

Options Briefing 2024



IMBERHORNE SCHOOL

KEY STAGE 4 OPTIONS 2024



IT'S TIME
FOR YOU TO
CHOOSE

Compassion | Achievement | Respect | Endeavour
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Key Dates 2024

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Our KS4 Curriculum

- Meets the future needs of students in a changing world
- Provides flexibility with balance
- Identifies a core curriculum for all
- Introduces students to a variety of qualifications
- Supports a smooth transition to KS4

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The Core Curriculum

English Language & Literature	2 GCSEs	8 hours
Maths	1 GCSE	8 hours
Double Science	2 GCSEs	9 hours
R.E.		1 hour
Personal Development		1 hour
Core P.E.		3 hours
TOTAL HOURS		30

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The Optional Curriculum

Students with a recommendation to study a language - 20 hours

Language (normally French or Spanish)	1 GCSE	5 hours
+ 3 Options	GCSE or equivalent	15 hours

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The Optional Curriculum

Students without a recommendation to study a language - 20 Hours

4 Options

**GCSE
or equivalent**

**20
hours**

Applied Learning courses recommended

**You may be recommended to choose Support
Option or Construction**

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The Optional Curriculum

with Construction (if recommended) - 20 Hours

Construction	NCFE	5 hours
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With Health & Fitness + 2 Options	GCSE or equivalent	15 hours
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Or as technology + 3 Options	GCSE or equivalent	15 hours
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Applied Learning courses recommended

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Qualifications Available

Qualification	Nature of Subject	Hours per Fortnight	Value
GCSE	Class based assessment and examination	5	1 GCSE
BTEC / Cambridge National Award	Class based assessment and examination	5	1 GCSE
NCFE Level 2	Class based assessment and examination	5	1 GCSE
NCFE Level 1	Portfolio of evidence taken from class based assessment	5	1 GCSE Grade E

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Modern Foreign Languages

- **Languages give you the edge**
 - GCSE or A Level qualifications in languages open doors for traditional careers but also in digital marketing, social media and sales.
- **Languages open up the world**
 - Learning any language can make us more successful working abroad and builds resilience and agility. It provides ‘cultural capital’. We’re living in the age of the soft skills, so being good listeners and communicators will not only boost your grades but also give you the edge in side hustles, networking and future life.
- **Languages are a commodity**
 - It’s easy to fall back on outdated excuses like “English is the world language” to get ourselves out of trialling our own abilities. It was recently announced that French will replace English as the official working language of the EU. In this increasingly globalised world, languages have become like currency or stock - the more you speak, the higher your value rises.

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Portfolio-Based Courses

GCSE courses are examined at the end of Year 11 – two or three exams test knowledge and understanding across the course.

BTEC / Cambridge National courses (Health & Social Care, Creative Media, Sport BTEC) combine an exam with two units of portfolio-based coursework (worth 60% of the final grade).

Students work on the coursework elements across Years 10 and 11, in lesson-time and homework. Students have to keep up with portfolio deadlines; the course structure does not allow time to catch-up.

Students with low attendance should not choose these courses.

