



Year 8 Curriculum and Options
Choices – how to do it
Thursday 26th February 2026

Mr Wharton – Deputy Head
Mrs Brunning – Assistant
Headteacher

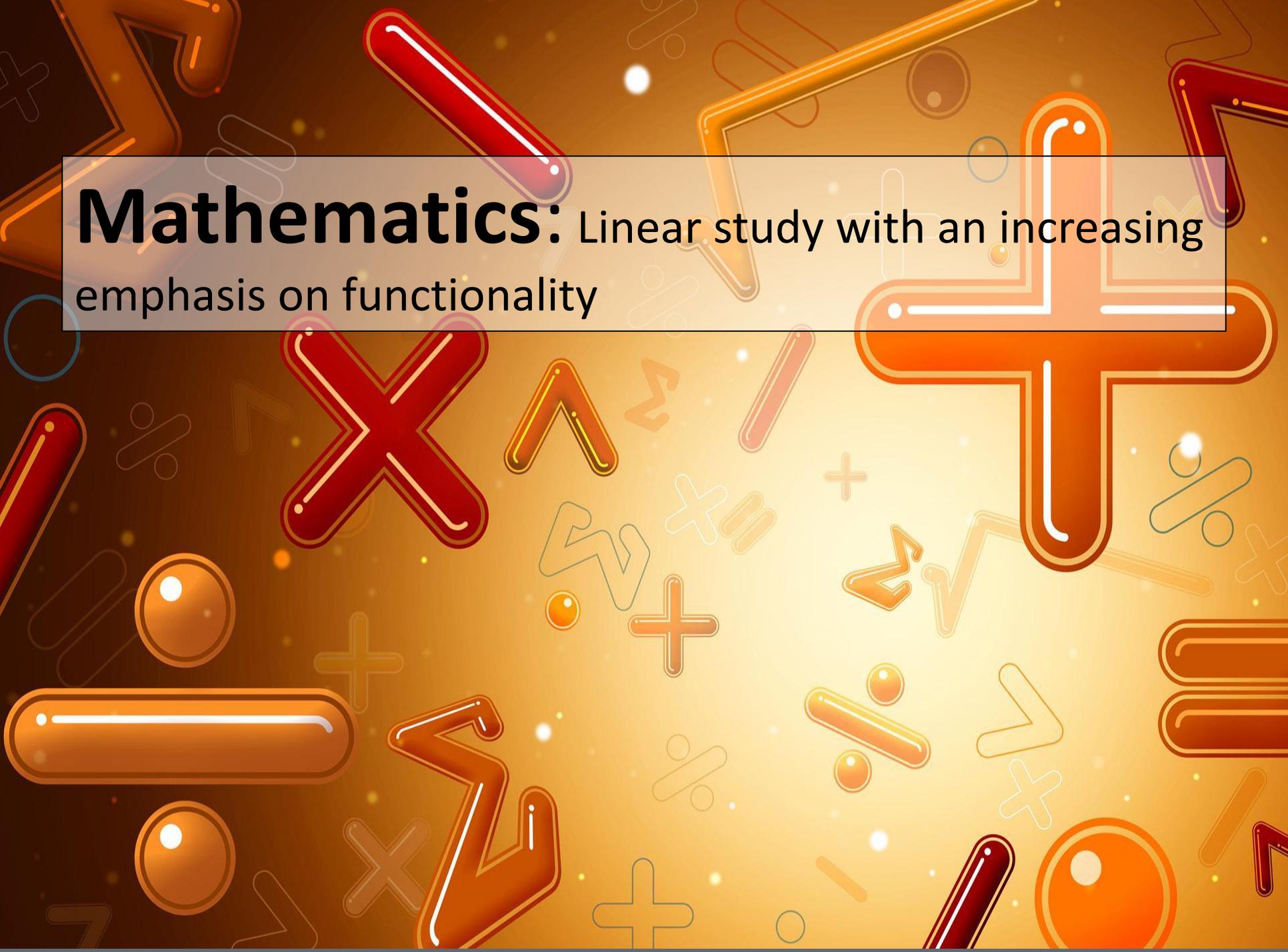
Our over-arching aims:

- To ensure that pupils follow a tailored pathway through KS4, appropriate to their interests and abilities
- To ensure that pupils continue to follow a broad and balanced curriculum so that they have the base from which to specialise later in life



Core for all pupils:

