



Calday Grange Grammar School

The Year 9 – 11 Curriculum 2017-2019

Year 8 Parents Evening

19 April 2017

Patrick Adamson (deputy head)



Aims

- Principles - Ambition and Challenge
- Clarify and explain the Options process
- Completing the form
- Key dates



The Year 9-11 Curriculum

The Curriculum will be

- Challenging
- Ambitious

It will provide the best opportunities

- for Sixth Form Study



The Year 9-11 Curriculum

The Curriculum will be:

- Challenging
- Ambitious

And will provide the best opportunities to:

- Gain a place at any University in the UK or abroad
- Gain a Professional Apprenticeship



Do GCSE grades directly affect university applications?

Mainly performance at A level and personal statement

BUT

Grades achieved at GCSE may be taken into account (sometimes specific subject or grade requirements at this level)

AND

With the removal of the AS, the grades achieved at GCSE will take on increased significance



The English Baccalaureate

Grouping of academic subjects. Designed as a measuring tool of academic success and consisting of

- Mathematics
- English language
- Sciences (combined or separate)
- Modern Foreign Language
- History or Geography



GCSE at Calday 2017 - 2020

Courses of study leading to 10 GCSE qualifications

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|
| English Language and Literature | 2 GCSEs |
| Mathematics | 1 GCSE |
| Biology | 1 GCSE |
| Chemistry | 1 GCSE |
| Physics | 1 GCSE |
| Language | 1 GCSE |
| Humanities (History or Geography) | 1 GCSE |
| Option 1 | 1 GCSE |
| Option 2 | 1 GCSE |





ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

**10 PERIODS PER
FORTNIGHT**

10



En

MATHEMATICS

9 PERIODS PER
FORTNIGHT

19



BIOLOGY

**5 PERIODS PER
FORTNIGHT**

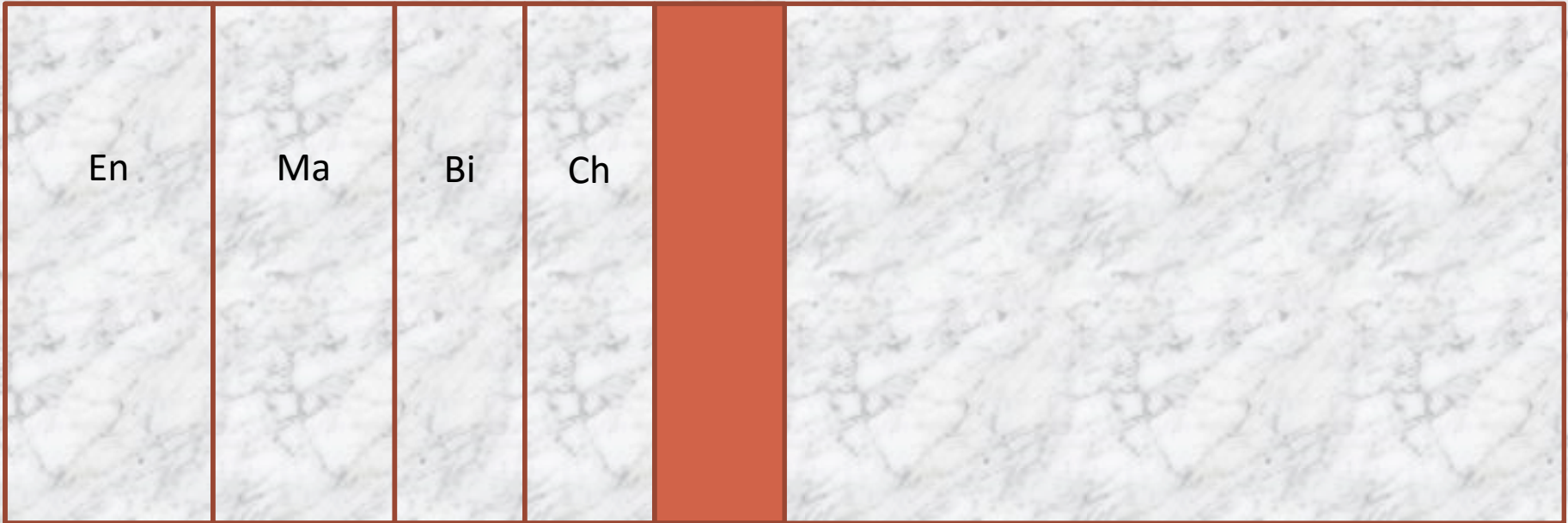
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CHEMISTRY

