

THE BOLSOVER SCHOOL

Nothing but the best



Year 9 Guided Choices



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Welcome to the 2026 Year 9 Guided Choices Evening

- ➔ Find out the process for the students making their choices of what subjects to study for their GCSE's in Y10 and Y11
- ➔ Explore the different pathways available to the students
- ➔ Visit different subjects and talk to teachers about the GCSE and Vocational subjects on offer.

The Core Curriculum

- ➔ English Language and Literature
- ➔ Mathematics (Higher or Foundation)
- ➔ Science (Dual Award or Triple Science)
- ➔ Physical Education (not GCSE)
- ➔ Religious Education (Year 10)

What choices do they have?

The students will be guided via different pathways depending upon their ability and prior attainment.

Every student will choose a minimum of one Ebacc subject: Geography, History, French or German.

There are three suggested Pathways for their choices:

Yellow

Red

Blue

Yellow Pathway

These will be the students who are ***nominated*** to study Triple Science (separate GCSE qualifications in Biology, Chemistry and Physics).

They will then choose:

Geography or History

German or French

One other choice from the list of subjects on offer

Red Pathway

The majority of the students will be suggested this pathway.

These students will study the Dual Award in Science.

They will then choose:

Geography or History

German or French

One other choice from the list of subjects on offer

Blue Pathway

These students will study the Dual Award in Science.

They will then choose:

Geography, History, German or French

Two other choices from the list of subjects on offer



Proposed Choices for 2026

Art (Miss Richmond/Mrs Willis)

Business Studies (Mr McPhillips)

Computer Science (Mr Ward)

Design & Engineering (Miss Whaplington)

Drama (Mrs Lyne)

Food preparation & nutrition (Mrs Crossley)

French (Mr Drury)

Geography (Mr Bacon)

German (Mr Drury)

History (Mr Bramley)

Health & Social Care* (Miss Power)

Music (Mr Stacey)

Sports Studies* (Miss Ruddach/Mr Pemberton)



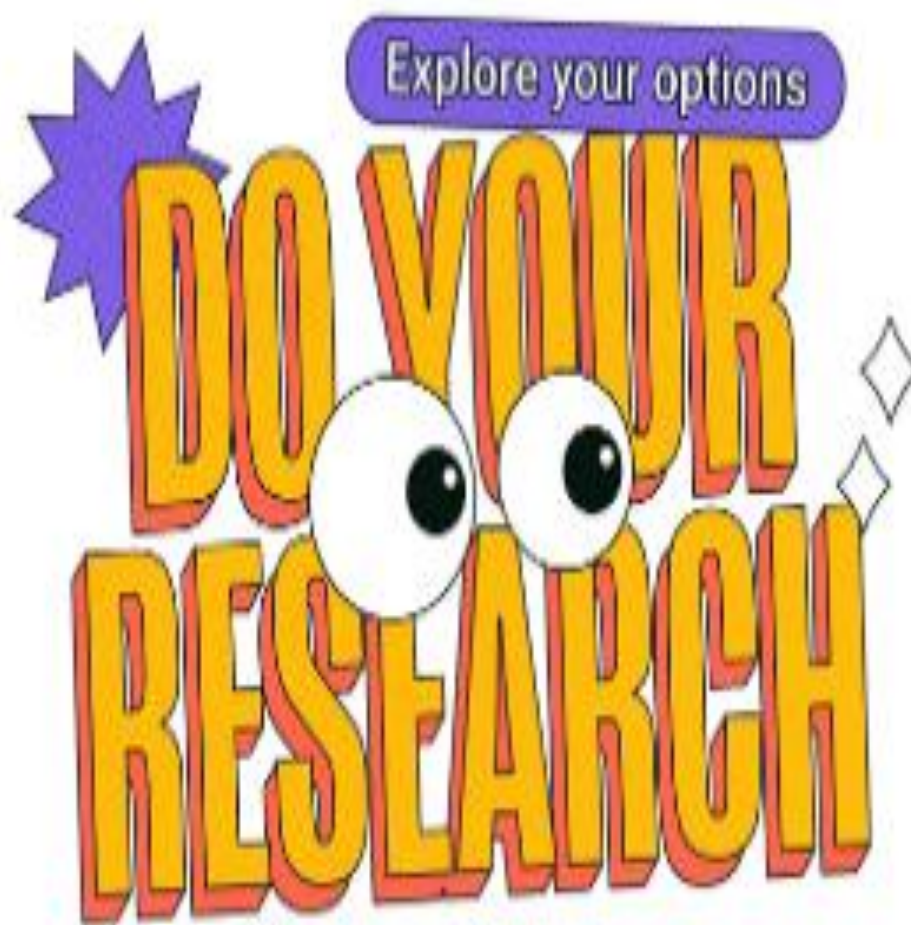
Legacy GCSEs	New GCSE Grades	Vocational Qualifications	
A*	9	Distinction * 8.5	Level 2
	8		
A	7	Distinction 7	
	6		
B	5	Merit 5.5	
	4		
C	3	Pass 4	
	2		
D	1	Distinction * 3	Level 1
	2		
E	1.5	Merit 1.5	
	1		
F	1	Pass 1	
	1		
G	1	Pass 1	
U	U	Not Yet Achieved (NYA)	

How will they be graded?

