

The Cherwell School

A Centre of Opportunity

Mr Joe Ewen

- Year Leader

Mr Jermaine Jarvis

- Assistant Headteacher (Transitions and Progression)

ADVICE and GUIDANCE

Important Dates 2017	
Monday 16th January onwards	Focus in tutorial time and assemblies – <i>Choosing options</i>
Wednesday 25th January	Year 9 Options Evening on the North Site Courses for Years 10 & 11 options booklet given to parents
Thursday 23rd February	Parents' Consultation Evening on the South Site
Friday 10th March	Last date for Option Forms to be returned to Form Tutors
May and June	The school advice team (see 'people to ask' above) review student choices. Further meetings with individual students, parents and carers at this stage if required
June	Options confirmed to students and parents. Opportunity for follow up consultations with students and parents and carers if concerns remain

Advice and Guidance for students

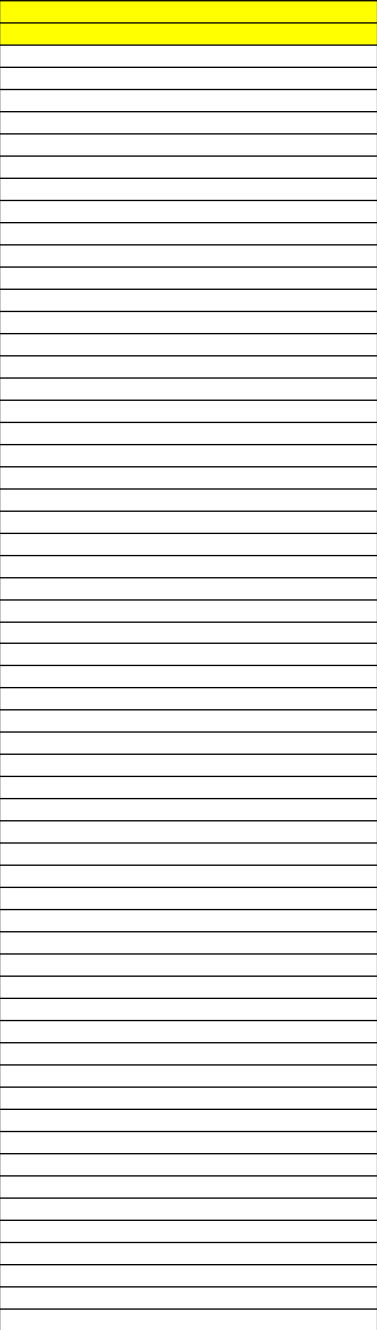
- Assemblies
- Taster Sessions
- 1:1 meetings with tutors / other staff
- Discussion with parents / carers
- Student Carousel
- Parents Evening – 23rd February

Jason Davis

- School Careers Adviser

Cherwell KS4 Recent Results

**Last
Year's
GCSE
Results**



The
Cherwell
School

Why?

Culture of learning

Organised

Team ethos

Strong ATL

Courses for Years 10 & 11

2017-19

Types of Courses at Cherwell

GCSE

NCFE VCert

**Cambridge
Nationals**

Understanding the offer – types of courses

GCSE

Most common form of qualification

2 year courses; graded 1-9

Grading new GCSEs from 2017

New grading structure	Current grading structure
9	A*
8	A
7	A
6	B
5	B
4	C
3	D
2	E
1	F
1	G
U	U

GOOD PASS (DfE)
5 and above = top of C and above

AWARDING
4 and above = bottom of C and above

GCSE

Usually examined at the
end of the course

Some practical elements,
eg Drama, Art, Music

Some coursework / Non-
Examined Assessment

NCFE VCert

**More coursework; less
exam**

**More vocational – aimed
at the world of work**

**Equivalent in value to a
GCSE**

NCFE VCert

Health and Fitness

Food and Catering

Engineering

Cambridge Nationals

**More coursework; less
exam**

**More vocational – aimed
at the world of work**

**Equivalent in value to a
GCSE**

Cambridge Nationals

Health and Social Care

ICT

EAL / VRQ Cert

Cycle Maintenance

The Ebacc

A measure not a qualification

Subjects at Cherwell which count in the measure are the following:

English Maths	Sciences MFL (French, Spanish or German)	History Geography Computer Science
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Ebacc is not compulsory here, but does represent a rigorous and challenging academic curriculum.

Courses for Years 10 and 11

A combination of core
courses and options

Core Curriculum

CITIZENSHIP (1 GCSE – completed in Year 10)	ENGLISH LANGUAGE (1 GCSE)	ENGLISH LITERATURE (1 GCSE)
MATHEMATICS (1 GCSE)	PHYSICAL EDUCATION	SCIENCE (2 or 3 GCSE)

Science

Triple

3 GCSEs in Physics, Chemistry,
Biology

12 lessons per fortnight

Combined

2 GCSEs in Combined Science

10 lessons per fortnight

Why opt for Triple?

Triple

3 GCSEs in Physics, Chemistry,
Biology

12 lessons per fortnight

Combined

2 GCSEs in Combined Science

10 lessons per fortnight

Interest and ability are key

Y9 Science exams on 3rd and 4th April and performance
over the year used to assess suitability

Why opt for Combined?

