



Atlantic Academy Portland
proudly part of
ASPIRATIONS



Welcome to Atlantic Academy

YEAR 9 OPTIONS PRESENTATION 2024

Vice Principal: Ms Migliari

Assistant Principal: Miss Tasha Board

Inspiring our students to have confidence, character and commitment.



WELCOME TO OUR YEAR 9 OPTIONS PRESENTATION

We pride ourselves on offering a wide curriculum allowing our students a breadth of opportunity to study the subjects of their choice.

Students are able to choose a curriculum pathway to suit their personal needs and we encourage students to make these choices in close conjunction with experienced members of staff and alongside their parents/carers.

We offer a range of courses to suit a variety of abilities through offering GCSEs as well as Level 2 Vocationals, all of which have a track record of excellent results.



The Curriculum Offer

In three parts...

1. The compulsory CORE
2. EBacc subject options
3. The Open section



The Rationale

Progress 8 measure



English

Double-weighted*



Maths

Double-weighted



EBacc qualifications

(sciences, computer science, geography,
history and languages)



'Open group'

**Remaining EBacc qualifications and
other approved qualifications**

(GCSEs and other approved academic, arts or vocational
qualifications)

**Higher score of English Language or English Literature
double-weighted if a student has taken both qualifications*



The Compulsory Core

There is a compulsory part of the curriculum for all students which is the core subject areas of

- **Mathematics**
- **English Language**
- **English Literature**
- **Science Trilogy (worth 2 GCSEs)**

All of the above are studied at GCSE level and this adds up to a total of 5 possible GCSEs in the core area.



The Compulsory Core

There is a compulsory part of the curriculum for all students which is studied, however no qualification is required

- **Core PE**
- **PSHE/ Citizenship/RSE/RE**



The Ebacc Subject Options

The EBacc (English Baccalaureate) is an award which supports students to study specific GCSEs recognised by Russell Group Universities as qualifications which hold a higher academic status.

We encourage students to challenge themselves and to consider subjects that offer them the EBacc to help keep their options open for future courses and careers. To support this, students will choose one of the following:

- **Geography (Humanities)**
- **History (Humanities)**
- **French (Language)**



Open subjects - Basket 3 options

Students have a wide range of subjects to choose from here. They will be able to choose two vocational /GCSE subjects from the broad list of subjects.

This decision has been made to ensure that all learners have a broad, balanced and manageable curriculum throughout years 10 and 11.

It is this blend of academic GCSEs and more vocational courses which ensures that all students are comfortable with their journey to academic success.

Open Subject Options:

VOC Hospitality	VOC Sports and coaching principles
GCSE Business	VOC Travel and tourism
VOC Health and Social	VOC Drama
VOC Music	GCSE ART
Voc Engineering	GCSE Philosophy and Ethics



How many qualifications will you study in total?

6 x GCSEs

3 x GCSE or Vocational Qualifications

9 GCSE/Equivalents in Total

There will be set controlled assessments in Year 10 for vocational qualifications



What are my options?

Block 1 (Core)	Block 2 :Select 1 of the following	Block 3: Select 1 of the following	Block 4 :Select 1 of the following	Block 5 :Select 1 of the following
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Maths<input type="checkbox"/> English<input type="checkbox"/> Science<input type="checkbox"/> Core sport<input type="checkbox"/> PSHE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Geography<input type="checkbox"/> History	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> French<input type="checkbox"/> Geography<input type="checkbox"/> Travel and Tourism<input type="checkbox"/> Learning for life and work (by invitation only)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Philosophy and Ethics<input type="checkbox"/> Drama<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering<input type="checkbox"/> Hospitality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Sport and Coaching<input type="checkbox"/> Business Studies<input type="checkbox"/> Music<input type="checkbox"/> Health and Social Care<input type="checkbox"/> Art
Everyone studies	Pick 1	Pick 1	Pick 1	Pick 1

Making an Options Choice

Year 9 choices form 2023/24

Please follow the instructions very carefully. Please do not select the same option twice

abiddle@atlantic-aspirations.org [Switch accounts](#)



* Indicates required question

Email *

☐ Record abiddle@atlantic-aspirations.org as the email to be included with my response

Choices Blocks

	Block 1	Block 2	Block 3	Block 4
<input type="checkbox"/> Maths <input type="checkbox"/> English <input type="checkbox"/> Science <input type="checkbox"/> Core sport <input type="checkbox"/> PSHE	<input type="checkbox"/> Geography <input type="checkbox"/> History	<input type="checkbox"/> French <input type="checkbox"/> Geography <input type="checkbox"/> Travel and Tourism <input type="checkbox"/> Learning for life and work (by invitation only)	<input type="checkbox"/> Philosophy and Ethics <input type="checkbox"/> Drama <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitality	<input type="checkbox"/> Sport and Coaching <input type="checkbox"/> Business Studies <input type="checkbox"/> Music <input type="checkbox"/> Health and Social Care <input type="checkbox"/> Art

Next

Clear form

Year 9 choices form 2023/24

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Your email address will be recorded when you submit this form

* Indicates required question

Student details

Student first name *

Your answer

Student Surname *

Your answer

Tutor group *

- ☐ 9COB (Blue)
- ☐ 9CAG (Green)
- ☐ 9CHO (Orange)
- ☐ The zone tutor group

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Next

Clear form

Year 9 choices form 2023/24

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Your email address will be recorded when you submit this form

* Indicates required question

Block 1:

You can select to study **History** or **Geography** in this block

Block 1:

*

Select your first choice (the one you would like to study the most)

☐ Geography

☐ History

Block 1 reserve:

*

Select your reserve choice

☐ Geography

☐ History

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[Clear form](#)



Advice to students choosing subjects to study

This is one of the most important moments in your academic career. Take the time to find out as much as possible about all the courses on offer. Seek the advice of others, including students older than you; their experiences can be extremely useful.

Read through the following information on courses and, where you need to make a choice, consider the following:

- Your academic strengths, attainments and interests.
- Your career, employment or further education ambitions.
- Your friends will still be your friends even if they are not in your class; choosing courses just to be with them is not very wise!
- Your parents, your head of year and your subject teachers can all contribute. Tell them about your ideas and listen to theirs.

We hope that, through partnership with your families and teachers, you will arrive at a meaningful programme of study – an important step towards realising your future ambitions.



IMPORTANT

Please note that we will endeavour to offer students their preferred choices but in some cases this may not be possible. In these cases, we will attempt to match students with their other choices. **It is therefore very important to consider carefully all option preferences and their rank order.**

Alternatives will have to be considered if:

- Too many students opt for a particular course.
- Too few students opt for a particular course.
- We wish to advise a better range of courses to meet a student's needs.



Key information & Deadlines

You pick your choices using the Google form.

If you have any questions or need support you must speak to Ms Board or send in the contact form.

Options evening- Thursday 8th February

Options open- Friday 9th February 8am

Options close -Friday 1st March

We really suggest you are ready to select the options when they opens



Careers Advice - Decision Making

1. Consider the issues and goals

- How many options do I have to make?
- Are there career implications?
- What kind of balance do I want to achieve?

2. Get the facts

- What do the courses contain?
- What strengths and skills do I have?

3. Ask advice, consult

- Subject teachers
- Heads of Subject
- Parents
- Students already doing the subject



4. Look at the alternatives

- Would another choice suit my career plans better?
- Am I going to be able to change my mind?
- Could my programme be better balanced?

5. Decide

- Are these choices my own personal decisions?
- Have I any worries left?

I hope that you find this information useful, and that this process is one which gives all students an excitement about their future learning opportunities.



Thank you !