



Y9 GCSE Study Information Evening 14th January 2026



Y9 GCSE Study: Key Staff Members

Here are some of the key figures involved in the Y9 GCSE Study process



Ms Grewal
Co-Head



Mr Rippin
SEND CO



Ms Siddell
Co-Head



Ms Czauderna
Y9 Inclusion Lead

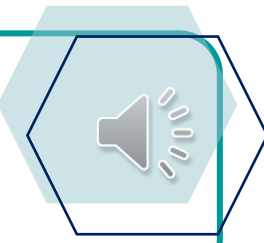


Mrs Morris
Assistant Headteacher
Curriculum



Ms Milnes
Y9 Inclusion Lead

Curriculum Reform 2025



- November 2025 - outcomes to a major review of the National Curriculum were announced. The first in over a decade which responded to the Francis Review.
- Some elements are still being consulted on and will be finalised by the Government
- Reforms to GCSEs and support for all students to study Triple Science to aim to elevate subject breadth and quality.
- The EBacc will no longer be used as an attainment measure.
- The EBACC is a qualification comprising GCSEs in English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science, History or Geography and a Modern Foreign Language. This is a set of subjects, when studied at GCSE that keeps young people's options open for further study and future careers, particularly if a student is keen to attend a "Red Brick" University.
- A study by the Institute of Education shows that studying subjects included in the EBacc provides students with greater opportunities in further education and increases the likelihood that a student will remain in full-time education. Therefore, whilst less emphasis will be placed on the EBacc as an attainment measure, it is still a valued suite of subjects to study to ensure depth and breadth of the curriculum.

GCSE qualifications context

Future of Jobs Report 2025

Top 10 fastest growing skills by 2030



1.  AI and big data
2.  Networks and cybersecurity
3.  Technological literacy
4.  Creative thinking
5.  Resilience, flexibility and agility
6.  Curiosity and lifelong learning
7.  Leadership and social influence
8.  Talent management
9.  Analytical thinking
10.  Environmental stewardship

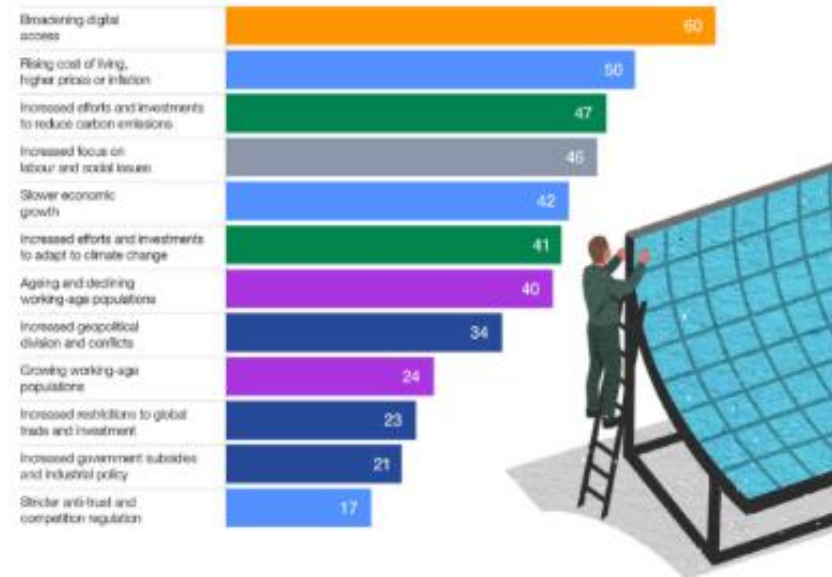
 Cognitive skills  Self-efficacy  Working with others  Management skills  Technology skills  Ethics

Future of Jobs Report 2025

Digital access, cost of living and green transition trends are driving business transformation



Share of employers surveyed that expect each macrotrend to drive organization transformation by 2030



 Technological change  Green transition  Economic uncertainty  Social issues

Valuing Everybody – Caring for each other – Achieving Excellence

GCSE qualifications context



Old grades	New grades
A*	9
A	8
B	7
C	6
	5 STRONG PASS
	4 STANDARD PASS
D	3
E	2
F	1
G	
U	U

- Exams are linear and taken at the end of Y11
- Fewer subjects with modules and coursework (NEA)
- Exams are graded 9-1
- All students must achieve at least a Grade 4 in Maths and English
- The grade boundaries change every year

GCSE Curriculum



The GCSE study blocks

The Core Curriculum:

- English Literature
- English Language
- Maths
- Triple Science
- RE
- Core PE

Subject 1:

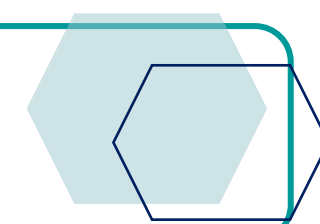
An EBACC subject –
Geography, History or a
Modern Foreign Language
(French, German or Spanish
– must be the language you
studied at Key Stage Three)

Subjects 2 and 3:

