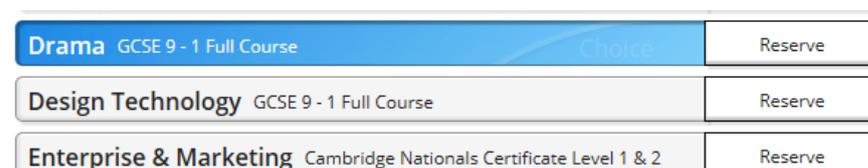
2. You will have a choice block in which you must pick a certain number of subjects to study. The amount of subjects you must choose is listed here, and once you have selected the correct amount the tick will go green.



The screenshot shows the 'Personalised Learning Choices' section. It includes instructions for choosing courses and a 'Show Notes' button (circled in red). Below the instructions, there is a summary of choices: 'You have chosen 0 of 2 courses and 0 of 1 reserves from this list.' Below this, there is a table of available courses with 'Reserve' buttons.

Course Name	Level	Reserve
Art & Design	Key Stage 3	Reserve
Computer Science	Key Stage 3	Reserve
Dance	Key Stage 3	Reserve
Drama	Key Stage 3	Reserve
Enterprise	Key Stage 3	Reserve
Music	Key Stage 3	Reserve
Spanish	Key Stage 3	Reserve
Sports Science	Key Stage 3	Reserve

3. To make your/your child's choices, simply select the option you want which will appear in blue, and keep selecting in the order of preference, the first subject you select will be the subject you/your child wishes to study the most, and so on.



The screenshot shows the 'Personalised Learning Choices' section with three courses selected. The first course, 'Drama GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course', is highlighted in blue and has a 'Reserve' button. The other two courses, 'Design Technology GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course' and 'Enterprise & Marketing Cambridge Nationals Certificate Level 1 & 2', are in grey and also have 'Reserve' buttons.

Course Name	Level	Reserve
Drama GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve
Design Technology GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve
Enterprise & Marketing Cambridge Nationals Certificate Level 1 & 2	Cambridge Nationals Certificate Level 1 & 2	Reserve

PLEASE NOTE: You must check the order in which you have selected your preferences; this will appear on the right-hand side of the screen. If the order is incorrect you can simply click the subject in the choices section until the bar is no longer blue and reselect in the correct order.

My Choices in Order of Preference
(Total Choices: 2)

To change your order of preference select a choice and click the position in the list you would like to move it to.

1	Art & Design GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course Options	← FIRST CHOICE
2	Drama GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course Options	← SECOND CHOICE

4. You will be required to choose a reserve subject; this is so you have a back-up option in case any of your top subject choices are full. Obviously, we will try our best to ensure all students are happy with their selections, but it is important to choose a reserve subject you would not mind studying. To select your reserve subject simply click on the 'reserve' button on the right of the subject – this should then appear in orange.

You have chosen 2 of 2 ✓ courses and 1 of 1 ✓ reserves from this list

Art & Design GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Choice	Reserve
Computer Science GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Reserve
Dance GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course		Reserve
Drama GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Choice	Reserve
Design Technology GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course		Reserve

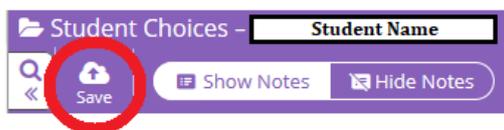
Once again make sure you are happy with your reserve subject and check the order in the right-hand side of the screen.

My Reserves in Order of Preference
(Total Reserves: 1)

To change your order of preference select a reserve and click the position in the list you would like to move it to.

1	Computer Science GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course Options
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- Once you/your child have worked through the blocks and selected Personalised Learning Programme choices you/your child must remember to SAVE! This button is found at the top of the page where the student information can be found.



- Finally, if you/your child wish to make any comments regarding choices selected you can add these in the comment box at the bottom of the page. Remember to 'Save' again if you add anything in here, otherwise just leave it blank.

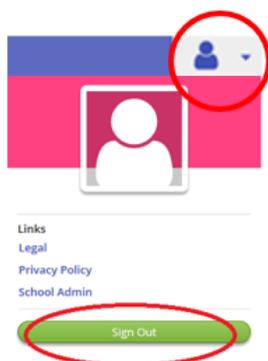


TROUBLESHOOTING

- There are a few different variables that can affect how the system works, for example which browser you use and if this is up to date, so sometimes when users log in they may see a blank screen:



- If you experience this, please click the person icon in the top right-hand corner and choose to sign out.



- Try to log in again using the same process before and then you should see your/your child's profile.
- If you are still experiencing problems then please contact the school using the following email address: alexandera@goldington.beds.sch.uk