**5 PERIODS PER
FORTNIGHT**

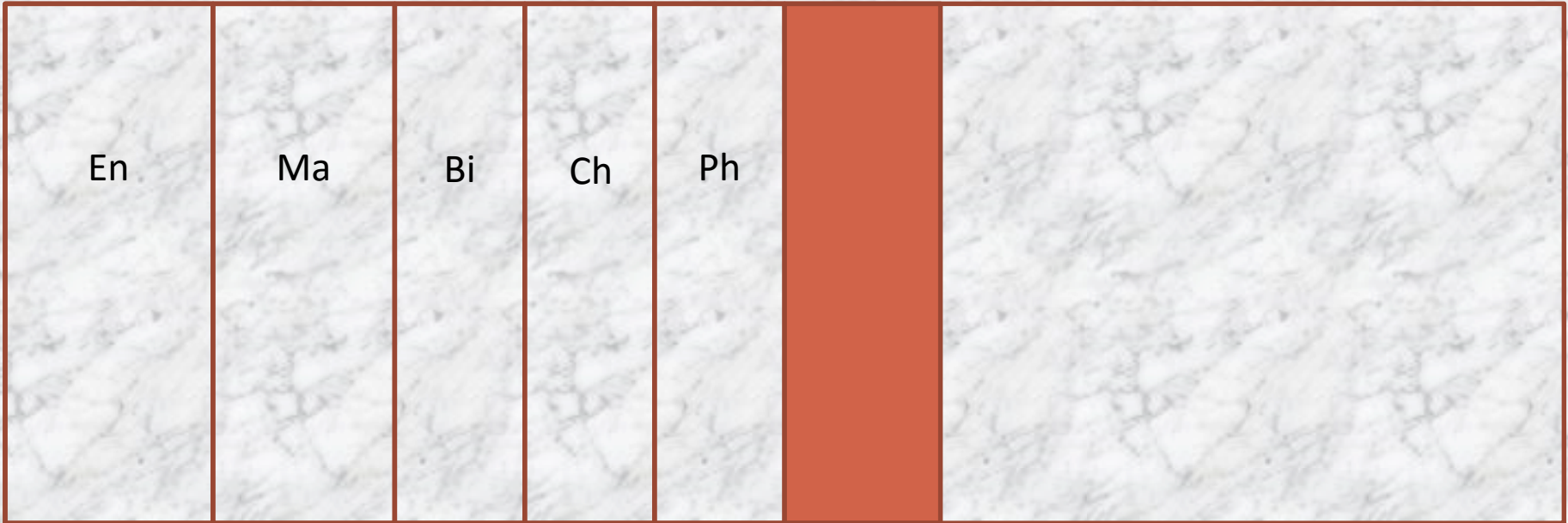
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PHYSICS