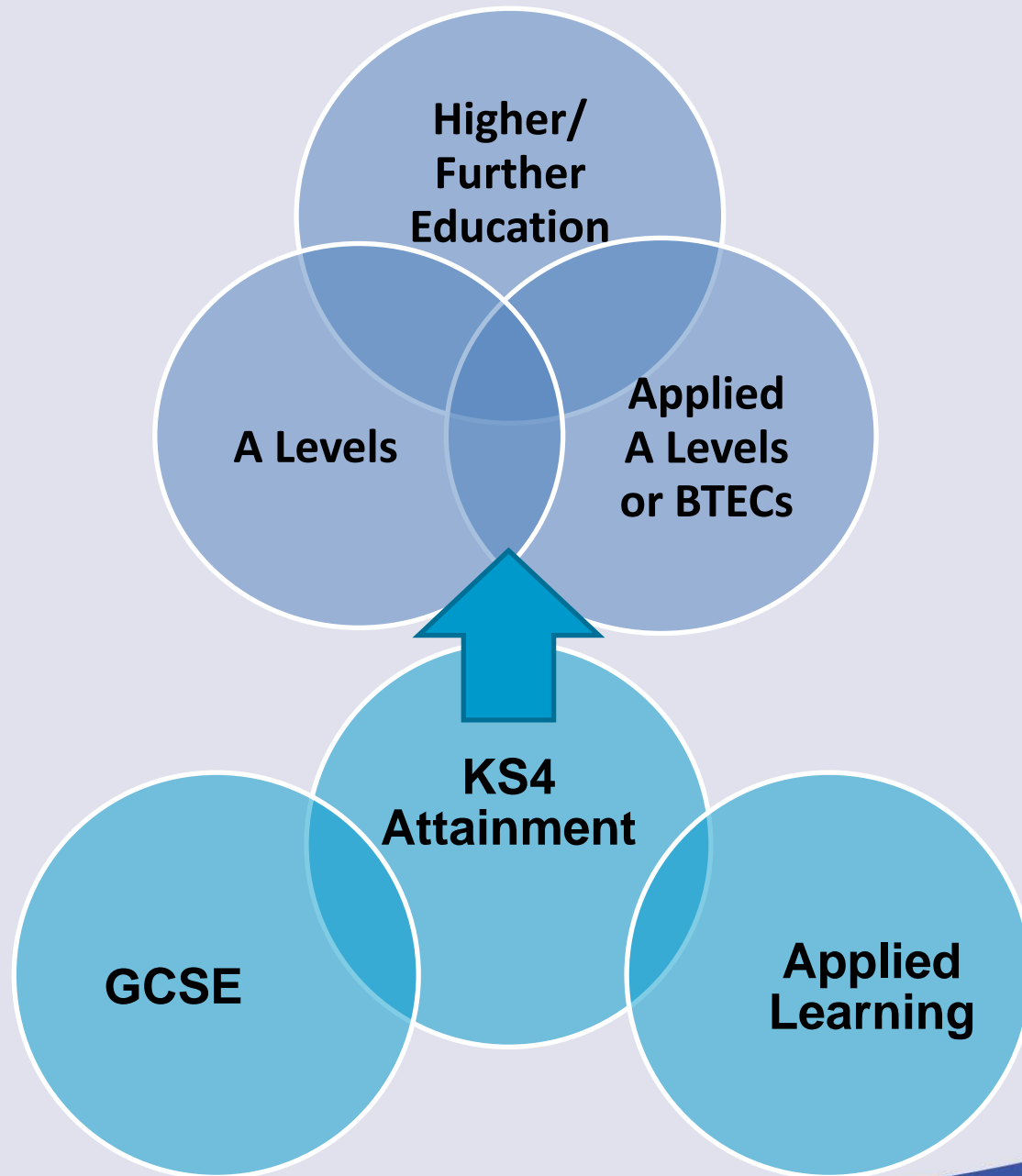
The two NCFE courses are a little more flexibility and can be taken by students with lower attendance.

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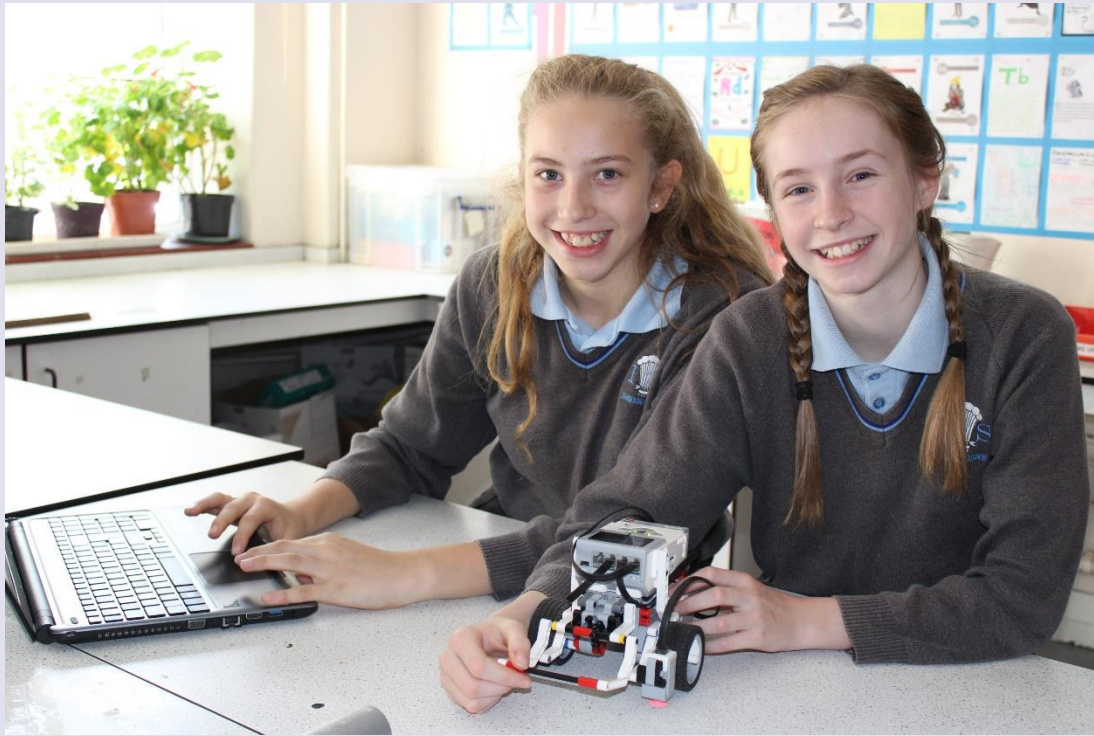
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Year 9 Options 2024

