

Wilmslow High
School

Key Stage 4 Course Choices

- Context
- Balance
- Expectations
- Guidance

A powerful curriculum

- You are all entitled to a powerful curriculum that will allow you to make educated and independent decisions
- There is a balance between the core knowledge that we all need to have and the subjects that we specialise in
- This balance is reflected in the Key Stage 4 course choices process

Informed decision making

- You will be listing your Key Stage 4 qualifications throughout your working career therefore we will give you careful advice about the getting the balance right

Getting the balance right



A balance of choice and continuity



A balance of subjects that provide you with plenty of options in the future



Some courses can be picked up again at A Level



No one is expected to specialise at 14!

National Expectations

- It is the government's intent that 75% of students will complete the English Baccalaureate by 2022.
- It is important that our students and parents are aware of this and take this into consideration when making their choices.



Department
for Education

WHAT IS THE EBACC?

The EBacc is not a qualification in its own right – it's a combination of GCSE subjects, including a language, that offer an important range of knowledge and skills to young people.

EBACC FUTURE PROOFS YOUR CHILD'S PROSPECTS

While your child may not have decided on their future career path yet, choosing the EBacc at GCSE gives them access to a full range of employment options when they leave secondary school and the broad knowledge that employers are looking for.

If they are thinking of going to university, the EBacc is also recommended by Britain's most prestigious universities.

What does a “broad and balanced” KS4 curriculum look like?

In order to ensure that you study a broad and balanced KS4 curriculum that will keep your future options open we expect you to study:

- English (both Language & Literature) and mathematics
- Double or Triple Science
- At least one additional English Baccalaureate subject
- One or two further subjects chosen from the full range of options
- In addition, you will continue to receive PE and Wider Curriculum lessons.

Guided Choices

You are choosing qualifications for life, so we will guide each of you carefully through the process:

- 8 or 9 qualifications
- A balanced approach to science (combined or triple science)
- A balanced approach to the rest of Year 9 – it will count.

Guided Choices

We use the Course Choices process to design our curriculum, grouping and timetable. Any changes made after this point mean that we cannot guarantee that a student has the optimal timetable; therefore you need to make the right selection as part of this process

I have not chosen this subject because a friend is doing it

I have not chosen this subject based on the teachers

I am realistic about what key stage 4 study involves in this subject

I am realistic about how good I am at this subject

I do not think that I will change my mind about opting for this subject because:

Guided Choices

- All the courses that we offer will provide our students with valuable qualifications; all of them will also be challenging. It is important that you don't make any of the following mistakes:
 - This course will be 'fun'
 - This course won't involve much written work
 - I am not good at time management but I will be fine studying 2-3 'coursework' subjects