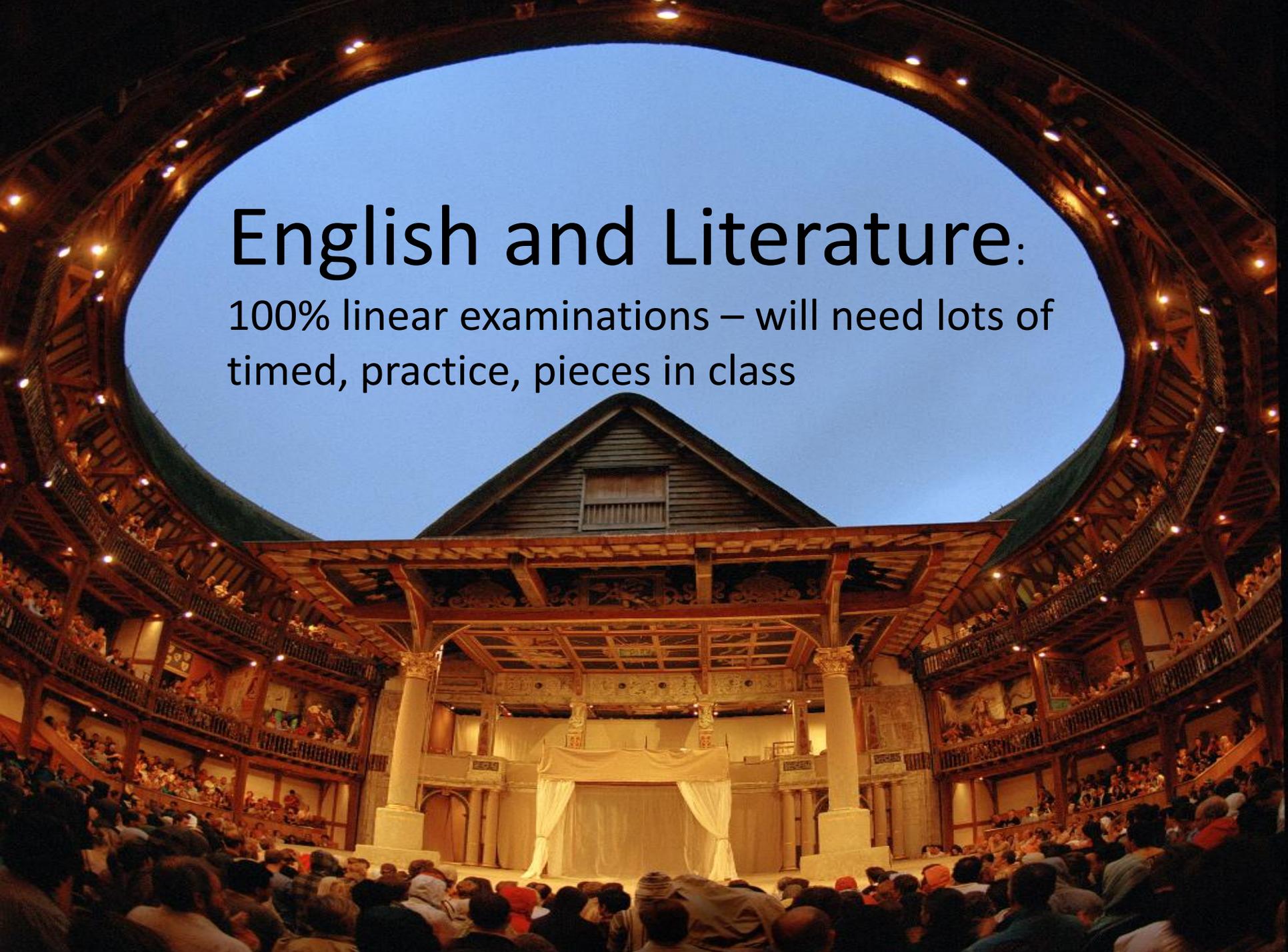
- Mathematics
- English/English Literature
- Science
- ICT
- PE



Mathematics: Linear study with an increasing emphasis on functionality

English and Literature:

100% linear examinations – will need lots of
timed, practice, pieces in class



Science: Pupils will study either Triple or Double Sciences. The Science department will decide which pupils follow which course, based on assessment data



The exam period is busy...

Date	7.30/ 8.00am to 8.30am	1 9am to 10am	2 10am to 11am	BREAK	3 11.15am to 12.15pm	4 12.15pm to 1.15pm	LUNCH	5 1.45pm to 2.45pm	6 2.45pm to 3.45pm
Monday 12 May	Eng. Lit.	English Literature 1 1 hour 45 mins			Computer Science Revision		Computer Science 1 1 hour 45 mins		
					Religious Studies Revision				
Tuesday 13 May		Religious Studies 1 1 hour 45 mins					Biology 1 T: 1 hour 45 mins D: 1 hour 15 mins		Geography?
					Biology Revision				
Wednesday 14 May	Geography?	Geography 1 1 hour 30 mins			Media Revision		Media Studies 1 1 hour 30 mins		
					OCR Sports Studies Revision		OCR Sports Studies 1 hour 15 mins		Maths for Media and Sports Studies Pupils
					Maths Revision				
Thursday 15 May	Maths?	Maths 1 (non calc.) 1 hour 30 mins			German Revision		German Writing H: 1 hour 15 mins F: 1 hour		History for German pupils
					History Revision				
Friday 16 May	History	History 1 2 hours			Chemistry Revision				



ICT: As now, all students take an ICT qualification in Y10.

