



**Explore – Research – Action**  
**Year 9 Options 2021**

## Welcome

In support of the options process this year we wanted to put together a few tasks and resources to help you make the right decision when choosing your options.

We have broken this process into 3 key areas. They are:

1. Explore
2. Research
3. Action

Together with the other information already shared, we hope you find the tasks and resources in this booklet helpful. Please print it out if you can and make full use of the activities.

For any subject specific questions please contact the head of subject directly. You can find their contact detail on the top of each subject page in the options booklet. Alternatively, please feel free to contact your current teachers by making use of google classrooms.

## Contents

### 1. Explore

- a. Understanding progression pathways
- b. Linking your skills, qualities and interests to suitable subject options and future careers

### 2. Research

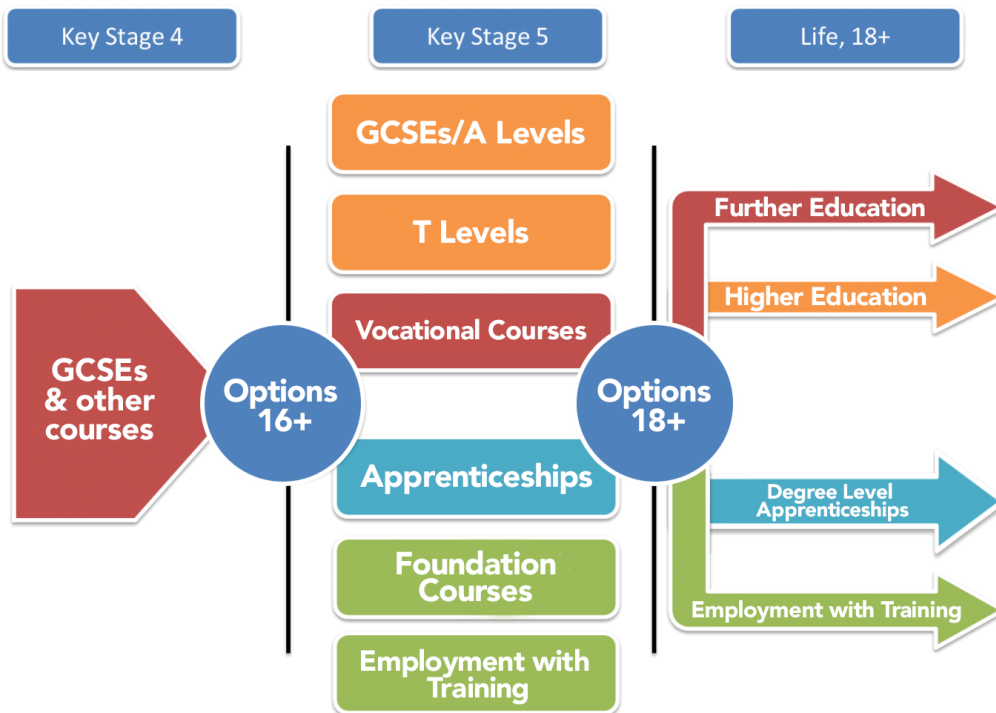
- a. Destinations
- b. National Careers Service
- c. Making contact

### 3. Action

- a. Options process checklist
- b. On-Line application deadline – Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021



