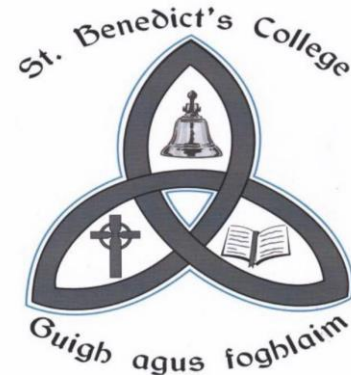




ST BENEDICT'S COLLEGE

GCSE Options Choices- 2021



OUR COLLEGE MISSION STATEMENT AND MOTTO

Mission Statement:

“St Benedict’s is a Catholic, all ability, inclusive school committed to delivering excellence for all. Together with home and community, we strive to enable our students to be happy, safe and successful”

Motto:

“Guigh agus foghlaim” – “Pray and Learn”



AIMS OF THIS PRESENTATION

To explain the Key Stage 4 Curriculum and the Options Process

Areas addressed:

- ✓ Introducing KS4
- ✓ Options timeline
- ✓ Pathways at KS4
- ✓ Vocational choices
- ✓ Advise on how to choose
- ✓ Next steps
- ✓ Support available



KEY STAGE 4 CURRICULUM



Aims of Key Stage 4

- To provide a broad, balanced curriculum for our students
- To ensure students study a curriculum that allows for appropriate progression routes to post 16 provision

ETI Inspection Report

“At KS 4, the school has made good progress in recent years in reviewing the curriculum choice to include a range of courses to meet more appropriately the needs and abilities of individual pupils”.

(November 2018)

KEY STAGE 4- WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

- Students must choose some subjects and stop studying others.
- Not all students will study the same thing.
- Students study subjects in more depth.
- students work towards gaining a formal qualification.

