ORIEL HIGH SCHOOL

YEAR 9 OPTIONS
INFORMATION ASSEMBLY

2025–2026

YEAR 10 CURRICULUM AND QUALIFICATIONS

ORIEL HIGH SCHOOL

CORE SUBJECTS

All students will study:

**Maths
English Language and English Literature
Science
PE
PSHCE
Values and Reasoning**

PE

PE lessons are compulsory

- **PE**
  - Core PE – all, x2 lesson per fortnight
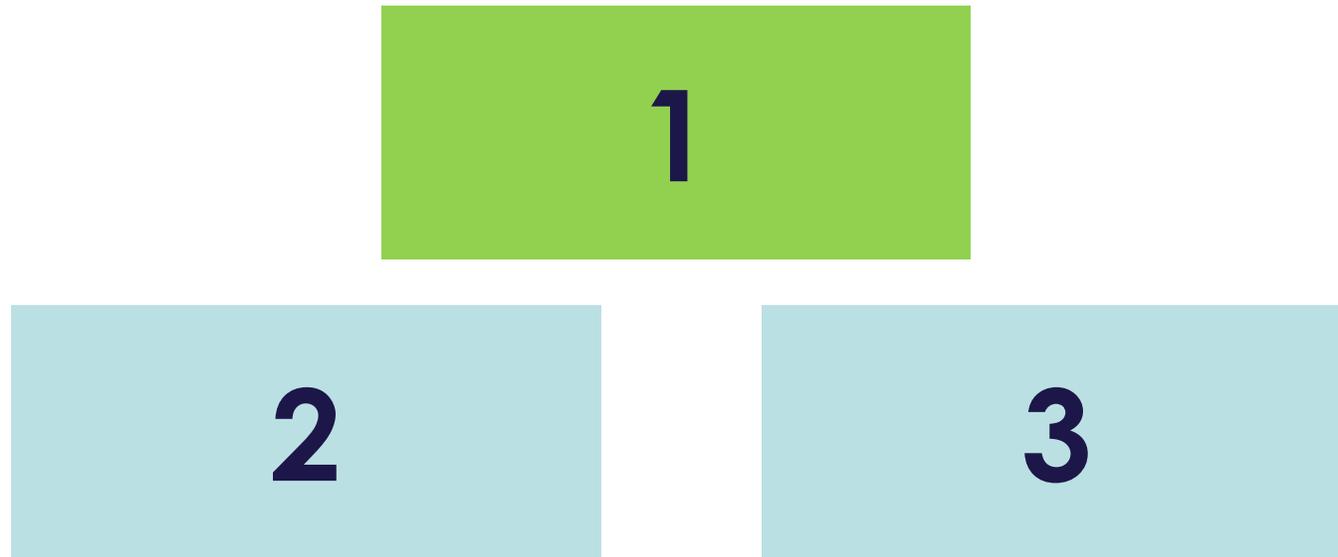 - Can also then be chosen as an option

All students will fulfil statutory requirements, studying PSHCE and a combination of Philosophy, Ethics and Theology and Citizenship (called Values and Reasoning)
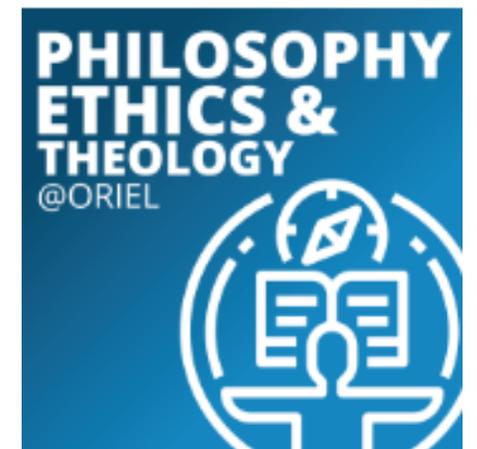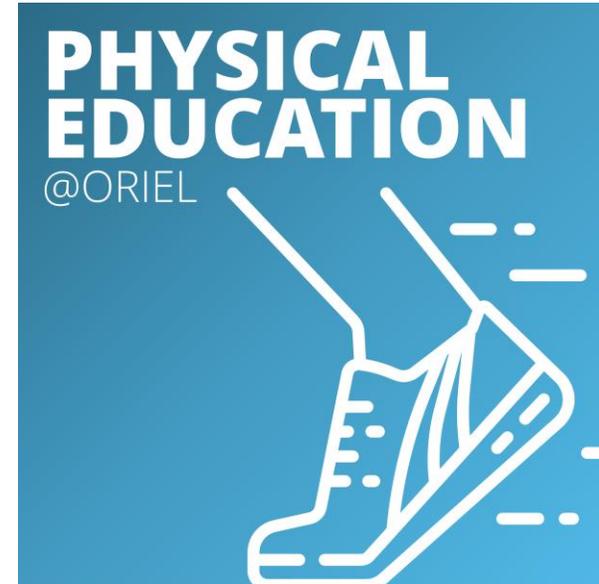
OPTIONS