Optional Subjects



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Geography **Art** **Dance** **Food** **Health & Fitness**

Italian **History** **Textiles** **Computing**

French **Photography**

Health & Social Care **Support Option**

Product Design **Sport BTEC**

Creative Media BTEC **Drama**

Business GCSE **Music**

Resistant Materials **Child Development**

Electronics **Spanish**

Construction **GCSE PE**

Many choices

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Optional Subjects

Languages	Arts	Humanities	Health and Fitness
French Italian Spanish	Art Dance Drama Music Photography	Geography History	GCSE PE Health & Social Care / Child Development Sport BTEC / Health & Fitness

Students can only choose one PE-based course (GCSE PE, Sport BTEC or Health & Fitness) from the Health and Fitness area.

Students cannot choose both art & photography.

Students studying Italian in Year 9 may choose this as their GCSE Language, if they are recommended by their Italian teacher.

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Optional Subjects

Technology	Business / Computing	Support
Product Design Resistant Materials Textiles Electronics Food	Business GCSE Creative Media BTEC Computing	Support Option
		Vocational
		Construction

Students can only choose one Technology course.

Support Option & Construction are for recommended students only.

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GCSE RE

The core curriculum gives all students 1 hour per fortnight of RE and 3 hours per fortnight of core PE.

Students can choose to follow a GCSE RE course by transferring 1 hour of core PE to RE instead: 1 lesson per week of RE and 1 lesson per week of core PE.

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Twilight Courses

After school classes running from 3.10pm (lesson 6).

Triple Science is for students wanting to take separate GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Students will be taught in the same groups for science during the normal school day and in the twilight.

Italian allowing students to study an additional language.

Level 2 Further Maths

These courses require a 2 year commitment & we recommend you only choose one twilight.

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Year 9 Options 2024

Choosing your Options

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Good reasons for choosing subjects

What subjects am I good at?

What subjects do I enjoy?

What subjects do I do well in?

What am I planning to do after Year 11?

Sixth Form, college or apprenticeship?

University, apprenticeship or employment?



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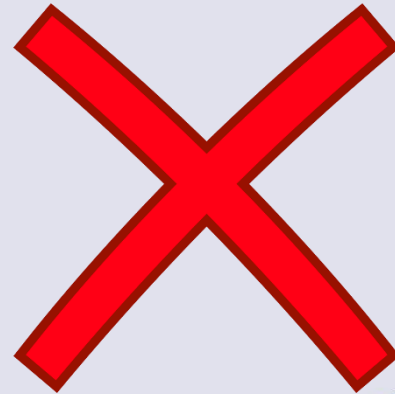
Avoid making choices based on ...

Who your teachers are in Year 9.

You will have many new teachers at Key Stage 4.

What your friends are choosing.

You could be in classes with anyone from your year group. You won't have lessons with your tutor group, just registration.



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Are you expected to continue with your foreign language?

A recommendation to study GCSE language?

We hope you will decide to continue your language to GCSE.

No such recommendation?

You don't have to continue with your language; but you can choose it if you want to.

Maybe you don't study a language now in Year 9.

Then you won't choose one for GCSE.

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How many free option choices will you have?

A recommendation to study GCSE language?
GCSE language + 3 option choices.

No such recommendation?
4 option choices.

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Broad & Balanced

Languages	Business / Computing
Arts	Technology
Humanities	Support
Health & Fitness	Vocational

Your option choices come from different subject areas.

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Early Specialisation

Languages	Business / Computing
Arts	
Humanities	
Health & Fitness	

2 choices from one subject area.

The rest of your choices from different subject areas.

These are the 5 subject areas that allow early specialisation.

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