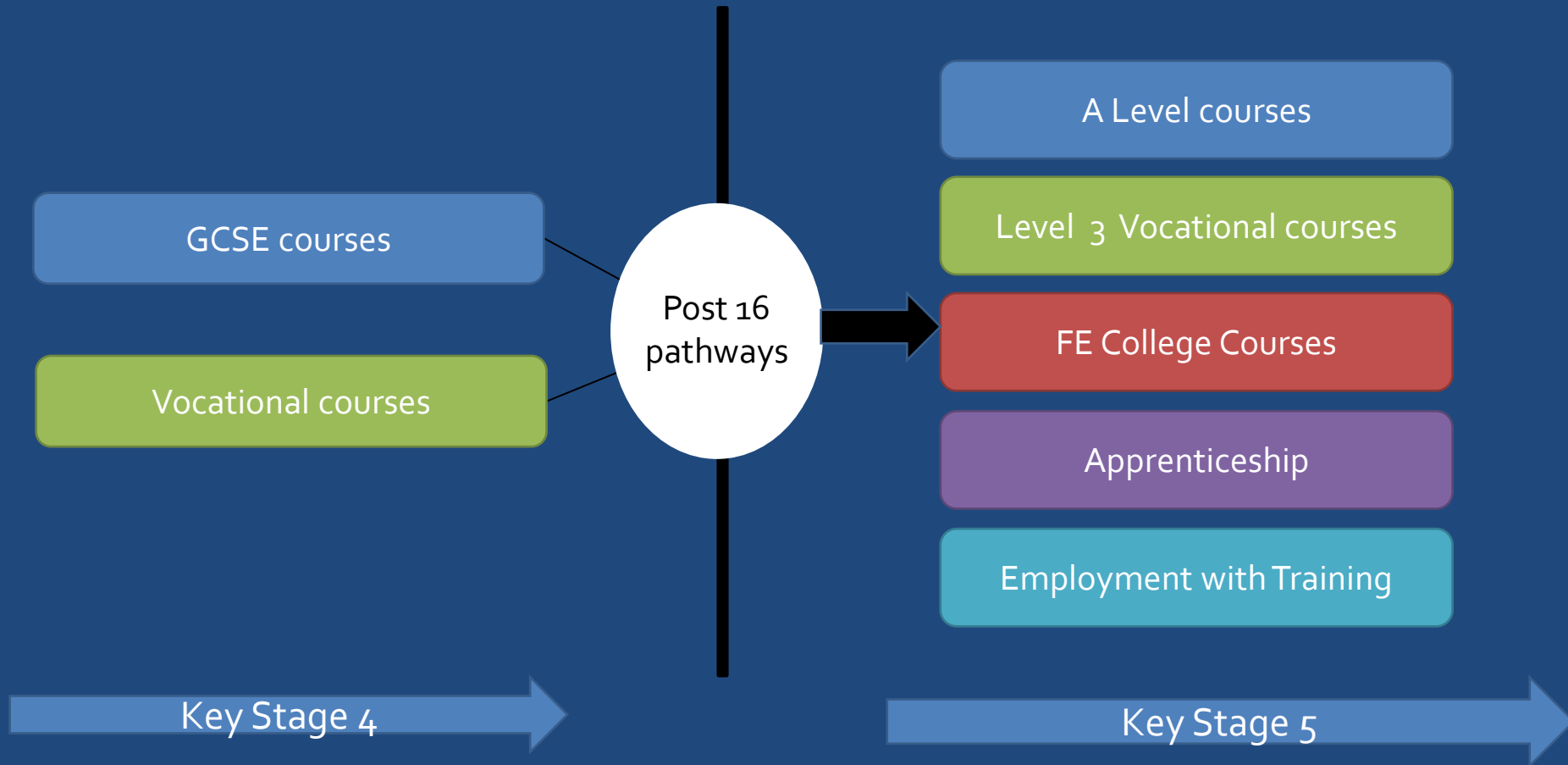


OPTIONS TIMELINE OF EVENTS



Date	Action
12 th – 16 th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs Devlin will support Year 10 pupils to understand their Expression of Interest sheet for GCSE options and booklets. • Expression of Interest sheet for GCSE options will be given to Pupils/Parents. Careers support available. • Letter informing Year 10 Parents Options
19 th - 23 rd April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Year 10 pupils will participate in 'The Wall' Workshop delivered by Tree of Knowledge. Its focus being choices. • Year 10 Parent – Teacher Online Presentation posted on Social Media, Website, Twitter.
26 th – 30 th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subject teachers will provide information on KS4 options in their own subject to all classes. • All Year 10 pupils will return their Expression of Interest sheet for GCSE options to Form Teachers.
7 th - 8 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 10 Transition Interviews will take place to finalise GCSE options for all Year 10 pupils with Mr Shivers/ Miss Hutchinson.

PROGRESSION ROUTES



KS₄ CURRICULUM PATHWAY 1

10F

Pathway 1 offers both GCSE, BTEC courses most pupils are expected to go to Post 16 Colleges

Pathways Direction 2020/21

Pathway 1 10F

This Pathway could lead students to:

- A Level study
- Post 16 study at a Regional College
- Apprenticeship
- Employment.

Leavers Destinations 2019/20

- 35% A Levels at Post 16 Colleges
- 42% Third Level at Post 16 Colleges
- 14% Apprenticeships, Employment



10F Option Sheet

Option Choices - Name: _____ Class: 10F

Core Subjects					
English CCEA					
English Literature CCEA					
Mathematics CCEA					
Religious Education CCEA					
Science (Single Award) CCEA					
Optional Subjects GCSE CCEA (except where stated)					
	Choice 1	Choice 2	Choice 3	Res 1	Res 2
Science (Double Award)					
Art and Design					
Construction					
Geography					
History					
Child Development					
Business Communication Systems					
Learning for Life and Work					
Irish					
Media Studies (WJEC)					
Physical Education (WJEC)					
BTEC Level 2					
Performing Arts					

Core Subjects (Subjects that are at the centre of the Curriculum and must be studied at GCSE).

- ❖ English CCEA
- ❖ English Literature CCEA
- ❖ Mathematics CCEA
- ❖ Religious Education CCEA
- ❖ Science (Single Award) CCEA

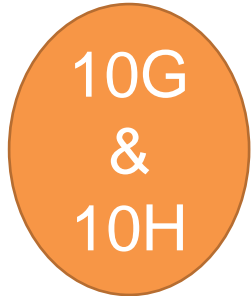
Optional Subjects

- ❖ Science (Double Award)
- ❖ Art & Design
- ❖ Construction
- ❖ Geography
- ❖ History
- ❖ Child Development
- ❖ Business Communication Systems
- ❖ Learning for Life and Work
- ❖ Irish
- ❖ Media Studies (WJEC)
- ❖ Physical Education (WJEC)
- ❖ Performing Arts (BTEC Level 2)

Pupils must choose 3 subjects from this optional list.