Students must then choose options to fill the optional parts of the timetable.

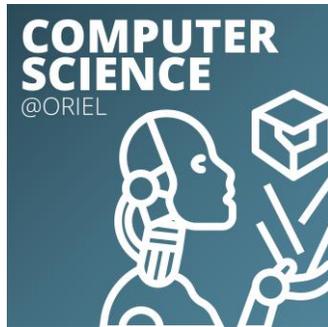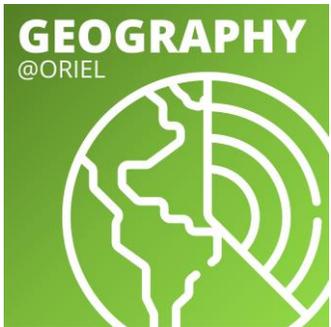There are **three** option spaces to fill:

1

2

3

OPTION 1 – ENSURING PROGRESSION

To ensure that students are not being disadvantaged by not opting for a broad range of subjects including a facilitating subject.

1

Option 1 of the three options must be one of these subjects:

OPTIONS 2 and 3

2

3

BTEC Tech Awards/ Cambridge Nationals:

- **Performing Arts** (Dance, Acting or Musical Theatre)
- **Sport Studies**
- **Travel & Tourism**
- **Creative IMedia**
- **Health and Social Care**
- **Engineering Manufacture**
- **Hospitality & Catering**
- **Business: Enterprise & Marketing**

GCSEs:
- **Film Studies, Music, PE**
- **Art & Design, Photography**
- **French, Spanish, German**
- **Business, Computer Science**
- **History, Ancient History, Geography, Sociology**
- **Food Preparation & Nutrition, Design and Technology**

OPTIONS

You will also need to select two reserve options. Think just as carefully about selecting these as you do your first three choices