5 PERIODS PER FORTNIGHT

34

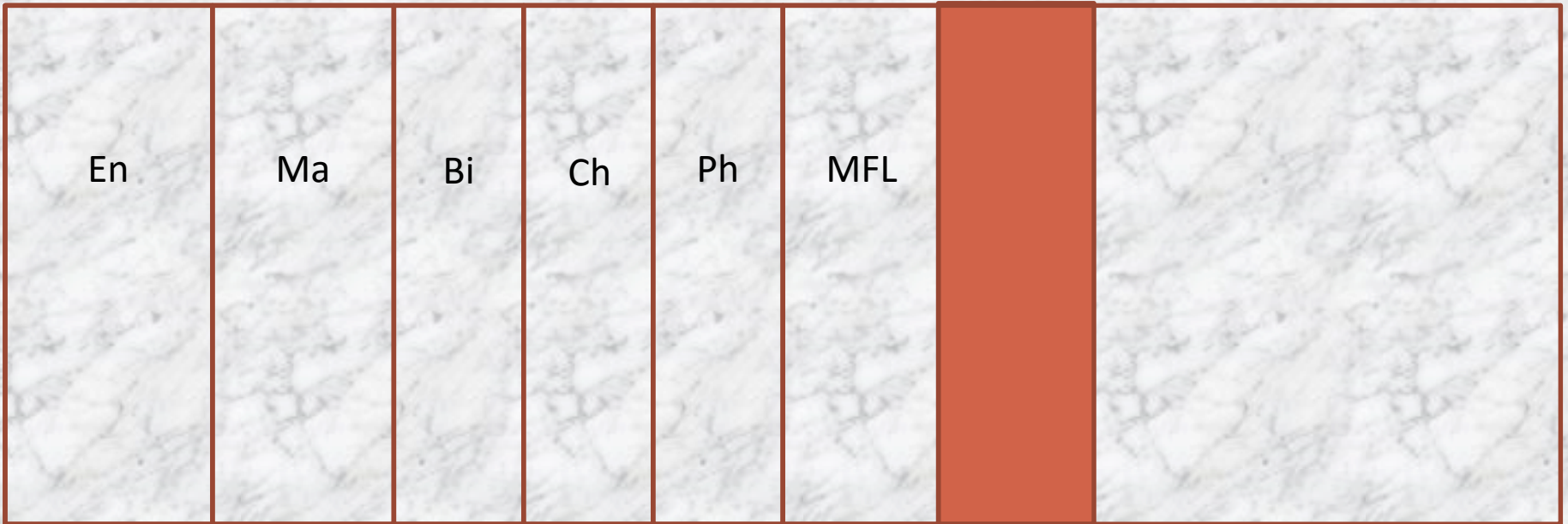


MFL

- French
- Chinese
- German
- Russian
- Spanish

5 PERIODS PER FORTNIGHT

39



HISTORY or GEOGRAPHY

**5 PERIODS PER
FORTNIGHT**

44

| | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|-----|----------------|--|--|
| En | Ma | Bi | Ch | Ph | MFL | Hy or Gy | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|-----|----------------|--|--|

OPTION 1

5 PERIODS PER FORTNIGHT

- Another MFL
- History or Geography
- Electronics
- D&T Product Design
- Fine Art
- Religious Studies
- Drama
- Music
- Physical Education
- Computer Science

49

Subjects available as Options

- Another MFL
- History or Geography
- Electronics
- D&T: Product Design
- Fine Art
- Religious Studies
- Drama
- Music
- Physical Education
- Computer Science

