



Dalriada School

Year 10

GCSE Selection

Monday 25th November 2024

Programme

- Welcome
- Ballymoney Learning Community
- Subject choices
- New subjects
- Issues for consideration
- Questions

Ballymoney Learning Community

- Dalriada, Ballymoney HS, Our Lady Of Lourdes
- Help schools meet demands of Entitlement Framework
- Shared collaborative timetable
- Shared “Service Level Agreement”
- Student Induction booklet

Ballymoney Learning Community

- GCSE Engineering
- GCSE Moving Image Arts
- Agriculture

GCSE Selection Process

- Year 10 Careers Education (within LLW lessons)
- Mon 25th Nov. - Online presentation to parents
- Wed. 27th Nov. – Presentation to pupils
- Fri 10th Jan. 2025 - Submit “Course Request Form.”
- Mon 20th Jan. 2025 – Individual careers interviews

SUBJECT CHOICES

■ CORE COURSES

- Basic core – 17 periods
- Science & Technology – 4 periods
- Modern Languages – 4 periods

■ OPTIONAL COURSES

- Choose 5 subjects

BASIC CORE (17 periods)

- English
- Mathematics
- Physical Education
- Learning for Life & Work
- Religious Studies
- Careers Education

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (4 periods)

Choose one from:

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Technology

Additional courses from this area may be chosen from the options.

MODERN LANGUAGES

(4 periods)

Choose one from:

- French
- German
- Spanish

Additional courses from this area may be chosen from the options.

OPTIONAL COURSES (20 periods)

Choose 5:

- Art & Design
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Technology
- French
- German
- Spanish
- Engineering
- Moving Image Arts
- Computer Science
- Further Mathematics
- Agriculture*
- Business Studies
- English Literature
- Geography
- History
- Drama
- Digital Technology (formerly ICT)
- Food and Nutrition (HE)
- Learning for Life & Work
- Music
- Physical Education
- Health and Social Care

New Subjects

- Further Mathematics
- Moving Image Arts
- Engineering
- Physical Education
- Agriculture
- Computer Science
- Health and Social Care

Controlled Assessment

- Refer to the Year 10 information booklet
- Independent learner

Course Request Form

- Optional subjects must be put in order of preference
- Some courses have a limited number of spaces
- May be difficult to offer every combination of optional course requested.

Issues for Consideration

■ English Language / Literature

- You must achieve at least a grade C in English Lang. irrespective of career plans
- English Lit. can be needed for teacher training and Law in Scotland
- English Lit. can be taken at AS/A2 level without a GCSE – but with a good result in English Lang. and with teacher support
- Note that only English Literature is offered as an A level
- 'B' grade in English Lit GCSE along with teacher support should allow for progression to A level

Issues Cont'd

■ Mathematics

- You must achieve at least a grade C in Mathematics irrespective of career plans
- AS/A2 Mathematics is vital for those wishing to take univ. courses in Engineering via A levels
- It is extremely beneficial and strongly recommended that GCSE Further Maths is completed to take Mathematics A-Level in the future – you will already have received a letter from the Maths Department regarding studying Further Maths
- A grade in Maths along with teacher support should allow for progression to A level

Issues Cont'd

- Modern Foreign Languages (MFL)
 - Open choice
 - All KS3 courses aim to have MFLs at the same point by end of Year10
 - Those wishing to take MFLs at university would generally be expected to offer 2 MFLs at A level, therefore two required at GCSE

Issues Cont'd

■ Sciences

- 3 sciences are necessary for careers such as Medicine and Veterinary Science
- At least 2, preferably 3 sciences are recommended for science-based careers such as Pharmacy etc.
- Some sciences are vital for certain careers – research carefully
- Preferably scoring at least a grade B in Year 10 to proceed to GCSE

Choosing a KS4 Course

- At this point most pupils have no fixed career plan
- Those who have a career interest may change their minds over the next 4 years
- Best safeguard lies in keeping open as many options as possible
- Consider where there are job opportunities
- Choosing in terms of academic strengths and interests – consider coursework load
- Choose subjects you enjoy also
- Consider progression – university applications

Which Way Now?

- Think of your career choices
- Talk to:
 - Parents
 - Subject teachers
 - Careers staff
 - Professionals
- A good GCSE profile is essential to gain entry into Sixth Form and in order to obtain a place at university.

