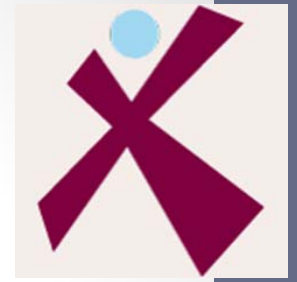


PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS KS4 PREFERENCES 2012-2014

SPROWSTON COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

CHOOSING YOUR OPTIONS



- Choosing your KS4 Options is the first time you will have some control over what you learn- make sure you make an informed decision.
- The Preference process is designed to give you as much information as possible to help you make the right decisions for your needs and interests.
- There are three pathways you can follow which are tailored specifically for you.

KS4 PATHWAYS

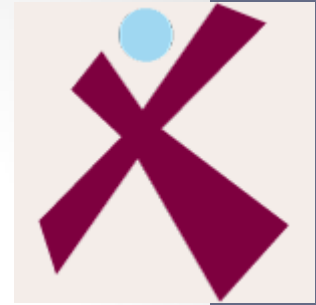


PATHWAY A- GCSE

PATHWAY B- BTEC

PATHWAY C- VOCATIONAL

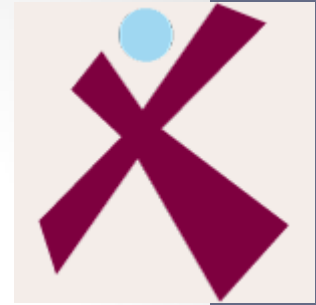
KS4 core subjects



- English – Two GCSEs in English Language and English Literature
- Maths
- Core Science *
- Core Physical Education *
- Short courses (worth half a GCSE) in Religious Studies, ICT and Citizenship. *

*= options for extended further study

PATH A- All GCSEs

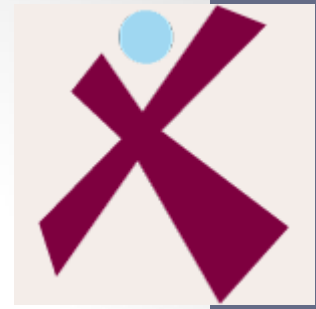


- Two key rules to working out your options.....
 1. Which block would you like to do your short courses in ?
 2. Which extra GCSE would you like to do?

You can choose an extra GCSE from:

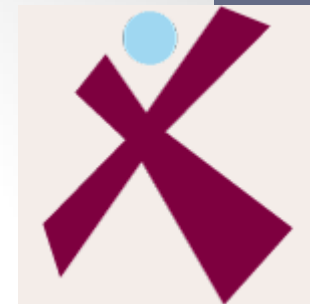
- An extra subject in block 4- Arts and Humanities
- An extra Science by studying Triple Science
- An extra Technology by studying Double Engineering
- An extra Foreign Language

PATH A - GCSEs



- GCSE-The General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE) is an academic qualification awarded in a specified subject, generally taken in a number of subjects by students aged 14–16 in secondary education and is equivalent to a Level 2 (A*–C) and Level 1 (D–G) in Key Skills.
- Many GCSEs are assessed by controlled assessment (internal examination/ coursework) and external examination.
- When choosing your GCSEs it is important to look at the assessment methods to ensure you choose GCSEs which will help you succeed.

PATH A - All GCSE's

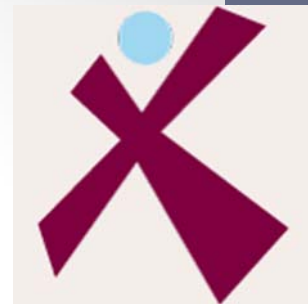


- To help you make your choices, the easiest thing to do is to consider which block you would like to do your short courses in.

