



**St. Anne's Catholic High School for Girls**

# **KEY STAGE 4 PATHWAYS**

## **STUDENT INFORMATION**



# Opening Prayer

Lord Jesus, may everything I do begin with You, continue with Your help, and be done under Your guidance. May we grow in Your Love and Your service and become a pleasing offering to You; and with You to Your Father. Be present as we consider the future, and let us rest our concerns on you, working to redeem our world with you.

Amen

A green rectangular sign with rounded corners and a white border is mounted on two wooden posts. The sign features the word "Pathways" in a large, bold, white sans-serif font, and the phrase "Just Ahead" in a smaller, white sans-serif font below it. The background is a bright blue sky filled with fluffy white clouds, with a sun flare visible in the upper right quadrant.

**Pathways**  
Just Ahead



# About Key Stage 4 Pathways

You are an individual with a different range of aspirations, gifts and talents. We hope that through our support and guidance you will enjoy and achieve well in years 10 and 11, through an appropriate course of study that will support a broad and balanced curriculum.



# The Process so far:

## Information about Year 10 and 11 study.

- ❖ Year 9 students have been introduced to Key Stage 4 Pathways and been given information, advice and guidance on the process. You will have a Taster Lesson in each of your subjects to give you an idea how the subject may differ from Key Stage 3 by the 22nd January.
- ❖ You will receive your Key Stage 4 Pathway form by **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February**. This Pathway is based on your CATs scores and the progress you have made during Key Stage 3. This is the Pathway that we believe is the most appropriate for you.
- ❖ You will be able to access our Key Stage 4 Pathway subject information online via our website on **Thursday** evening, **1<sup>st</sup> February**. Your parents will be emailed a link.



# About GCSE

- ❖ GCSE is a General Certificate of Secondary Education
- ❖ GCSEs are the qualification studied by our students in Year 10 and 11, which is called Key Stage 4.
- ❖ The Key Stage 4 Pathways subject information has the most up to date information on each of the courses offered.
- ❖ At St. Anne's most students study 9 GCSE courses.



# The Key Stage 4 Core Curriculum

**All Students follow a GCSE Core Curriculum at Key Stage 4**

- 1. English Language**
- 2. English Literature**
- 3. Mathematics**
- 4 & 5. Combined Science (Trilogy)**
- 6. Religious Education**

This makes a total of 6 compulsory GCSE courses.



# General Certificate of Education (GCSE)

All GCSE courses have at least one final exam at the end of year11 called a 'terminal exam'.

Most subjects at GCSE are now 100% terminal exam based which means that the whole GCSE grade is given based on how well a student does in her exam paper at the end of year11.





# Grades Explained

9	A*
8	A
7	A
6	B
5 (strong pass)	C
4 (standard pass)	C
3	D
2	E
1	F
1	G
U	U



## LANGUAGES

- The DfE (Department for Education) and a number of Universities advise that students who are likely to be able to achieve a good GCSE in a Language should take one as part of their KS4 curriculum.
- The vast majority of the year group will study either French or Spanish.

## HUMANITIES (History and Geography)

- Studying a Humanities at GCSE level is a gateway for many students in providing a broad and balanced curriculum with 'academic rigour'.
- The majority of your year group will be guided to take either History or Geography.



# Other KS4 Subject Choices

## FREE LIST

- Art\*
- Computer Science (Applicable to students from **set 1 Maths only**)
- Drama
- Design Technology:
  - Food
  - Graphics\*
  - Textiles\*
- iMedia
- Music
- Photography
- Physical Education
- Separate Sciences – Biology Chemistry and Physics (Applicable to students from **set 1 and 2 Science only**)

\*You may only study one of the subjects with \*,i.e. art, graphics and textiles

You may not be able to study all first choice subject(s). We will work to get the best outcomes that we can.



# Pathway A General Ebacc

All students study these 6 subjects

1. English Language
2. English Literature
3. Mathematics
- 4 & 5. Combined Science Trilogy
6. Religious Education

Students select:

7. a Language (French or Spanish) and
8. a Humanities (History or Geography)
9. Students then select 1 subject from the “free” list, which could be a second humanities or Language

Students choose 1 reserve subject from the “free” list



# Pathway A Computer Science

All students study these 6 subjects

1. English Language
2. English Literature
3. Mathematics
- 4 & 5. Combined Science Trilogy
6. Religious Education

Students select:

7. a Language (French or Spanish) and
8. a Humanities (History or Geography)
9. Students from set 1 in maths could select Computer Science

**Students must complete the Pathway A General as well as the Pathway A Computer Science Form**

Students choose 1 reserve subject from the “free” list



# Pathway A Separate Sciences

All students study these 6 subjects

1. English Language
2. English Literature
3. Mathematics
- 4 & 5. Combined Science Trilogy
6. Religious Education

Students select:

7. a Language (French or Spanish) and
8. a Humanities (History or Geography).