KS₄ CURRICULUM

PATHWAY 2 & 3



Pathway 2 and 3 offers a mixture of GCSE, BTEC and Occupational Studies Level 2 courses. (OS / OCN courses are vocational courses but have GCSE equivalency)

Pathways Direction 2020/21	
Pathway 2 10G	Pathway 3 10H
<p>This Pathway could lead students to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Level study • Post 16 study at a Regional College • Apprenticeship • Employment. 	<p>This Pathway could lead students to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post 16 study at a Regional College • Apprenticeship • Employment.
<p>Leavers Destinations 2019/20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 35% A Levels at Post 16 Colleges • 42% Third Level at Post 16 Colleges • 14% Apprenticeships, Employment 	



10G Option Sheet

Option Choices - Name:		Class: 10G				
Core Subjects						
English CCEA						
Mathematics CCEA						
OCN NI Level 2 Award in Religious Studies						
Science CCEA						
Learning for Life and Work CCEA						
Optional Subjects GCSE CCEA (except where stated)						
	Choice 1	Choice 2	Choice 3	Res 1	Res 2	
Art and Design						
Business Communication Systems						
Construction						
Geography						
History						
Double Award Science						
Child Development						
Irish						
Media Studies (EDQUAS)						
Physical Education (WJEC)						
BTEC Level 2						
Performing Arts						
Occupational Studies Level 2						
Construction						
Single Award: Bench Joinery - Carpentry and Joinery						
Environment & Society						
Environment & Society: Childcare - Play Environment and Physical Care of Babies						
Design and Creativity						
Single Award: Contemporary Cuisine - Patisserie and Baking						

Core Subjects (Subjects that are at the centre of the Curriculum and must be studied at GCSE).

- ❖ English CCEA
- ❖ Mathematics CCEA
- ❖ OCN Level 2 Award in Religious Studies
- ❖ Science (Single Award) CCEA
- ❖ Learning for Life and Work CCEA

Optional Subjects

- ❖ Art & Design
- ❖ Business Communication Systems
- ❖ Construction
- ❖ Geography
- ❖ History
- ❖ Double Award Science
- ❖ Child Development
- ❖ Irish
- ❖ Media Studies (EDQUAS)
- ❖ Physical Education (WJEC)
- ❖ Performing Arts (BTEC Level 2)
- ❖ Occupational Studies- Bench Joinery
Childcare
Contemporary Cuisine

Pupils must choose 3 subjects from this optional list.

10H Option Sheet

Core Subjects				
English CCEA Or OCN NI Level 1 / Level 2 Certificate in Essential Skills - Communication				
Mathematics CCEA Or OCN NI Level 1 / Level 2 Certificate in Essential Skills - Application of Number				
OCN NI Level 2 Award in Religious Studies				
OCN NI Level 2 Award in Science				
OCN NI Level 2 Award and Certificate in Information Technology Applications				
Princes Trust Level 2 Double Award Employability				
Optional Subjects GCSE CCEA (except where stated)				
	Choice 1	Choice 2	Res 1	Res 2
Art and Design				
Media Studies (WJEC)				
Physical Education (WJEC)				
BTEC Level 2				
Performing Arts				
Occupational Studies Level 2				
Design and Creativity				
Single Award: Contemporary Cuisine - Patisserie and Baking				
Environment & Society				
Environment & Society: Childcare - Play Environment and Physical Care of Babies				
Technology and Innovation				
Single Award: Bench Joinery - Carpentry and Joinery				

Core Subjects (Subjects that are at the centre of the Curriculum and must be studied at GCSE).

- ❖ English CCEA or OCN Level 1/ 2 Certificate in Essential Skills- Communication.
- ❖ Mathematics CCEA or OCN Level 1/ 2 Certificate in Essential Skills- Application of Number.
- ❖ OCN NI Level 2 Award in Religious Studies.
- ❖ OCN NI Level 2 Award in Science.
- ❖ OCN NI Level 2 Award and Certificate in Information Technology Applications.
- ❖ Princes Trust Level 2 Double Award Employability.

Optional Subjects

- ❖ Art & Design
- ❖ Media Studies (WJEC)
- ❖ Physical Education (WJEC)
- ❖ Performing Arts (BTEC Level 2)
- ❖ Occupational Studies- Bench Joinery

