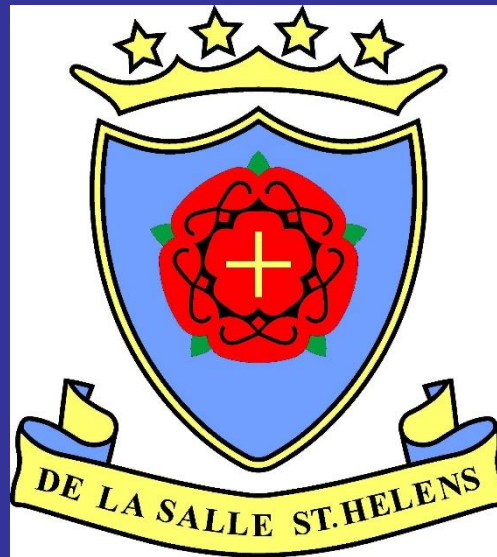


Year 9 G.C.S.E. Courses



September 2018

Feedback from last year....

- A couple of queries because not able to do geography and history.
- Uptake of performing arts and technology very low.
- Pupils resistant to doing Spanish

Subjects Everyone Takes

GCSE subjects

- English
- maths
- R.E.
- Science (double award for vast majority)

Non-GCSE but statutory subjects

- PSHCE(including Citizenship & Careers)
- P.E.

Pathways

- Blue All core subjects, Spanish, choose history or geography, plus one other (including triple science)
- Orange All core subjects, a humanity plus two other choices
- Purple Small (5-10) number of pupils following core (where appropriate), ASDAN plus enrichment work.

Blue Pathway

- Pupils following EBACC curriculum, includes triple science.
- Pupils study Spanish and choose from history or geography. They then have one further choice which includes a triple science option.
- Pathway for those pupils considering law, medicine and other professions requiring higher education for example at university.

Orange Pathway

- Pupils follow this pathway as it contains elements of more academic subjects but has a greater mix of vocational and practical subjects.
- Pupils choose from history or geography.
- Pupils choose from History/Spanish/Art or IT.
- Pupils have a final choice from 8 subjects.

Allows a wider and more practical blend of subjects.

Purple Pathway

- Our smallest pathway designed for pupils with some additional needs such as life skills and level 1/entry-level English and Maths.
- They should only consider taking history or geography after all IF they are likely to gain at least a grade C AND they believe that they will benefit from the subject.
- This represents only around 10 pupils.

G.C.S.E.s into the future....

They are still two-year courses but have received a lot of content from A-level and so De La Salle has extended Key Stage 4 to 3 years.

There is no longer coursework in most subjects.

All subjects are assessed by exams at the end of the course. There are typically two or three exams per subject.

3 things to take away.....

- ❖ Exams at the end of the course.
- ❖ Courses are changing in content, approach and assessment/grading.
- ❖ Ask your subject teachers for more specific advice.

Support for Your Choices

- Options Focus in school (**22/02/18 to 09/03/18**)
- Y8 Parents' Evening (**22/2/18**)
- Pupils received an Interim Report which was issued on **22/01/18** and updated you on progress.
- Pupils should speak to subject teachers at any point in the process, if they have questions.
- Pupils should consider Careers/Further Education Courses (advice available in school from Nicola Scully our CareerConnect adviser).

Dates Checklist

- Parents' Information meeting **22/02/18**
- Year 8 Assembly **21/02/18**
- Option booklets live on website **22/02/18**
- Options Focus **21/02/18 to 09/03/18**
- Option choices made online by (**deadline**) **09/03/18**
- Parents informed w/c **26/03/18**

How to get help ?

- Option choices – Subject teachers
- Careers advice – Mrs Scully
(Nicola. Scully@careerconnect.org.uk)
- Options process: rossp@sthelens.org.uk