Students from sets 1 & 2 in science could choose to study Separate (Triple) sciences

9. **Separate Sciences**

**Students must complete the Pathway A General as well as the Pathway A Separate Sciences Form**

Students choose 1 reserve subject from the “free” list



# Pathway B

All students study these 6 subjects

1. English Language
2. English Literature
3. Mathematics
- 4 & 5. Combined Science Trilogy
6. Religious Education

Students select one of:

7. History **or** Geography **or** French **or** Spanish, leaving **two further subjects** of their own choice.

8 & 9. Students select **two subjects** from the “free” list, which could be a second humanities or a Language or Separate (Triple) Science\*\* or Computer Science\*\*\*

- Students choose 2 reserve subjects from the “free” list

**\*You may only study one of the subjects with \*, art, graphics and textiles**

**\*\* Science set 1 or 2                   \*\*\* Maths set 1**

**\*\* & \*\*\* Please see Ms Labonne**



# Pathway C

Some Students may be guided in selecting just 2 Broad Pathway choices (**one of these choices can be a Humanities or a Language**) with additional curriculum learning time to support achievement.

**All students study these 6 subjects**

- 1. English Language**
- 2. English Literature**
- 3. Mathematics**
- 4 & 5. Combined Science Trilogy**
- 6. Religious Education**

7 & 8. Students select **two subjects** from the “free” list

- Students choose **2 reserve subjects** from the “free” list

**\*You may only study one of the subjects with \*, art, graphics and textiles**





# Other KS4 Subject Choices

## In addition to the core GCSE curriculum and Student Pathways:

All students have core PE on their weekly timetable.

Citizenship and Personal Social and Health Education (CPSHE), Careers Guidance and Work-Related Learning are taught to students in a variety of ways, including our curriculum drop-down sessions.



# Progression to Key Stage 5 Pathways

In our Sixth Form we work to provide Key Stage 5 Level 3 Curriculum Pathways for students as a progression from Key Stage 4.

We offer a range of A Level and BTEC Level 3 Qualifications.



# The right Pathway

You are an individual.

We hope that through providing guidance, information and support, you will begin Key Stage 4 with an appropriate curriculum which meets your interests, needs and aspirations.



# Good reasons to choose a Subject

- ❖ You are good at that particular subject
- ❖ You think you will enjoy the course
- ❖ It fits with your current career plans
- ❖ It gives you plenty of choice when choosing post-16 courses
- ❖ The method of assessment suits your strengths/learning style



# In Summary – Three Pathways

## **Pathway A (Ebacc) [6 compulsory plus 3 others]**

- ❖ **A General** – Language, Humanities plus 1 other from free list
- ❖ **A with Computer Science** – Language, Humanities plus Computer Science
- ❖ **A with Separate Sciences** – Language, Humanities plus Separate Sciences

## **Pathway B (Non-Ebacc) [6 compulsory plus 3 others]**

- ❖ Language or Humanities plus 2 others from free list
- ❖ If you are eligible for Separate Sciences\* or Computer Science\*\*, you should see Ms Labonne for a replacement form
- ❖ \* Set 1& 2 Science                      \*\* Set 1 Maths

## **Pathway C (Extended Learning Option) [6 compulsory plus 2 others]**

- ❖ 2 choices from free list



# The Process

## What happens now?

It is advisable that you have meaningful conversations with your subject teachers so that you make the correct subject choices to study at Key Stage 4. You should all have had a KS4 Taster lesson in all of your subjects starting Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> January.

We have looked at progress and target data to support us in allocating a pathway to you. All links to your Pathway MS Form(s) will be sent to you by **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February**. If you do not receive your link to your specific MS Form, please contact **Ms Labonne** immediately.

Take your time to think about your subject choice(s).

Submit your response by **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February before 16:00**.



# And then?

Pathway forms will be processed and discussions regarding alternative subject choices or suggested changes will take place after the Easter holiday.

When this has been completed you will be given confirmation of your KS4 Pathway choices in July.

*It may not be possible for all students to get all of their first Pathway choices, which is why it is important to choose reserve choices carefully.*