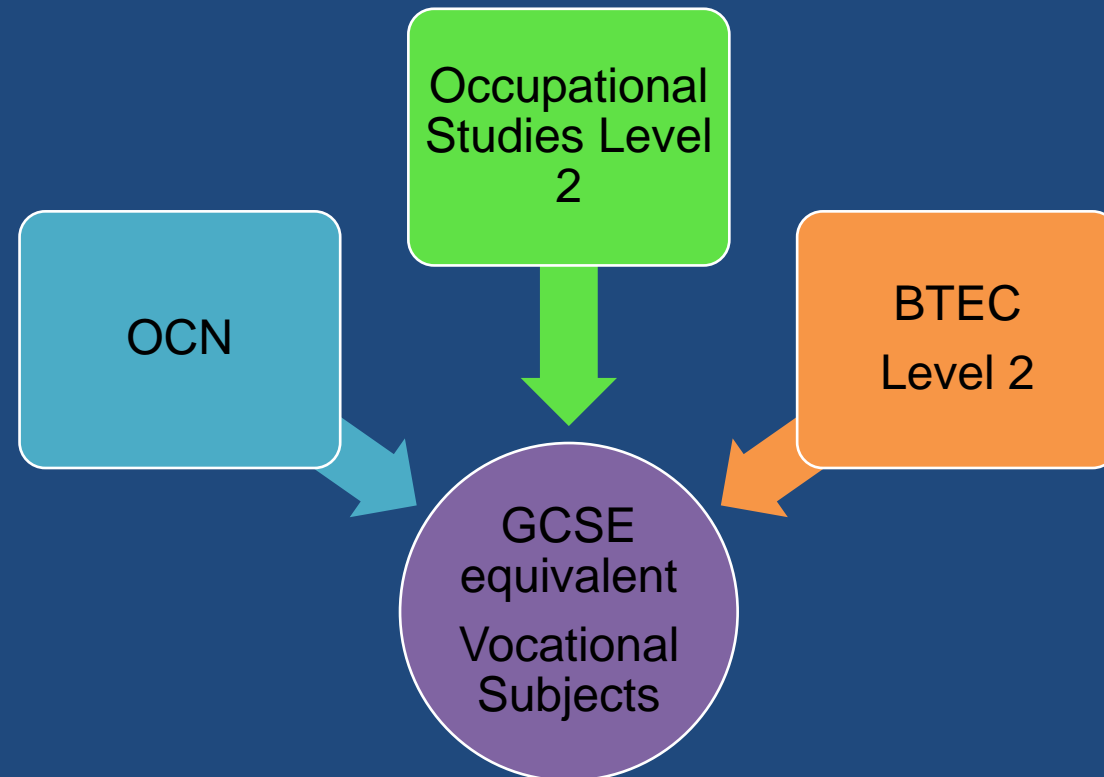
Childcare

Contemporary Cuisine

Pupils must choose **2** subjects from this optional list.

VOCATIONAL SUBJECTS EXPLAINED

Vocational subjects are general qualifications that develop practical skills and knowledge related to a broad job area such as Business, Engineering, IT and Health and Social Care.



Occupational Studies – Pathway to Regional Colleges & or Employment

At St Benedict's College we offer three pathways for Occupational Studies- Construction, Design and Creativity and Environment and Society.

Learners must complete **two** units from the same occupational area to achieve a qualification. Each unit is worth 50 percent of the overall qualification.

Learners can take more than one qualification in Occupational Studies.

Find more information here:

<https://ccea.org.uk/occupational-studies>

Business and Services 15 Units	Construction 8 Units	Design and Creativity 12 Units	Engineering and Engineering Services 11 Units	Environment and Society 9 Units	Technology and Innovation 9 Units
Childcare: the Play Environment	Bench Joinery	Contemporary Cuisine	Basic Fast-Fit Operations	Animal Care	Bench Joinery
Communication within an Office or Business Environment	Brick/Block work	Creative Hairstyling on Long Hair	Basic Vehicle Body Components and Fitting	Horticulture: Caring for Plants and Flowers	CAD (Computer Aided Design)
Contemporary Cuisine	Carpentry and Joinery	Creative Hair Styling Setting Techniques	CAD (Computer Aided Design)	Horticulture: Growing Plants in a Sustainable Way	Carpentry and Joinery
Creative Styling using Blow Drying Techniques	Hard Landscaping	Creative Styling using Blow Drying Techniques	Electrical Wiring Installation	Reminiscence with Individuals in a Care Environment	Digital Imaging
Customer Service	Painting and Decorating	Enterprise Crafts	Electronic Circuit Construction	Running a Leisure Event	Digital Music
Facial Skin Care	Plastering	Graphic Design	Maintenance of Land-based Machinery	Sports Leadership	Manufacturing Techniques - Hand fitting
Logistics and Transport	Plumbing	Interior Design	Manufacturing Techniques - Hand Fitting	Tour Guiding	Manufacturing Techniques - Sheet Metal
Manicure and Nail Art	Tiling	Patisserie and Baking	Manufacturing Techniques - Sheet Metal	Working in a Care Environment	Sound Production
Modern Office Procedures		Specialised Crafts	Plumbing	Working in Tourism	TV and Film Production
Modern Retailing		Textile and Fashion Design	Vehicle Servicing and Valeting Operations		
Patisserie and Baking		Total Beauty	Vehicle Technician Operations		
Shampooing and Conditioning Treatments		Website Development			
The Physical Care of Babies					
Using Office Technology					
Vehicle Servicing and Valeting Operations					

OCN– Pathway to Regional Colleges & or Employment

St. Benedict's College are offering OCN NI Level 2 Award in Science, Religious Studies and Information Communication Technology.