## Explore

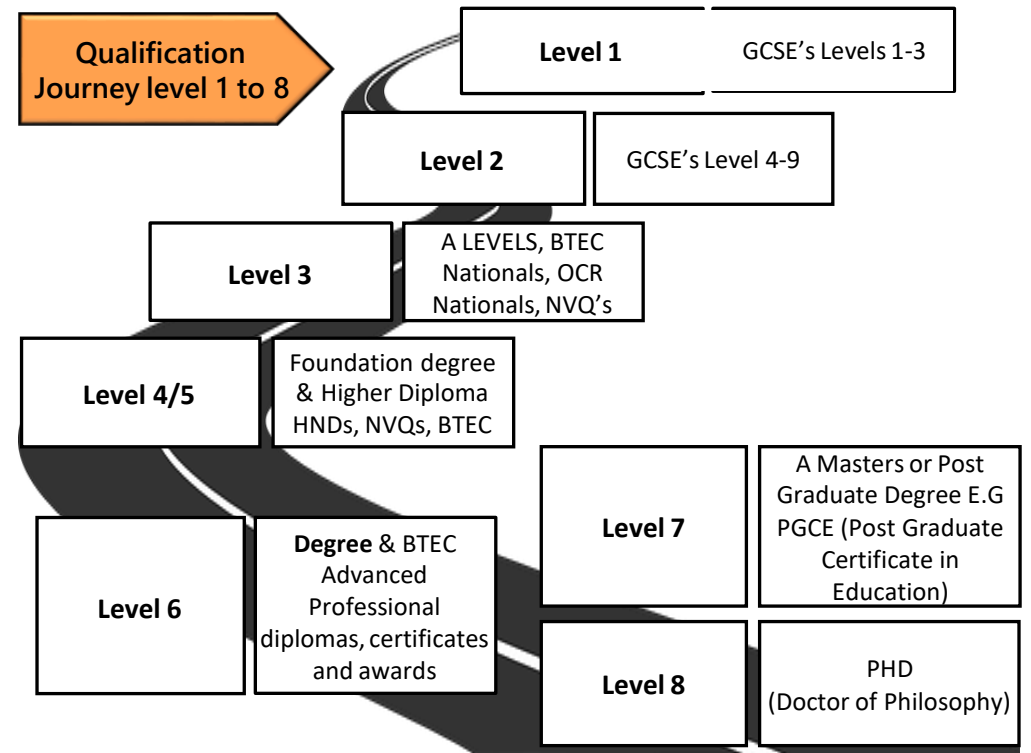


**Student Task:** Question to explore and discuss at home. Turn this task into a spider diagram/mind map...

- What are you interested in? What motivates you? What makes you work hard?
- What are your strengths and qualities – what are you good at?
- What are your most favoured subjects and least favoured subjects and why?
- What is your preferred method of study – exams vs controlled assessments vs portfolios of evidence?
- What qualification level do you currently aspire to – level 1 to 8? (look at the diagram to the right of the page)
- What post-16 (after Year 11) progression pathway are you thinking about now? (Sixth Form, College, Apprenticeships, Employment & Training, Volunteering & Training)
- In 10 years' time what type of profession/industry do you think you would like to work in? Why is this?
- How might certain subjects that you choose help you to achieve this?

## a. Understanding Progression Pathways

- The progression pathways are very flexible and allow learners to choose exactly what suits them and future employability
- All young people have to be in education or training until they are 18
- This can be full-time education at a school, college or training provider, apprenticeship or traineeship, or employment or volunteering (20+ hours per week) but must be with education or training leading to a nationally-recognised qualification
- The Government is committed to ensuring all young people achieve GCSE grade 4 or higher in English & Maths
  - If you do not achieve these grades at school, you must continue to work towards them until you are 19 no matter what you are doing
- Most employers, including those offering apprenticeships usually only recruit students that have achieved 5 grade 4+ GCSEs incl. English and Maths



## b. Linking your skills, qualities and interests to suitable subject options and future careers

**Student task:** What interests you? What makes you work hard? Try this quiz to find out. Tick anything you enjoy doing or that you would enjoy doing. You can tick as many as you wish...

**A:**

- Building things
- Being active and working outdoors
- Making and fixing things
- Using tools and machines
- Solving problems

**B:**

- Designing and displaying things
- Being on television
- Writing a book
- Playing in a band
- Doing a makeover

**C:**

- Helping people
- Sorting out arguments
- Showing people what to do
- Looking after people
- Doing voluntary work

**D:**

- Finding out how things work
- Doing experiments
- Researching and testing ideas
- Designing a new computer game
- Doing calculations

**E:**

- Organising parties and other social events
- Buying and selling things
- Running a business
- Entering competitions
- Campaigning for change

**F:**

- Making plans
- Using a computer and calculator
- Arranging things over the phone
- Putting CDs/DVDs into the right order
- Organising your money

**Check Your Scores:** How many ticks did you get in each section? Write your scores in below i.e. A =. Most people have more than one interest so check out any scores of 3 or more for each letter.