History, Geography, MFL,
Food Preparation and
Nutrition, Hospitality and
Catering, Drama, Music,
GCSE PE, Art and Design,
Textiles, Business Studies,
Computer Science, Health
and Social Care, Product
Design, Vocational
Engineering and Design
Engineering



Atypical Timetables



Y10 - First Year of GCSE Study

Subject	Number of Hours
English (2 GCSEs)	5
Maths (1GCSE)	4
Science (3 GCSEs) (Biology, Chemistry and Physics)	6
Core PE	2
Religious Education	1
Subject One: EBACC suite (History/Geography/Language)	2/3*
Subject 2: Option	2/3*
Subject 3: Option	2/3*

Y11 - Second Year of GCSE Study

Subject	Number of Hours
English (2 GCSEs)	5
Maths (1GCSE)	3
Science (3 GCSEs) (Biology, Chemistry and Physics)	6
Core PE	2
Religious Education	1
Subject One: EBACC suite (History/Geography/Language)	2/3*
Subject 2: Option	2/3*
Subject 3: Option	2/3*

(*depending on timetable block)

Y9 Subject Choices: Key Dates



Date	Event
Wednesday 14th January	Year 9 GCSE Study Information Presentation for Parents and Carers Live on School website from 6pm
Wednesday 21st January	Y9 Progress Evening An opportunity to discuss strengths and areas for development across different subject areas An opportunity to discuss course suitability
Monday 26th January	GCSE Study Week - Classroom teachers will share key information regarding the GCSE courses in their subjects. Students should listen carefully as this information should support their decision.
Monday 2nd February	The GCSE Study Booklet will be shared via Class Charts and to Parent emails. The GCSE Study Form will also be shared to Parent Emails to complete with your child.
Friday 13th February	GCSE Study form deadline

Next Steps: Year 9 GCSE Study Booklet

The GCSE booklet will be shared with students on Class Charts W/C 2nd February



Key information about:

- *The process
- *Key dates
- *Subject information
- *Subject assessment



Next Steps: Year 9 GCSE Study Form

Monday 2nd February
GCSE Study Form will be sent
via Parent Email.

Deadline for the GCSE Study
Form is Friday 13th February
2026. The last day of this half
term.

We cannot guarantee first
choice subjects for any forms
completed after this time.



When you submit this form, it will not automatically collect your details like name and email address unless you provide it yourself.

* Required

1. Student First Name: *

Enter your answer

2. Student Last Name: *

Enter your answer

3. Form: *

Enter your answer



Y9 GCSE Study: Frequently Asked Questions



- **Is RE a compulsory part of the curriculum?**

- Yes, GCSE RE is part of the core curriculum at Tapton. Your child has already started their study towards their GCSE in RE in Y9 (2 hours a week). RE is taught for an hour a week in Y10 and Y11.

- **Can my child do a GCSE in their home language?**

- Yes - GCSEs are available in Arabic, Turkish, Urdu, Persian, Greek, Modern Hebrew and many more. We are unable to offer lessons in these languages but can act as a host centre for examination entries in Y11.

- **Does my child have to continue studying a language?**

- Our expectation is that all students at Tapton will study the core curriculum - English, Maths, Science, RE, Core PE and Personal Development as well as at least one EBACC subject (History/Geography/Language). Many students will choose to study the full EBACC comprising the Core Curriculum alongside a humanity **and** a language, as well as one additional subject.

- **What happens if my child does not enjoy the subject they have chosen?**

- We may be able to change your child's subject choice in September; however, we will have created the groupings and timetables around original decisions. This means that there may not be spaces available in the subject they wish to move into. This is why we aim to provide as much detailed information now to support your child in making the right decision. The deadline to make subject changes is **18th September 2026**.

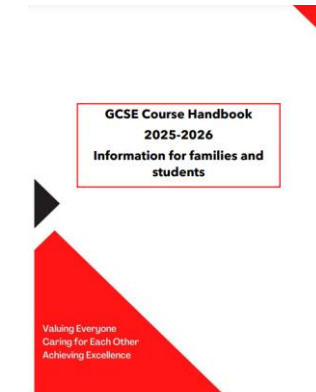
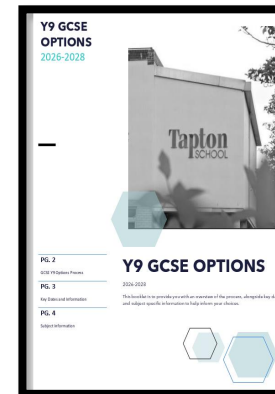
Y9 GCSE Study: Frequently Asked Questions

What support is available for my child in school?

School website www.taptonschool.co.uk
Y9 Subject Choices Booklet
KS4 Course handbook

Assistant Headteacher - Mrs Morris
Year 9 Team
Subject Leaders
Subject Teachers
Personal Development Teachers

Form Tutors
Wellbeing and Engagement officer – Mr Simpson
Mental Health and Wellbeing Champions





Y9 GCSE Study Queries?

Please contact us on the address below and one of the team will get back to you

year9gcsestudy@taptonschoool.co.uk