GCSE 9-1

Vocational – D M P

How should they choose?



A little preparation goes a long way. Think about what you'd like to study in the future, or the kind of job that you'd like to do. If you don't know yet, mixing things up can help to keep your options open.



Reach out for help. Get advice from teachers, advisors, or senior students if you're feeling stuck. Don't rush to decide.



Know yourself. Chances are, the more you like a subject, the easier learning will be. Do what's best for you, not for others.

What should they not do?

- Choose a subject because they like the teacher... they might not be the one teaching them – teachers change.
- Choose a subject because their friend is choosing it – they should choose what is right for them, not someone else – they might not even be in the same class.
- Choose a subject because it sounds new and different – find out the content of the course.

Reserve Choices

All students will be asked to state a 'reserve choice'.

Whilst I will do my very best to build the timetables so that every student can study the combination of subjects they want, there may be occasions where it just won't work and therefore a reserve choice may have to be factored in.

They shouldn't just randomly choose one. It needs to be a subject they would be happy to study if their preferred choices don't work out.

How will they be supported in making their choices?

Horizontal tutors – this week will be discussing the different choices with the students.

Subject leaders – have recorded videos about what is involved with each of their courses. Students will have the opportunity to view these during tutor time this week. They are also on the website if parents wish to view them too.

1:1 mentor – HOH or SLT link

Taster sessions

Guided Choices Timeline

24th February – Guided Choices Evening – booklet & process shared

26th & 27th February – Taster session choices (MS Forms)

