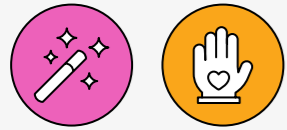


# NAVIGATING THE ROAD TO GCSEs

As a parent or carer, you play a key role in helping your young person explore their GCSE options and make decisions. This roadmap is designed to guide you through the process.

**Remember:** Each school does things differently, so your young person's school is the best source of information to help you navigate the GCSE options process.



## GCSE OPTIONS LAUNCH

- What subjects does the school offer at GCSE?
- Which are compulsory and which are optional?
- When is the submission deadline?

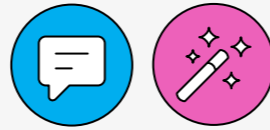
DATE:

TIME:



## HOW TO ACCESS SUPPORT

- Identify the key school staff (e.g., Head of Year, SENDCo) and their roles in supporting students.
- Start to prepare a list of questions for relevant school staff.



## GCSE OPTIONS EVENTS

- How will the event be structured and who will be there?
- Plan together with your young person – what do you both want to find out?
- UEA Outreach will be popping up at GCSE options events throughout Norfolk. If you see us, come and grab a free Curious Questions card game to take home.



All GCSE subjects are valuable. A balanced, broad selection of subjects keeps students engaged and their future options open.



## SUBMITTING GCSE OPTIONS

- When and how will your young person know the outcome of the options process?
- Who can you speak to about any concerns or queries?



## PREPARING FOR GCSEs

- What study advice and support does your school provide?
- Does your young person need any additional support?  
to check out our top tips on preparing for GCSEs.

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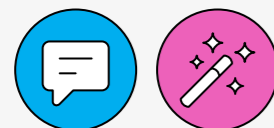


## PARENTS EVENINGS AND PROGRESS REPORTS

- How will your young person's progress be shared and when?
- Look through your young person's report together and chat about their progress in each subject.
- When is your parents' evening?

DATE:

TIME:



## GET TALKING

- What subjects does your young person like and dislike?
- What motivates and inspires them?
- How are they feeling about choosing their GCSE options?



It's unlikely your young person will limit their future options with their GCSE choices, so encourage them to use the next two years to explore their interests.



## DECISION-MAKING TIME

- Can your young person give reasons for the choices they've made?
- Have they changed their mind about anything?  
to read our advice on how to support them in their final choices.

Remember: it's their decision so support them to take ownership of it.



## KEEP TALKING

- How is my young person currently thinking and feeling?
- What options appeal to them and why? Where are they unsure?
- How do their choices link to their ideas about the future?

## KEY



Mythbusting



Accessing Support



Relating to your young person

The road to GCSEs doesn't stop here. Head to our website for more resources and top tips to help you support your young person through Year 9 and beyond.