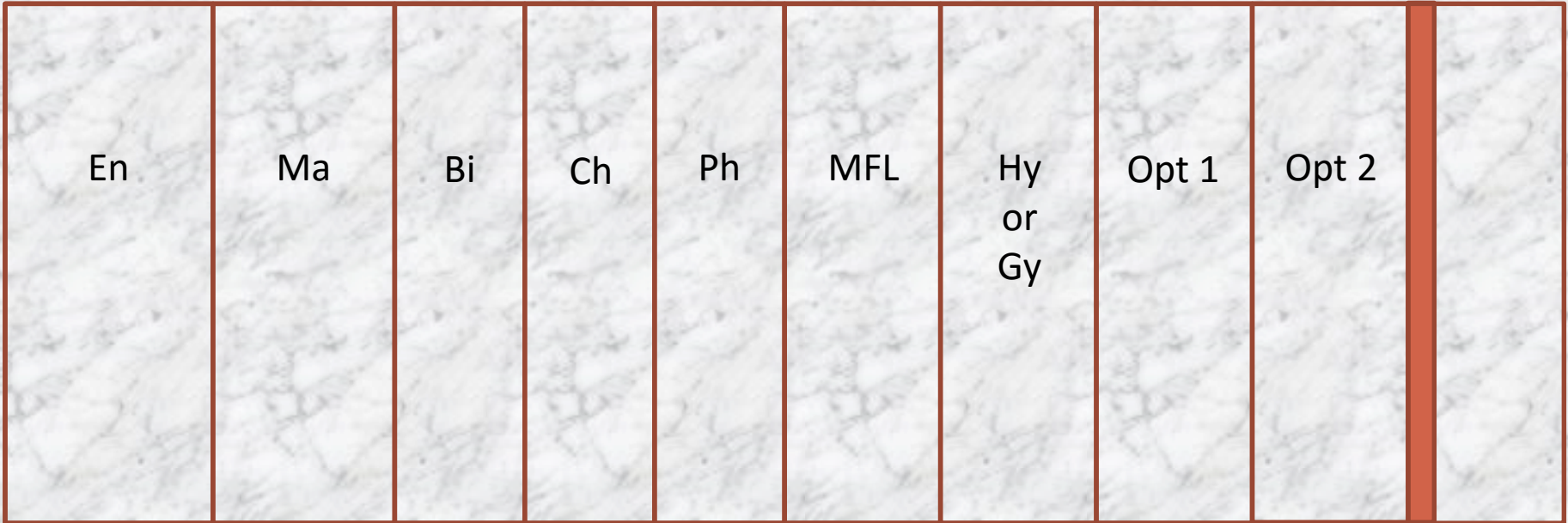


| | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|-----|----------------|-------|--|--|
| En | Ma | Bi | Ch | Ph | MFL | Hy or Gy | Opt 1 | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|-----|----------------|-------|--|--|

OPTION 2

- Another MFL
- History or Geography
- Electronics
- D&T Product Design
- Fine Art
- Religious Studies
- Drama
- Music
- Physical Education
- Computer Science