Choose to do short courses of Citizenship, ICT & RS in:

- BLOCK 1 – Instead of 2nd Science
 - BLOCK 2 – Instead of a Language
 - BLOCK 3 – Instead of a Technology
 - BLOCK 4 – Instead of an Arts or Humanities subject
-
- Then return to the Path A block and decide upon which **extra GCSE** you will complete

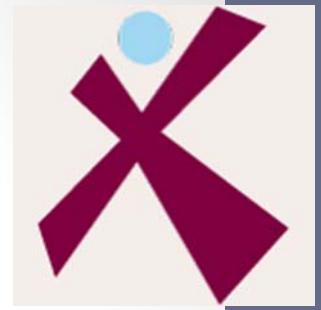
Block 1- SCIENCE



- DOUBLE SCIENCE – 2 GCSE's (As the course progresses you choose whether to do Applied or Additional Science)
- SINGLE SCIENCE- (1 GCSE) + ICT/RS/CZ Short Courses
- TRIPLE SCIENCE (3 GCSE's)
- If you wish to be considered to take Biology, Chemistry & Physics then tick the Triple Science box in Path A as well as this counts as your extra GCSE



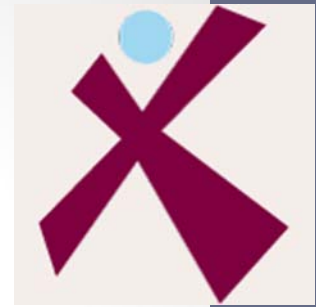
Block 2- Modern Foreign Languages



- FRENCH, GERMAN or SPANISH
- Or ICT/RS/CZ Short Courses
- This must be the language that you are studying now
- If you wish to be considered for a second MFL subject then take this option in Path A (your extra GCSE)

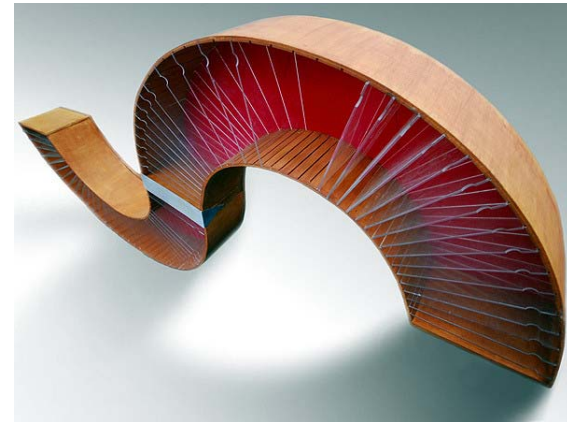


Block 3- Design and Technology



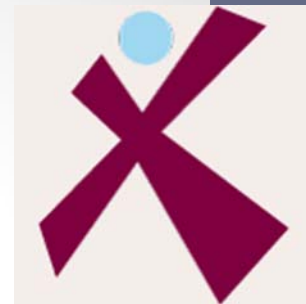
One subject to be studied but you must provide a second choice. Choose two in order of preference from:

- Food Technology
- Graphics
- Materials
- Textiles
- Single Engineering
- Or ICT/RS/CZ Short Courses



If you wish to study Engineering Double GCSE then tick this box in Path A as well for your extra GCSE

Block 4- Arts & Humanities



Choose two subjects from:

- Art & Design Business Studies Dance
 - Drama Economics History
 - GCSE ICT Geography Music
 - GCSE PE Media Studies Photography
 - Philosophy & Ethics Life Skills
-
- or GCSE Health & Social Care- Double Certificate (counts as two choices)
 - Or ICT/RS/CZ Short Courses
 - You can choose you extra GCSE from this block and choose 3 courses, tick 3rd subject from Block 4

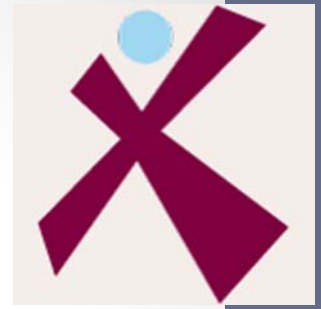
PATH B- BTEC



- BTEC's are 100% coursework
- Personalised learning
- More 'one to one' teaching
- BTEC First Diploma Level 2 is the equivalent to 4 GCSEs at A*-C grades
- BTEC First Certificate Level 2 is the equivalent to 2 GCSEs at A*-C grades