	Skills, Qualities and Interests	OHA Options at KS4	Ideas of Possible Future Career Sectors
A =	You seem to like practical work. Look for options where you can use practical skills, do something active and work on different types of projects	Product Design, Art, Construction, Hospitality & Catering, PE/Sport, Dance, Music, iMedia, Photography	Construction, Engineering, Manufacturing, labouring, Trades, Public Services, Sport and Active Leisure, Coaching/Instructing, Teacher – practical subjects
B =	You sound creative. Look for options where you can express yourself and work on new ideas	Art, Media, Dance, Drama, Hospitality & Catering, Music, Dance, Photography	Creative & Design industries, Hospitality, Catering, Fashion, Teacher –creative subjects, Hair and Beauty, Editing
C =	You seem to be a social person. Look for options where you can find out more about people and how society works	Geography, History, French,Spanish, Travel and tourism.PE/Sport & Psychology	Health & Social Care, Childcare, Retail, Travel and Tourism, Medical Profession, Teaching, Therapy, Speech and Language, Customer Service, Human Resources, Communications industry
D =	It seems you like to investigate things. Look for options where you can use thinking skills to findout more about why things are the way they are	Biology, Chemistry, Geography, History, Maths and Physics.	Environmental and land-based industries, Lawyer, Architecture, Public Services, Accountant, Economist, Statistician/Analysr, Medical Profession, Teacher, Banking, Scientist
E =	You sound like an enterprising person. Looks for options where you can use your energy, communication, number and thinking skills to test your ideas about how to improve the world	Enterprise, Languages, Psychology,Sociology	Entrepreneur, Business Manager, Consultant, Therapist, Psychologist, Retail, Marketing, Advertising, Sponsorship, Economist, Finance, Banking, Teacher/Lecturer
F =	Being organised seems important to you. Look for options where you can use your planning, communication and computing skills to find out moreabout the systems and structures that keep the world	Enterprise, History, Hospitality & Catering, French, Spanish	Travel & Tourism, Hospitality, Event Management, Human Resources, Economist, Lawyer, Pubic Services, Teacher, IT & Computing, Teacher

## 2. Research

Now you have had the chance to explore, it is important that you spend time researching a variety of future pathways for when you finish your GCSEs. What could be your next step?

### Student Tasks:

**1. Destinations:** To complement the Ormiston Horizon Academy options booklet and other on-line resources, please make use of the table below and click on as many hyperlinks as you can. Remember, visualise yourself in 10 years' time and then work backwards. What do you need to do to progress from your current starting point of selecting your subject options? What subjects and grades will get you to the next step?

### 2. National Careers Service

When you click on the [National Careers Service](#) website, please follow the guidance to make your own user account. This will be helpful in saving your searches and interests over time and will keep you up to date with local and national opportunities. Remember to store your log in details safely for future use.

### 3. Making important contact as part of your research

To help support you with your research please make sure you contact key members of staff with any questions. Please refer to the welcome/contents page to access their contact details.

All staff at Ormiston Horizon Academy would be delighted to support you through the options process and are looking forward to you making contact.

Sixth Form and FE Colleges	Apprenticeships & Employment	University
<a href="#">Stoke on Trent College</a> <a href="#">Newcastle Under Lyme College</a> <a href="#">Stoke on Trent Sixth Form College</a> <a href="#">Equality Training</a> <a href="#">Reaseheath College</a> <a href="#">Trinity Sixth Form: St. Margaret Ward</a> <a href="#">St. Jospeh's College</a> <a href="#">Haywood Academy: City College</a>	<a href="#">National Careers Service</a> <a href="#">UCAS</a> <a href="#">Pure Potential</a> <a href="#">Ultimate Guide for school leavers</a> <a href="#">Education &amp; Employers . Org</a> <a href="#">Gov.uk</a> <a href="#">Career Pilot</a> <a href="#">Get in – go far</a> <a href="#">CV Library</a> <a href="#">Find an apprenticeship</a> <a href="#">Student jobs</a> <a href="#">Full time jobs for 16+</a>	<a href="#">National Careers Service</a> <a href="#">UCAS</a> <a href="#">UCAS Online</a> <a href="#">UCAS Connect</a> <a href="#">UCAS Parents/Guardians</a> <a href="#">UCAS Journey of an application</a> <a href="#">Stair case 12</a> <a href="#">Which?</a> <a href="#">The Complete University Guide</a> <a href="#">The Student Room</a> <a href="#">Student Finance Calculator</a>

### 3. Action

It is time to put your research into action. Use this checklist to make sure you have not forgotten anything and that all bases have been covered.

Once all actions have been completed you should feel confident that you are ready to complete the on-line options form.

The deadline for all options forms  
to be completed by is  
**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March**

#### My Options Process Checklist



I have watched the presentation either live or on the Ormiston Horizon Academy website and understand the process

I have read the options booklet on the Ormiston Horizon Academy website and understand the process

I have explored how to make an informed decision using [START](#)

I have completed the explore task on linking [my skills, qualities and interests to suitable subject options and future careers](#)

I have completed the research task on destinations in this booklet

I have completed the [National Careers Service](#) research task in this booklet by making an on-line user account

I have shared all of the information above with my parents/carers who now fully understand the options process

I have completed all actions in the checklist and am ready to complete the on-line Options form by Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021.