

Curriculum Provision at The Gilbert School 2023-24 and Beyond

The curriculum offer at The Gilbert School has for many years been judged to be outstanding, providing students across the academic sphere with the opportunity to fulfil and, in many cases, to exceed their potential. Our aim as always, has been to create a curriculum that couples academic rigour with the development of our students’ character and confidence, in preparation for the wider world beyond The Gilbert School.

Increasingly, we have found that students find it difficult to select their options in Year 8, with many Year 9 students requesting option changes within the first two terms. This, along with changes to the regulatory framework, made it a timely opportunity to rethink our curriculum. Therefore, from the academic year 2022-23, we introduced a two-stage option process, narrowing the curriculum very slightly from Year 8 into Year 9 and then again from Year 9 into Year 10. The diagram below outlines the subjects that students will study from Year 7 to 11 as of September 2023:

	English	Maths	Science	Future Skills	History	Geography	Religious Studies	Modern Foreign Languages	Technology	Music	Art	Drama	Physical Education	Computer Science	Dance	Year 9* a choice of two option subjects comprising a single lesson in each across the 2-week timetable.						Year 10 & 11 Option choices	
																Business Studies	Health and Social Care	Computer Science	Drama	Dance	Information Technology		Physical Education
Year 7 & 8	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓								
Year 9*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓								
Year 10 & 11	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓						✓										Option Block A Option Block B Option Block C Option Block D

Students will have the opportunity to choose two option subjects to study in Year 9 (please note that students will not be obliged to continue with these two options in Year 10).

Our aim is for students to study a broad and balanced curriculum for as long as possible, developing their skills and knowledge across a wider range of subjects in Year 9 before making their final, and more informed, GCSE option decisions in Year 9. Subject Leaders have spent many hours skilfully sequencing the Year 9 curriculum so that the skills and content needed to maintain excellent GCSE outcomes are not compromised.