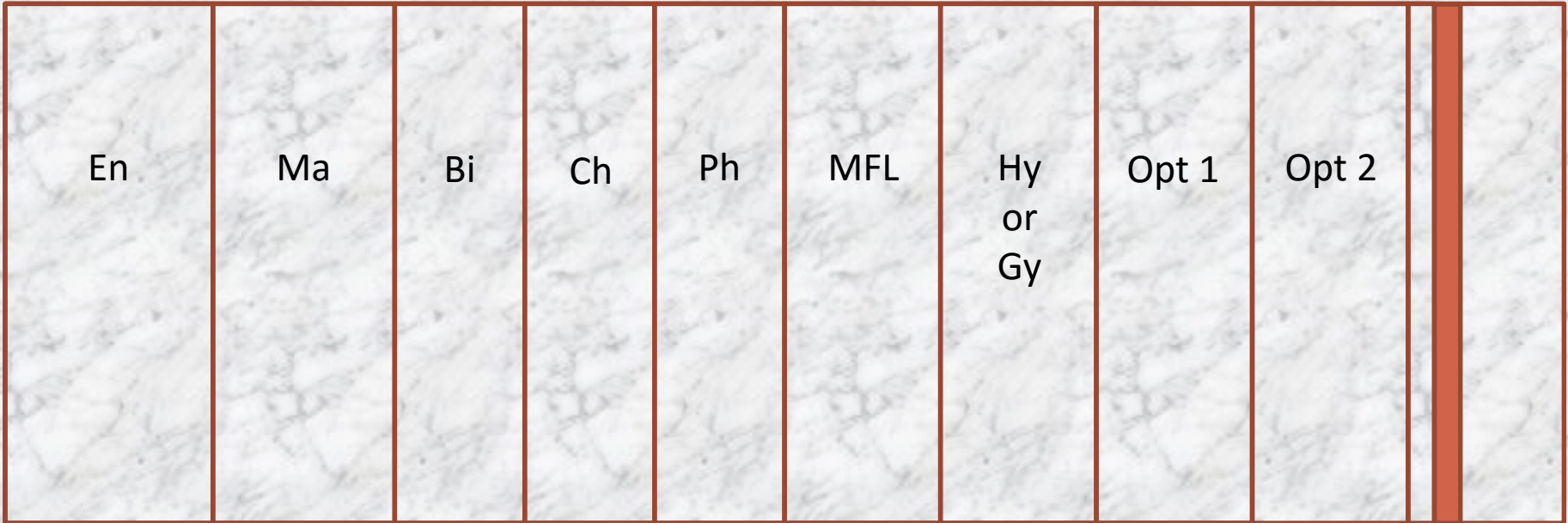
5 PERIODS PER FORTNIGHT
54



CORE RE

1 PERIOD PER
FORTNIGHT

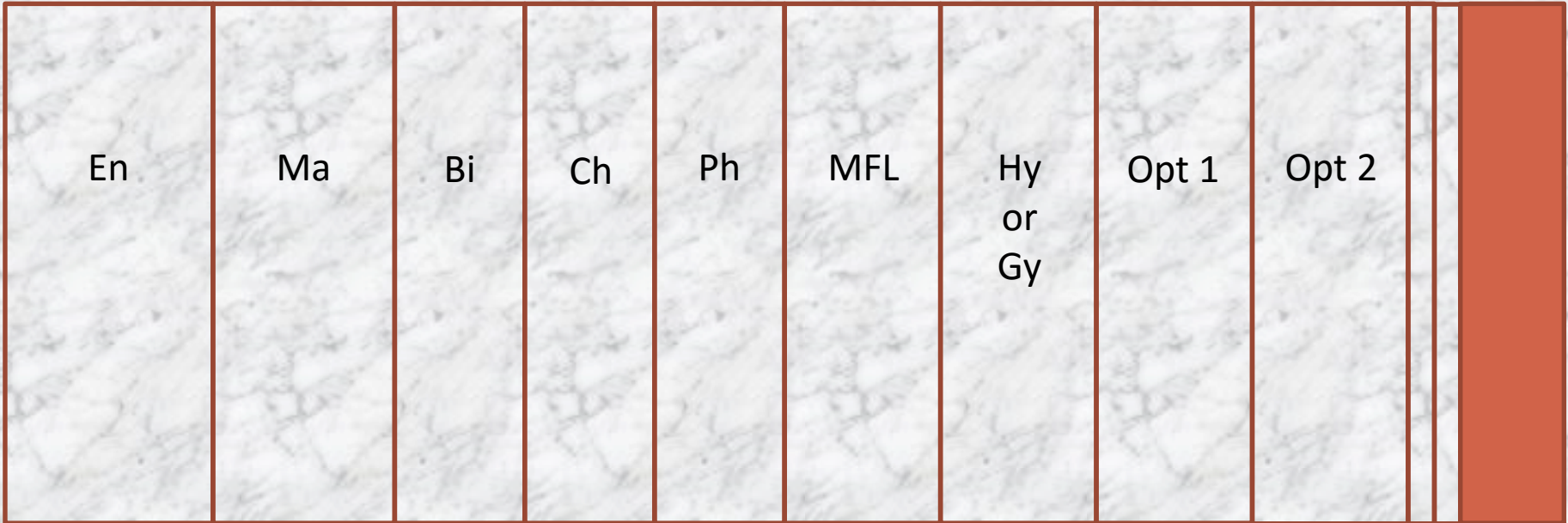
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PSHE

1 PERIOD PER
FORTNIGHT

56



GAMES

4 PERIODS PER FORTNIGHT

60

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|-----|----------------|-------|-------|--|--|----|
| En | Ma | Bi | Ch | Ph | MFL | Hy or Gy | Opt 1 | Opt 2 | | | Ga |
|----|----|----|----|----|-----|----------------|-------|-------|--|--|----|

TOTAL

60 PERIODS PER
FORTNIGHT

Science

- Students do 3 discrete GCSE subjects in year 10
- Biology, Chemistry and Physics
- Year 11: some students may move to Core and Additional Science (Double Award).
- Biology, Chemistry and Physics are still taught separately.
- Examined to produce an award equivalent to 2 GCSEs.