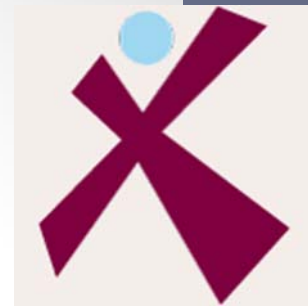
PATH B- BTEC



Decide which BTEC course to do:

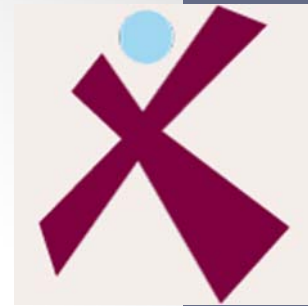
- Art & Design
 - Media
 - Sport
 - Performing Arts
-
- Tick which in the Path B box
 - Then decide Block 1,2,3 or 4 for your short courses
 - Then complete Blocks 1 to 4 as for Path A, but you will only study 1 GCSE from Block 4 (but choose 3 in order of preference)

PATH C- VOCATIONAL



- Path C should be chosen by students who know what career they wish to follow and would like to gain some hands on experience and knowledge in their chosen area.
- Vocational courses are practical and focus on the real experience of the work place
- Students will be out of school on a work placement one day a week
- Vocational students may need to arrange their own transport to the work place provider
- All vocational placements are subject to an interview with Mr Reeve.
- Path C students will follow the compulsory core subjects plus two other GCSEs/ BTEC certificates

PATH C- VOCATIONAL

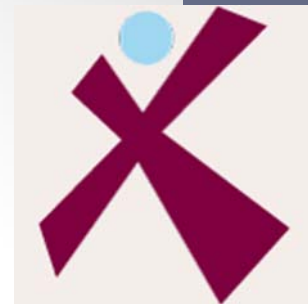


The Vocational courses in Path C are different level qualifications.

Level 1- Level 1 qualifications recognise basic knowledge and skills and the ability to apply learning with guidance or supervision. Learning at this level is about activities which mostly relate to everyday situations and may be linked to job competence. A level 1 qualification is equivalent to a GCSE at grades D–G

Level 2 qualifications recognise the ability to gain a good knowledge and understanding of a subject area of work or study, and to perform varied tasks with some guidance or supervision. Learning at this level involves building knowledge and/or skills in relation to an area of work or a subject area and is appropriate for many job roles. A level 2 qualification is equivalent to a GCSE at grades A*–C.

Vocational Qualifications



- The courses offered in the vocational pathway cover a range of Level 1 and Level 2 courses and all have a PRACTICAL assessment.
- Vocational Qualifications are based on National occupational standards that describe the 'competencies' expected in any given job role.
- **Level 1**
 - Competence that involves the application of knowledge in the performance of a range of varied work activities, most of which are routine and predictable.
- **Level 2**
 - Competence that involves the application of knowledge in a significant range of varied work activities, performed in a variety of contexts. Collaboration with others, perhaps through membership of a work group or team, is often a requirement.

BTEC- all vocational BTECs have practical assessment

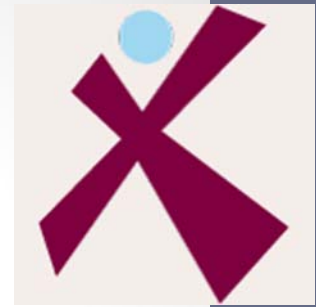
- BTEC Introductory Certificate- *Level 1 qualification equivalent to **two GCSEs at D-E grades***
- BTEC First Certificate -*Level 2 qualification equivalent to **two GCSEs at A*-C grades.***
- BTEC Introductory Diploma- *Level 1 qualification equivalent to **four GCSEs at D-F grades***
- BTEC First Diploma -*Level 2 qualification equivalent to **four GCSEs at A*-C grades or an Intermediate GNVQ.***