W/C 2nd March – Allocation of mentors and suggested pathways

3rd March – Y9 Parents Evening – subject teachers

9th March – Taster sessions afternoon

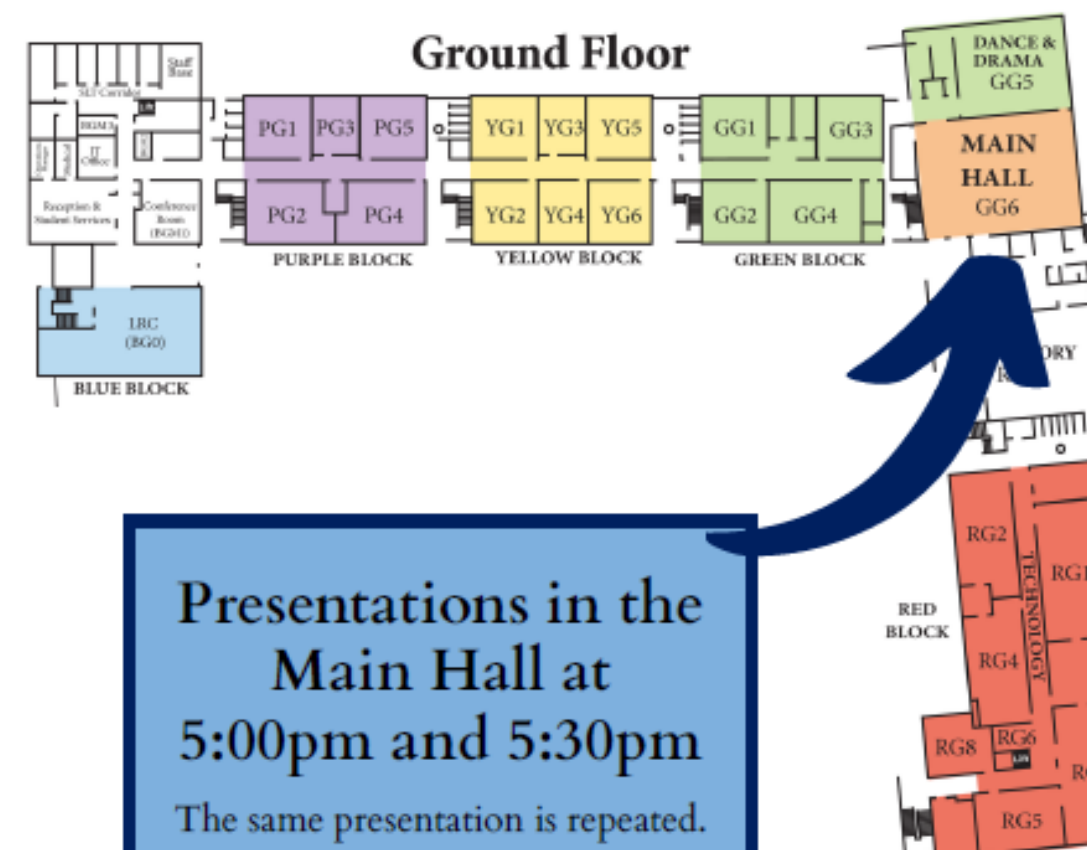
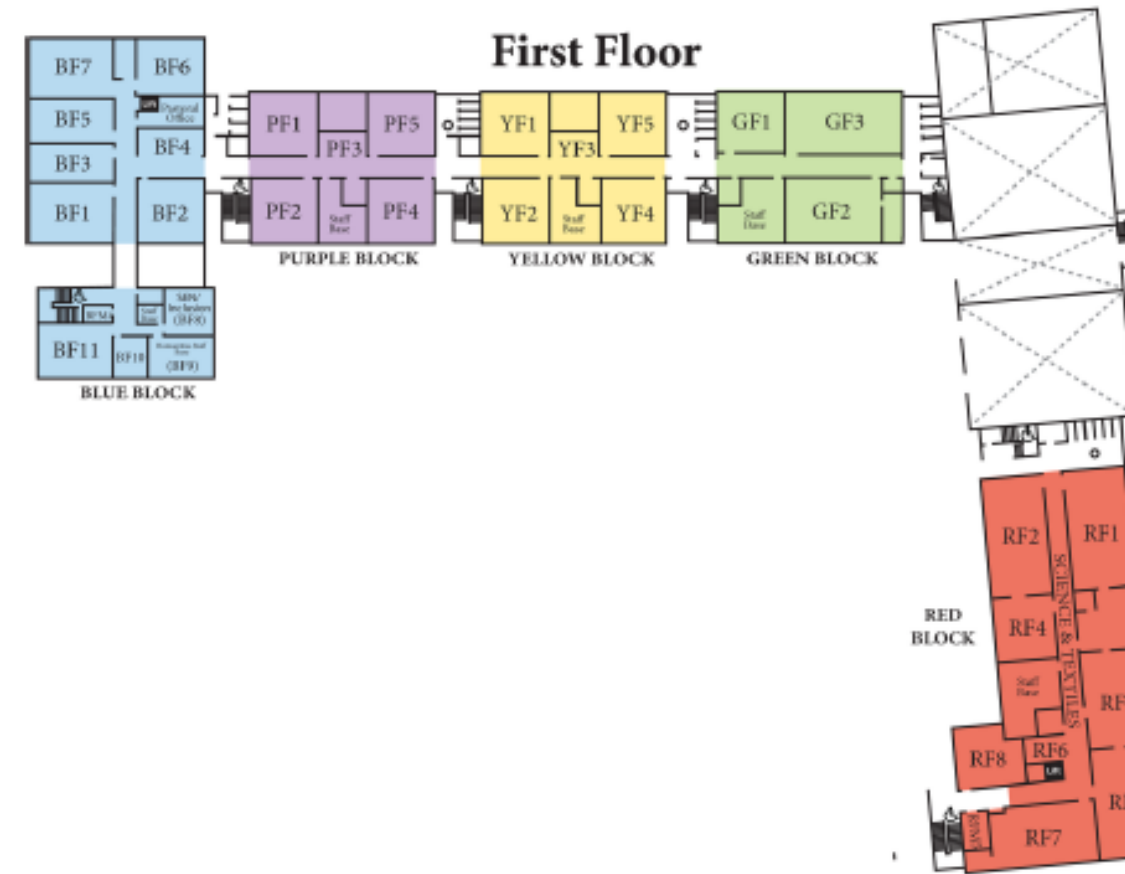
10th March – Meetings commence with 1:1 mentors to make choices

31st March – Deadline for all choices

Guided Choices Evening 2026

Go and have a look around at the subjects and ask any questions you have.

Geography	BF5
Health & Social Care	BF3
History	BF2
Business Studies	PG4
Careers	PF2
Computer Science	PG4
Maths	PF4
SEND	PF1
English Language & English Literature	YF1
Sports Studies	YF5
Art	GF3
Drama	GG5
French	GF1
German	GF1
Music	GG4
Design & Engineering	RG1
Food Preparation and Nutrition	RG4
Science / Triple Science	RF2



Presentations in the Main Hall at 5:00pm and 5:30pm
The same presentation is repeated.