The Options Form



Core Subject Choices

- **History or Geography** (please indicate your choice below)
 - History
 - Geography

- **A Modern Foreign Language** (please indicate your choice below)
(must be one of those languages currently studied)
 - French
 - German
 - Spanish
 - Chinese
 - Russian



Core Subject Choices

History or Geography (please

- History
- Geography

A Modern Foreign Language (

(must be one of those languages)

- French
- German
- Spanish
- Chinese
- Russian



Options Form

Please complete this recommendation sheet for your Key Stage 4 Option Choices. It is designed to help you make a sensible choice of course after listening to the advice given to you by your teachers. You should include three GCSE subjects from the list on the reverse of this sheet. Please insert them in order of preference (i.e. 1st, 2nd and 3rd). Completed forms must be returned by Friday 19th May. Students who are given 3 or 4 for a recommendation will need to be interviewed by relevant staff before a decision is made as to whether they can be accepted onto the course.

| GCSE COURSE | STUDENT REASON FOR CHOICE | TARGET GCSE GRADE | TEACHER SIGNATURE AND COMMENT <i>(comment optional for 1 & 2)</i> | REC CODE <i>(see below)</i> |
|-------------|---------------------------|-------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| 1. | | | | |
| 2. | | | | |
| 3. | | | | |

Note: As there is a STRONG possibility that some students will be given their 3rd choice, ensure that this is a subject that you will be happy to study (see website to see criteria in the case of oversubscription)

Options Form

RECOMMENDATION CODE

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | This student is very conscientious and well organised and should be capable of a GCSE at or above his target grade and is therefore highly recommended for this course |
| 2 | This student is very hardworking. He should be capable of a GCSE at his target grade and is therefore highly recommended for this course. |
| 3 | This student has the ability to reach his target grade at GCSE in this subject but has not shown the right level of commitment in Key Stage 3 to give confidence that he will do so. A signature of the Head of Faculty must be obtained. |
| 4 | This student is not recommended for the reasons given. |

Completing the Options Form

| GCSE COURSE | STUDENT REASON FOR CHOICE | TARGET GCSE GRADE | TEACHER COMMENT AND SIGNATURE | REC CODE <i>(see below)</i> |
|-------------------------------|--|-------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| 1. <i>Geography</i> | <i>I enjoy Geography. I would like to learn more about the way that people live in other countries</i> | B | <i>John works hard and has always shown interest in the subject</i> | 1 |
| 2. <i>Drama</i> | <i>I take part in school plays and I like going to the theatre</i> | A | <i>John has talent in this subject and would be an excellent student</i> | 1 |
| 3. <i>Computer Science</i> | <i>I have done some programming and I would like to learn how to make more complex programs</i> | B | <i>John is good at Maths and has shown some deeper interest in Computer Science lessons</i> | 2 |

| GCSE COURSE | STUDENT REASON FOR CHOICE | TARGET GCSE GRADE | |
|-------------------------------|--|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1. <i>Geography</i> | <i>I enjoy Geography. I would like to learn more about the way that people live in other countries</i> | B | <i>J a s</i> |
| 2. <i>Drama</i> | <i>I take part in school plays and I like going to the theatre</i> | A | <i>J u</i> |
| 3. <i>Computer Science</i> | <i>I have done some programming and I would like to learn how to make more complex programs</i> | B | <i>J s c</i> |

| TARGET GCSE GRADE | TEACHER COMMENT AND SIGNATURE | REC CODE <i>(see below)</i> |
|-------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| B | <i>John works hard and has always shown interest in the subject</i> | 1 |
| A | <i>John has talent in this subject and would be an excellent student</i> | 1 |
| B | <i>John is good at Maths and has shown some deeper interest in Computer Science lessons</i> | 2 |