1	
2	**3**
R	**S**

YEAR 10 CURRICULUM 2025–2026
ORIEL HIGH SCHOOL
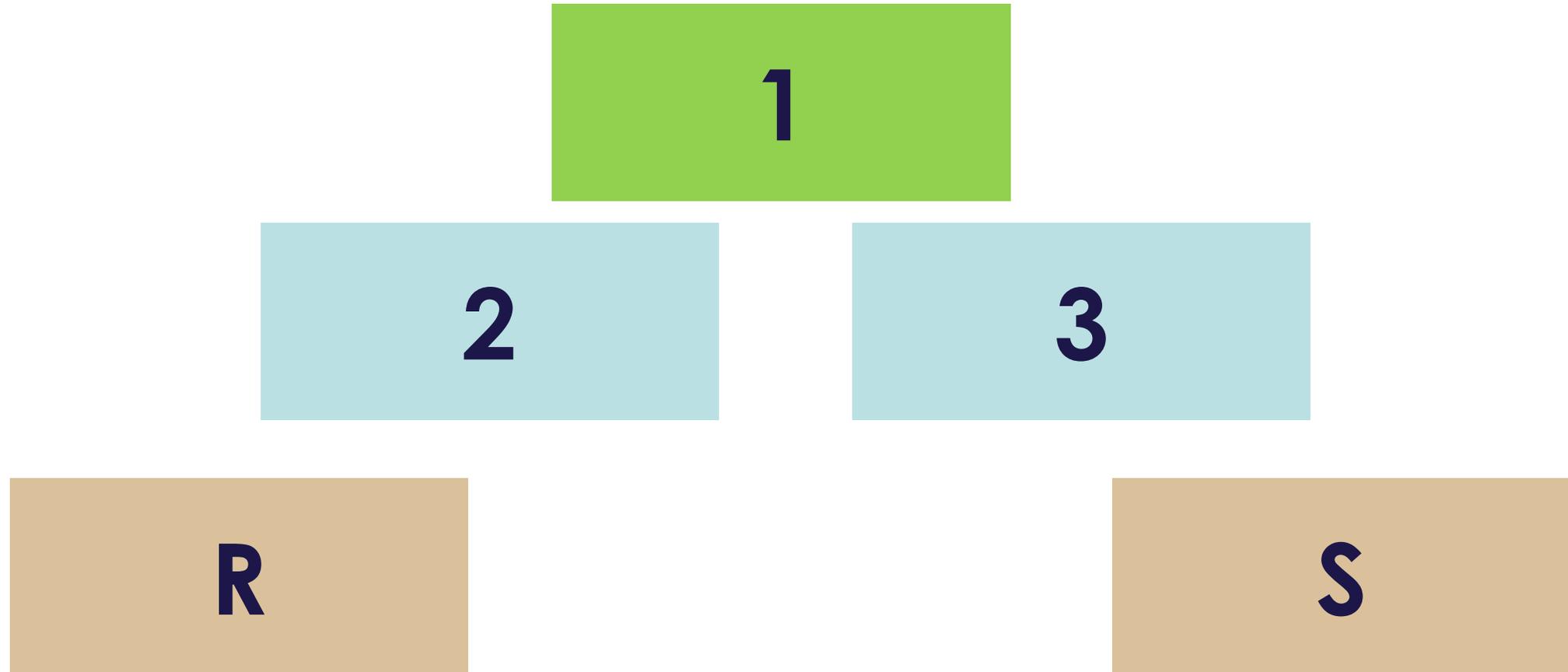
Year 10 Course Information 2026-27

Course	Information Video	Specification	Resources	
English Language	English Language	Edexcel GCSE English Language	English Language Revision Workbook	
English Literature	English Literature	Edexcel GCSE English Literature	Audiopi	Digitaltheatreplus.com
Mathematics	Mathematics	Edexcel GCSE Maths	Mathswatch (students have logins for this)	MathsBot.com
Combined Science	Combined Science	Edexcel GCSE Combined Science	Combined Science Sample Assessment Materials	Combined Science Revision Guide - Higher / Combined Science Revision Guide - Foundation
Biology	Biology	Edexcel GCSE Biology	Biology Revision Guide	
Chemistry	Chemistry	Edexcel GCSE Chemistry	Chemistry Revision Guide	
Physics	Physics	Edexcel GCSE Physics	Physics Revision Guide	
Philosophy, Ethics & Theology	Philosophy, Ethics, Theology	AQA GCSE Religious Studies	AQA GCSE Religious Studies Textbook	
Ancient History	Ancient History	OCR GCSE Ancient History	Ancient History Textbooks	
Computer Science	Computer Science	OCR GCSE Computer Science	BBC Bitesize	
French	French / How languages help in your career	Creative Multilingualism (ox.ac.uk)	AQA GCSE French	GCSE French - AQA - BBC Bitesize / htps://youtu.be/AGWiPLC5EdM	BBC - Learn French with free online lessons languages online
Geography	Geography	AQA GCSE Geography	AQA GCSE Geography Textbook	AQA GCSE Geography Revision Guide

HOW TO MAKE GOOD CHOICES

CAREERS – SOME HELPFUL SITES TO HELP YOU

These web links could help you to find out more information about your skill set, education progression routes and the world of work:

- https://icould.com

- Buzz Quiz

- https://icould.com/buzz-quiz/

- https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/

- https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/careers

- https://www.unifrog.org/sign-in

- https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/what-and-where-study/choosing-course/choosing-undergraduate-course

DO YOU HAVE THE RIGHT SKILL SETS?

