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YATELEY SCHOOL

Starting Year 9 (in September 2026)

From September 2026, students who are currently in Year 8 will follow the new timetable structure when they move into Year 9.

Year 9 continues to provide a broad and balanced curriculum, ensuring that students build strong foundations across all core subjects while also preparing for the choices they will make later in the year.

During their Year 9 all students will study a variety of subjects including:

- English
- Maths
- Science
- Core PE
- PSHE
- Design Technology
- Food Technology
- Geography
- History
- Art
- Computer Science
- Music
- Drama
- Dance
- Religious Studies

Selecting GCSE Options:

During January of Year 9, students will select their GCSE option subjects. Most students will choose **four GCSE options**, which they will study alongside their core subjects when they reach Years 10 and 11.

For a small number of students the *Mastery* pathway will be recommended for Y10/Y11, where students choose three GCSE options alongside a carefully designed programme that provides additional support in English and Mathematics, alongside valuable wider experiences such as Duke of Edinburgh, First Aid, and Princes Trust activities.

Support Available:

We recognise that choosing GCSE subjects is an important decision, and students are very well supported throughout the process well-before the January deadline. In the lead-up to these choices, students will benefit from:

- A dedicated Year 9 Options Evening for parents and students
- Options assemblies explaining the process and subjects available
- Taster lessons to experience different GCSE subjects
- Ongoing guidance from tutors and teachers

This support ensures that students can make well-informed and confident decisions about the subjects they choose to study at GCSE.

The move to weekly lessons in every subject will also support students as they approach this stage, helping them maintain strong engagement and continuity in their learning.

PSHE

For students in Year 9 (for the academic year 2026-27 **only**) there is a minor change to PSHE.

In order to fit in all of the other curriculum requirements, Year 9 will have PSHE once per fortnight, but for 60 minutes (as opposed to 75 currently). In order to restore the lost PSHE time, for the academic year 2026-27, we are scheduling a day of “drop-down” PSHE. During this time, students’ normal timetables will be suspended and they will follow a PSHE-only day so as to maintain balance.