Option Form Signatures

SIGNATURES

| | | | |
|------------|--|------------------------------|--|
| Student | | Head of Faculty (only for 3) | |
| Form Tutor | | Senior Leader (only for 4) | |
| Parent | | | |
| Date | | | |

If awarded a 3 as a recommendation, the student will need to meet the Head of Faculty to discuss:

- reasons for wanting to study the subject
- why their current teacher does not consider them currently suitable.

Following the discussion, the HoF may or may not endorse the choice.



Option Form Signatures

SIGNATURES

| | | | |
|------------|--|------------------------------|--|
| Student | | Head of Faculty (only for 3) | |
| Form Tutor | | Senior Leader (only for 4) | |
| Parent | | | |
| Date | | | |

If awarded a 4 as a recommendation, then a student will need to meet a Senior Leader.

The award of a 4 is a rare occurrence but would usually result in a reselection of subjects.



Options Criteria

- 3 choices in order of preference
- Subjects will be allocated using
 - ranking of the subject on the Option Form
 - teacher recommendation
 - scores on CCTs and Examinations
 - grades on weekly work and its punctuality
- Return form before Friday 19th May



The Facts

- We do not have unlimited staffing or rooms
- Please think carefully about how you place the choices in order. Especially if you are choosing high demand subjects



Problems

- We will try to give everyone their first choice *and*
- Doing this will often fill up the popular subjects (in 2016 Computer Science and Electronics, although in recent years it has been Art and Drama)

so

- Students who place one of these subjects as their second choice will often find themselves being offered their third choice



Advice

- Subjects that are currently popular will fill up with those students placing them as their first choice.
- If these subjects are selected as second choice then there is a strong possibility that there will not be space on the course
- Make sure that you are happy to study the subject selected as third choice.



Advice

- Not getting onto a course can sometimes cause upset and disappointment.
- Please be aware that this will ***very rarely*** prevent a student from following a particular career.



“Coursework”

Controlled Assessment still remains in reformed subjects that clearly have a performance, practical or creative element

- Art 60%
- Computer Science 20%
- Drama 60%
- Music 30%
- Physical Education 40%



“Coursework”

Controlled Assessment also remains in unreformed subjects

- Chinese 60%
- Electronics 25%
- Product Design 60%



“Coursework”

While many Calday students are more than capable of successfully managing their time in a subject where there is Controlled Assessment, some do struggle.

The amount of Controlled Assessment may therefore be a factor to consider when choosing subjects.



Advice for the next few weeks

- Discuss the reasons for doing or not doing a subject
- Remain focussed over the coming months
- Listen to what staff have to say



Schedule

- Wednesday 19th April Information Evening
- Thursday 20th April Forms issued
- Monday 24th April Year 8 Assembly
- Friday 12th May Full written reports
- Friday 19th May Deadline for Submission
- w/b 29th May Confirmation



Outside the Classroom

- CCF
- Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Drama
- Music
- Computing and Robotics
- Film, Chess and Quiz clubs
- School Council

*GET
INVOLVED!*



Outside the Classroom

- Sports
 - Rugby
 - Football
 - Hockey
 - Cross Country
 - Table Tennis
 - Badminton
 - Athletics
 - Cricket
 - Tennis
 - Basketball
- Sports Leaders



Outside the Classroom

- Wider Experience
 - Youth Groups
 - External Courses
 - Arkwright
 - Smallpeice
 - Headstart
 - Competitions
 - Other Sports
 - Yachting
 - Sailboarding
 - Ultimate
 - Music
 - Dance
 - Drama

Outside the Classroom

Think about what, in 4 or 5 years time, could make you stand out in the company of other top class students.

What could you write about in a personal statement or CV?





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