OCN is a qualification currently being delivered across Northern Ireland. The Level 2 Awards are **equivalent** to a Grade B at GCSE.

The advantages of studying through OCN are:

- ❖ No examinations
- ❖ Unit based portfolio work

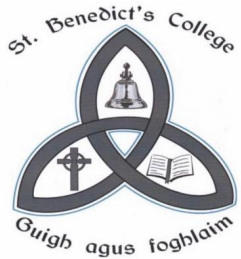


BTEC– Pathway to Regional Colleges & or Employment

The BTEC First Award is a vocational qualification at Level 2 or **Level 1**.
The Level 2 grade is the equivalent of a GCSE grade between A*-C (dependant upon final grade achieved).
The **Level 1** grade is equivalent to a GCSE grade D.

Advantages of studying BTEC:

- ❖ Many of our Pupils go on to study BTEC at Post 16
- ❖ Higher percentage of coursework than examinations.
- ❖ Pupils develop their problem solving and planning skills.
- ❖ BTEC qualifications are well-regarded by employers.
- ❖ The courses enable students to develop useful hands-on skills such as time management and communication.



Pearson
BTEC

DESTINATION OF SCHOOL LEAVERS BY YEAR GROUP- 2019/20



- ❖ 35% A Levels at Post 16 Colleges
- ❖ 42% Third Level at Post 16 Colleges
- ❖ 14% Apprenticeships, Employment

SIMS Analysis (Reason for leaving) Numbers represent: Count			
	Below Year 12	Year 12	Total
Another School : Grammar	1	19	20
Another School : non Grammar	2	6	8
Elective Home Education	0	3	3
Emigrated	3	0	3
Employment	0	10	7
Seeking Employment	0	3	6
FE College NI	0	30	30
Unknown	0	0	0
Total	6	71	77

Source for NI data SIMs: Destination of School Leavers by year group, 2018/19 - NON-GRAMMAR SCHOOLS

Based on data held by the school, the table below shows the numbers of all of the pupils from this school who leave school to enter employment, further education, higher education, and training or are seeking employment compared with the average for non-GRAMMAR schools and for the most recent year for which data is available.

ADVICE ON HOW TO CHOOSE YOUR GCSE SUBJECTS



1. **Choose the subjects you are likely to do best in.** Use feedback you have had from your teachers to guide you.
2. **Don't make a choice just because you like the teacher.** That teacher may well not be taking the group you end up in
3. **Be realistic** about your strengths and weaknesses and accept realistic advice about the type of course you choose
4. **Do your research** by reading the options booklet thoroughly and talking to your teachers
5. **Above all don't choose a subject because your friend is doing it.** There is no guarantee you'll end up in the same class.

THINGS TO CONSIDER

- ✓ Do your research; ask questions, get advice, read what is involved e.g. essays, control assessment, practical, creative, problem solving, research, analytical, sports, performing....
- ✓ Consider what you are thinking of studying after year 12 (college, apprenticeships, training courses and university requirements).
- ✓ Consider what relates to any career ideas you have in mind.
- ✓ Do choose what is right for YOU and strike a balance



WHAT TO DO NOW



- You need to make **three** choices (10F & G) or **two** choices (10H) from the subject list.
- Each pupil in Year 10 have been given a Expression of Interest Sheet. These forms are also available on the website: <https://www.stbenedictscollege.co.uk/year-10-options>
- The deadline for making your selection is **Wednesday 28th April 2021.**
- **Option sheets must be given to your form teacher during morning registration.**

SUPPORT



Teacher input – students can talk to Form Tutors, Miss Hutchinson; Head of Year, Mrs Devlin; Head of Careers or Mr Shivers; Curriculum Manager & Assistant Principal.

Options interviews – will take place with a senior member of staff once option sheets have all been submitted.

Information from subject specialists – teachers will deliver short talks to Year 10 classes about their subject areas and what the GCSE course entails.

Independent advice – careers information and links are on the school website and on the Year 10 Head of Year Google Classroom.

School Website - the following information will be available on the school website: options booklet, options form, useful links to careers websites and this presentation.

<https://www.stbenedictcollege.co.uk/year-10-options>



USEFUL EMAILS



Mr Shivers, Curriculum Manager
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Miss Hutchinson, Head of Year
mhutchinson069@c2ken.net

Mrs Devlin, Head of Careers & Learning for Life and Work
pdevlin756@c2ken.net