PATH C- Vocational



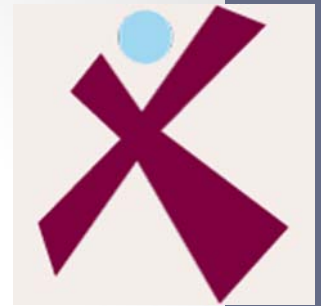
- Choose from the following courses:
 - Animal Care
 - Carpentry and Joinery
 - Construction
 - Hairdressing
 - Vehicle Technology
 - Land Based Operations
 - Skill Force (Double Award)
 - Beauty Therapy
 - Catering
 - Engineering
 - Horse Care
 - Vehicle Inspection
 - Public Services
- Tick which one in PATH C box

PATH C- VOCATIONAL

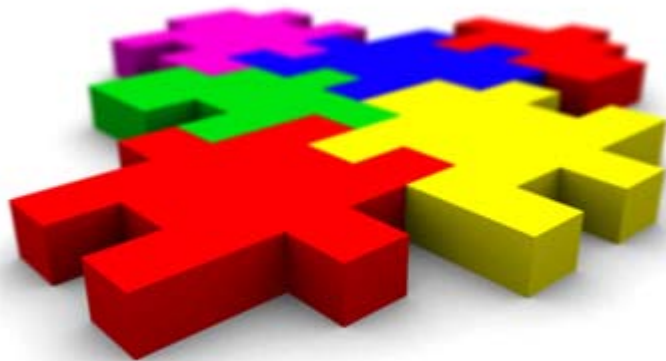


- Besides the Core Subjects you need to choose two GCSEs/ BTECs from:
 - Art & Design
 - Drama
 - French
 - Graphics
 - Materials
 - Sport BTEC Certificate
 - Business Studies
 - Food Technology
 - Geography
 - History
 - Media BTEC Certificate
- Tick 4 in order of preference
- Please note, not all course will run. Only the 6 most popular choices will be timetabled.

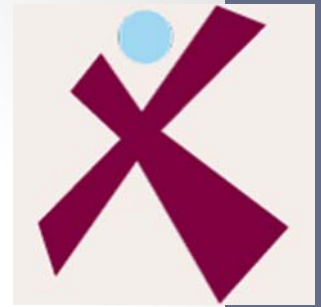
PATH C - VOCATIONAL



- Path C choices are dependent upon successful interview
- Pupils wishing to follow one of these pathways **MUST** also complete the form for **EITHER PATH A OR B**, just in case their application is unsuccessful



Preferences



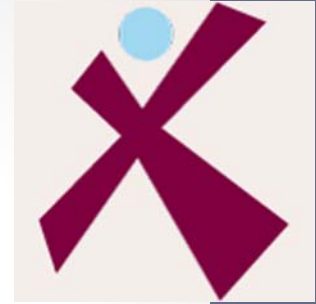
- You may hand in your choices any time from the **14th November – 2nd December**.
- Please ensure parents sign the form
- Hand the form in to Mrs Stearman, the Student Liaison Officer.
- Use the next week to ask as many questions as you can and find out as much information as possible to make sure you make an informed decision.
- Please read through the information for each course carefully as some may have entry requirements. For example, Triple Science and Double Engineering are only appropriate for students who will achieve a level 6 by the end of Year 9.
- Some courses such as Life Skills and Skills Force may be based on recommendations from your teachers.

Please remember



- Courses will only run if there are viable numbers of pupils opting for a subject.
- When courses do not run, pupils are informed and alternatives are discussed.
- If you have no idea what to choose, follow Path A or B as these choices will give you a broad and balanced curriculum.

GOOD LUCK



- Use your time effectively this evening and over the next week to make your own choice.
- Make sure YOU choose what YOU are interested in
- The most important factor to consider is what will YOU enjoy studying.
- Try not to be swayed by others- focus on your own interests.
- If you need any help, please come and speak to us. We are here to support you in your decision and to help you to make the right choices to achieve your potential.