USING THE SKILLS STRIPE?

All of the subjects offered at Oriel will give you the opportunity to develop as:

» Independent enquirers
» Creative thinkers
» Reflective learners
» Team workers
» Self-managers
» Effective participators

The skills referred to in the colour stripe on each subject page are those that you may have an aptitude for or a willingness to develop. You can use the colour stripe to search for subjects by skill.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATION	VERBAL COMMUNICATION	WORKING WITH NUMBERS
USING ICT	WORKING WITH OTHERS	PROBLEM SOLVING
RESEARCH	PRACTICAL	GLOBAL AWARENESS
ACTIVE	CREATIVE / ARTISTIC	PERFORMANCE

WRITTEN COMMUNICATION	VERBAL COMMUNICATION	WORKING WITH NUMBERS
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COMPUTER SCIENCE GCSE

WHAT HAVE YOU STUDIED ALREADY?

You will have been introduced to key programming languages and concepts throughout your Computing lessons. You will have used software such as Scratch, VBA and Python to show you the variety of different tools available for you to control elements and create programs customised to match your own imagination.

WHAT MORE WILL YOU LEARN?

You will gain more of a real, in-depth understanding of how computer technology works. The course will give you an insight into what goes on 'behind the scenes', including more computer programming and exposure to different languages. You will have an opportunity to carry out a practical investigation into a computing issue and engage with computing in the real world.

WHAT MAKES A SUCCESSFUL STUDENT?

If you have a passion for being part of the technological generation and enjoy problem solving, this could be the perfect course for you. You need to be patient, a logical thinker and determined to fix any problems without giving up! The increasing importance of information technologies means there will be a growing demand for professionals who are qualified in this area. So, if you are interested in pursuing a computing-related career – this could be as a games developer, app developer, software programmer or IT manager then this is a very useful course to study. The career possibilities in this industry are endless.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU FINISH?

The course will provide you with excellent preparation for higher study and employment in the field of Computer Science. All students who complete GCSE Computer Science can progress to study the subject at A Level or university, having an advantage over their colleagues who are picking up the subject at these levels.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

See any Computing teacher for more information on the course.

Alternatively the exam board have a wealth of resources to help you understand some of the content you may cover: *https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse/computer-science-j277-from-2020/*

GCSE 9-1

"GCSE Computer Science gives you an in depth understanding of how the computer world works ... exciting stuff!."

"It has been really exciting learning how to actually program my own piece of software."

MAKING GOOD CHOICES

You should avoid making choices based on:

- **Your friends' choices**
- **Your current teachers**
- **Gender stereotypes**
- **One narrow career path**

MAKING GOOD CHOICES

When making good choices, you should:

- **Think about your strengths and weaknesses**
- **Think about how you prefer to study and learn**
- **Find out how the courses are taught and assessed**
- **Keep your choices broad and balanced**
- **Research any career ideas you may have**
- **Research the Sixth Form prospectus and any course specific entry requirements**
- **Use UCAS to check A Level and BTEC requirements for degree entry**

MAKING GOOD CHOICES – FURTHER HELP

When making good choices, you should :

- **Speak to teachers at our Options Evening this Thursday 5th March.**
- **Use the school website under 'Subjects and Careers and Moving On' of the curriculum section of the school website**
- **Speak to the teachers about the courses on offer**

NEXT STEPS

ORIEL HIGH SCHOOL

Options Evening – Thursday 5th March 2026

- Important evening for parents and most importantly students
- Drop in any time between 6pm and 8pm
- Receive a further pack of guidance information
- All Subjects and courses represented
- Information to collect and take home
- Speak to teachers
- See examples of students work

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NEXT STEPS

SUBMITTING YOUR CHOICES

Your choices will be filled in online

T.O.O.L.S >> Collecting Student Choices On-line

You will receive your unique username and password tomorrow in mentor time. Do not lose this!

Deadline for Options Choices – Friday March 27th 2026