



**Swanshurst**  
School

**Welcome to Year 8  
Progression/Pathways Evening**

**January 31<sup>st</sup> 2024**

# Tonight

**Welcome**

**Mr M Dunn**

**Curriculum for 2024**

**Mrs R Bennett**

- The Pathways process**
- Making good choices**
- Pastoral support for the process**
- What happens next?**

# The KS4 Pathways Process

## What is KS4 Pathways?

- ✓ The process of your child personalising their curriculum, to prepare for studying their GCSE courses.

## How does the curriculum change in year 9?

- ✓ Students will continue to study English, mathematics, science and core PE.
- ✓ Students will select 3 (supported learning) or 4 additional subjects to study. These can be vocational or GCSE subjects. **One of them has to be a humanity** (history / geography) and for most students, another has to be a **language** (French, German, Spanish, Urdu).
- ✓ Everyone will also study an **extension curriculum**, made up of 4 of the following subjects: music, drama, product design, engineering, art, MFL, computing, history

# Our Broad and Balanced Curriculum

## The KS4 Core Curriculum

Examined in Year  
11

English Language  
English Literature  
Mathematics

Science (Combined or Triple) All students study the same curriculum until the summer term of Year 9

Not examined

Physical Education

Extension curriculum **NC** subjects not selected as options (Y9 only)

Citizenship, Health and Wellbeing (Y10)

RS and Computing (Y10)



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# The EBacc

This is short for the **English Baccalaureate**

It is a group of qualifications which ‘keeps young people’s options open for further study and future careers’ - DfE.

**We encourage as many students as possible to follow the EBacc.**

It is comprised of GCSEs in:

- **English, mathematics & 2 sciences** (including computer science)
- **A humanity subject** – history or geography
- **A language** - French, Spanish, Urdu, German



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# Pathways Subjects

A wide variety of courses that you will be used to seeing on your child's timetable.

New courses you won't have seen called  
Vocational Courses



# Available GCSE courses for 2024

Modern  
Languages  
-French, Spanish  
-German, Urdu

Humanities  
- History  
- Geography

PE  
Drama  
Music

DT (Product Design  
and Fashion &  
Textiles)  
Food Preparation &  
Nutrition

Psychology  
RS (Religious  
Studies)  
Art

Business  
Economics



# Vocational Courses

- ✓ Vocational qualifications are designed to meet the specific needs of employers and job sectors. This means that young people can develop the skills and knowledge that employers value.
- ✓ They are assessed using a mixture of examinations, coursework and controlled assessments.
- ✓ We recommend students select a maximum of 2 vocational courses; this will help with managing their workload.





# Available Vocational Courses for 2024

Creative  
iMedia

Dance

Health and  
Social Care

Travel and  
Tourism

Information  
Technologies



# What Your Child Should Think About?

- What they enjoy
- What they are good at
- What they might need for a future career
- What their plans for 16-19 education are
- The type of work they will produce during the course
- How courses are assessed



# Where Can Your Child Get Advice?

- ✓ Talk to subject teachers – this evening & parents' evening
- ✓ Talk to their form tutor
- ✓ Talk to family
- ✓ Find out about careers
- ✓ Talk to Mrs Beckford (this evening or in centre first floor)
- ✓ Read the KS4 Pathways pages and 6<sup>th</sup> form area of the school website
- ✓ See parent or student section – Careers. “I achieve”



# Completing the Pathways Form

- Online form, shared by **email and Edulink** (4<sup>th</sup> March)
- Includes an EBacc section and a free choice section
- The EBacc sections directs all students to select one humanity and the majority of students to select one language
  - Students who chose to study an additional language outside of school must still follow a languages curriculum in school.
- All students have **at least 2** free choices
- The form will be open for completion between **7<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> March 2024**
- Forms are checked with form tutors and senior leaders wc 18<sup>th</sup> March 2024





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|--|---|
| Pathways booklet online  | From January 2024   |
| Year 8 Pupils' & Parents' Pathways presentation and Q/A session. | Wed 31 <sup>st</sup> January 2024   |
| Taster sessions and subject focus events                         | Week commencing 5 <sup>th</sup> February 2024 – non KS3 subject videos played in form time.<br><br>Students engage with KS3 department offers in lessons. |
| <b>Latest report available on Edulink</b>                        | <b>4<sup>th</sup> March 2024</b>  |
| <b>Year 8 Parents' Evening</b>                                   | <b>Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2024</b>  |
| Pathways form link sent home.                                    | Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> March 2024   |
| Pathways form completed online.                                  | March 7 <sup>th</sup> -15 <sup>th</sup> 2024<br>(15/03/24 3.00PM deadline)  |
| Personal interviews - checking                                   | wc 18 <sup>th</sup> March   |
| Pathways subjects confirmed                                      | May 2024  |

# Pathways Support Team



|                              |                |
|------------------------------|----------------|
| Head of Year                 | Miss J Revell  |
| Deputy Head of Year          | Mrs C Dowling  |
| 14-19 Coordinator            | Mrs D Beckford |
| Form Tutors                  |                |
| Assistant Headteacher        | Mr W Ali       |
| Senior Assistant Headteacher | Mrs R Bennett  |
| Curriculum Manager           | Ms P Ratcliffe |