Triple

3 GCSEs in Physics, Chemistry,
Biology

12 lessons per fortnight

Combined

2 GCSEs in Combined Science

10 lessons per fortnight

Can lead to higher achievement for some
students – do less, do it better

Does give access to 6th Form Science
courses here and elsewhere

Where to get advice

Triple

3 GCSEs in Physics, Chemistry,
Biology

12 lessons per fortnight

Combined

2 GCSEs in Combined Science

10 lessons per fortnight

Advice and guidance for all available
through tutors, Science teachers, YL / DYL

OPTIONS

- 4 Option Subjects need to be chosen
- Note - These are entered on the Options Form in **ORDER OF PREFERENCE**
- Looking for a balance of subjects to keep future options open, but we take an **individual approach** to student choices.

How to make option choices?





Reporting at PR3

New grading structure	
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7-9

5-6

3-4

1-2

Language Options

FRENCH

GERMAN

SPANISH

**Recommended for
many students**

**Some students take
2 languages**

Technology and Creative Options

RESISTANT MATERIALS (GCSE)	FOOD CATERING (NCFE VCert)	GRAPHICS (GCSE)
	ENGINEERING (NCFE VCert)	

If students do not choose to take one of the above options they are encouraged to take one from the following creative subjects.

ART (GCSE)	TEXTILES ART (GCSE)	MUSIC (GCSE)
DANCE (GCSE)	DRAMA (GCSE)	

Additional Options

GEOGRAPHY (GCSE)	HISTORY (GCSE)	PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS (GCSE)
CYCLE MAINTENANCE	BUSINESS (GCSE)	HEALTH AND FITNESS (NCFE)
HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE (Cambridge National)	COMPUTER SCIENCE (GCSE)	ICT (Cambridge National)
SOCIOLOGY (GCSE)	SPORT SCIENCE (GCSE)	

Extra-Curricular Option

ASTRONOMY

- After School, once per week for 90 minutes
- Please tick the relevant box on the Option Form

OPTIONS FORM

- Please complete the Four Option boxes in Order of Preference
- Please also add a reserve choice
- Please tick any relevant boxes (Triple Science or Astronomy)
- **Please return the Options Form by Friday 10th March** (*not before the 6th March please*)

SINGLE OPTIONS

(1 option choice) GCSE course unless otherwise stated

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Art• Business Studies• Certificate in Engineering – Bike Maintenance• Computer Science• Dance• Drama• Engineering – (NCFE VCert) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Food and Catering – (NCFE VCert)• French• Geography• German• Graphics• Health & Social Care – (Cambridge National)• History | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ICT – (Cambridge National)• Music• Health & Fitness – (NCFE VCert)• Philosophy & Ethics• Product Design• Sociology• Spanish• Sport Science• Textiles |
|--|---|--|

ADDITIONAL COURSE

(Does not count as an option)

- Astronomy GCSE (extra course after school)

Now make your set of four choices, those you would really like to take, and fill the names of the subjects in the boxes below with number **1** being your first preference and number **4** being your fourth choice. Also let us have a reserve choice of subject in case it becomes impossible for us to timetable your four choices.

1 French	2 History	3 Drama	4 ICT	RESERVE Spanish
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If you would like to be considered for **Triple Science at GCSE** in Years 10 & 11, please tick this box.

If you think you might want to take **Astronomy** after school, please tick this box.

Top FAQs

- Is this the right number of courses?
- What if my child changes their mind?
- Are GCSE courses more highly-regarded?
- Can more than one subject be taken from one area?
- What is the best way for me to support my child through this process?

Is this the right number of courses?

Not enough?

**Most students do
10 / 11 GCSEs**

**Performance
measures are on top 8**

**High achievement and
clear progression routes**

Is this the right number of courses?

Not enough?

**Most students do
10 / 11 GCSEs**

**Performance
measures are on top 8**

**High achievement and
clear progression routes**

Too many?

**Strong support and
high expectations**

**Potential to do one
less option**

**Will discuss if felt to
be sensible**

What if my child changes their mind?

Options Timeline

**March 10 –
hand form in**

Choices confirmed

**Courses
start**



Jan | Feb | March | April | May | June | July | Summer | September

Advice and
Guidance

Time to reflect

Changes possible

No further changes

Are GCSE courses more highly-regarded?

Courses have genuine 'Level 2' equivalency

**Provide valid route into post-16 education and
University**

Non-GCSE do give access to our 6th form

Can more than one subject be taken from one area?

Yes – but with some caution

Avoid taking courses that are too similar

Health and Fitness

Sport Science

Can more than one subject be taken from one area?

Yes – but with some caution

Avoid taking courses that are too similar

Computer Science

ICT

What is the best way for me to support my child through this process?

Encourage reflection and discussion

Do some research with them

Encourage them to ask for advice

Talk it through post-PCE on 23rd Feb

Year 9 – Pre-GCSE Year

Citizenship

English

Maths

Science

Macbeth

Maths!

**Tests on 3&4th
April**

**Writing non-
fiction**

Romantic Poetry

Who to contact

- Year Leader – Mr Ewen
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- Deputy Year Leader – Mrs Kidd
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- Deputy Headteacher – Mr Boulter
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- Assistant Headteacher – Mr Jarvis
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- SENCO – Dr Hawes
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- Careers Adviser – Mr Jason Davis
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