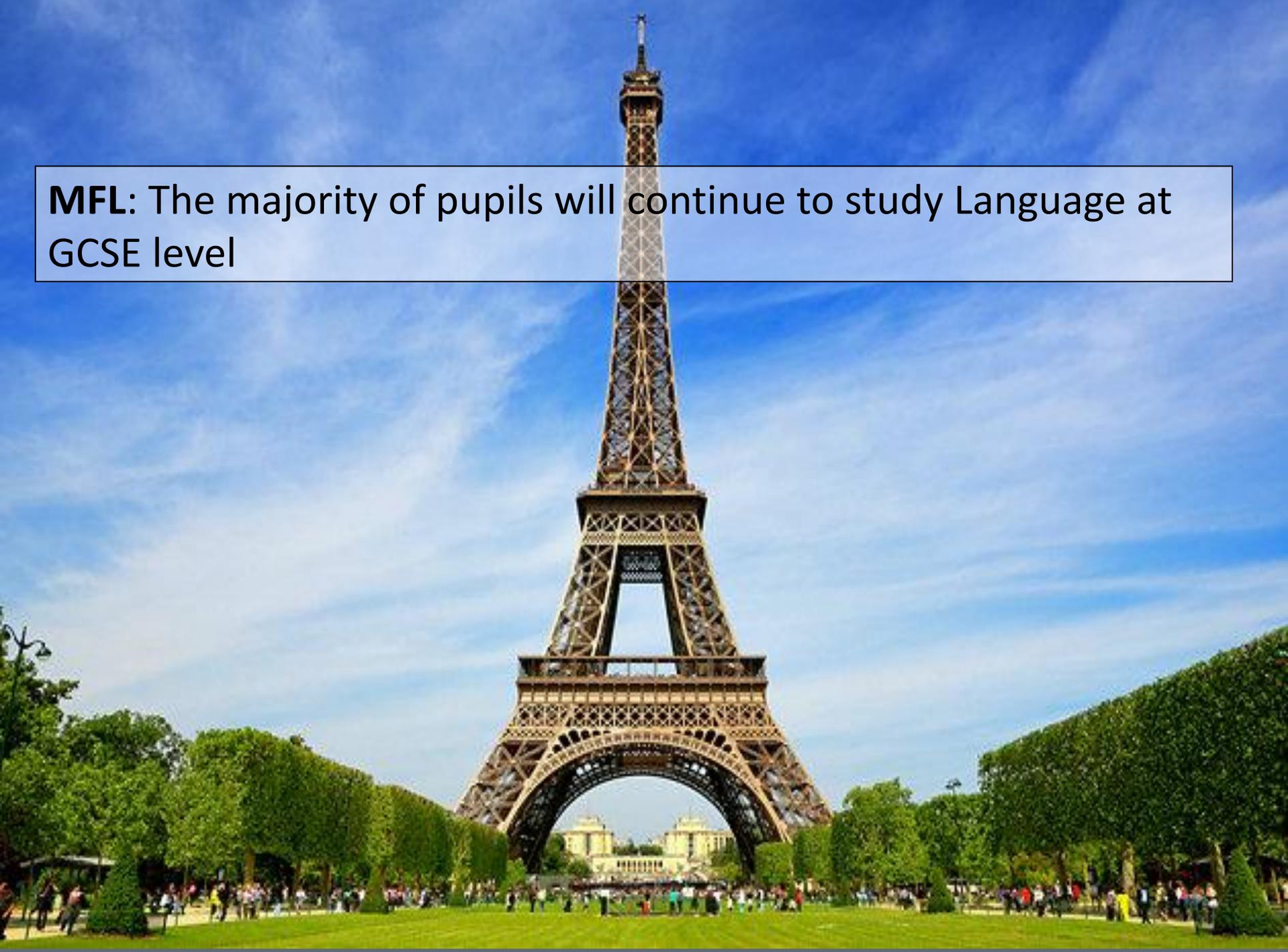


PE: All students will continue to have lessons of core PE

Humanities: The majority of pupils will need to choose a Humanities subject – History or Geography



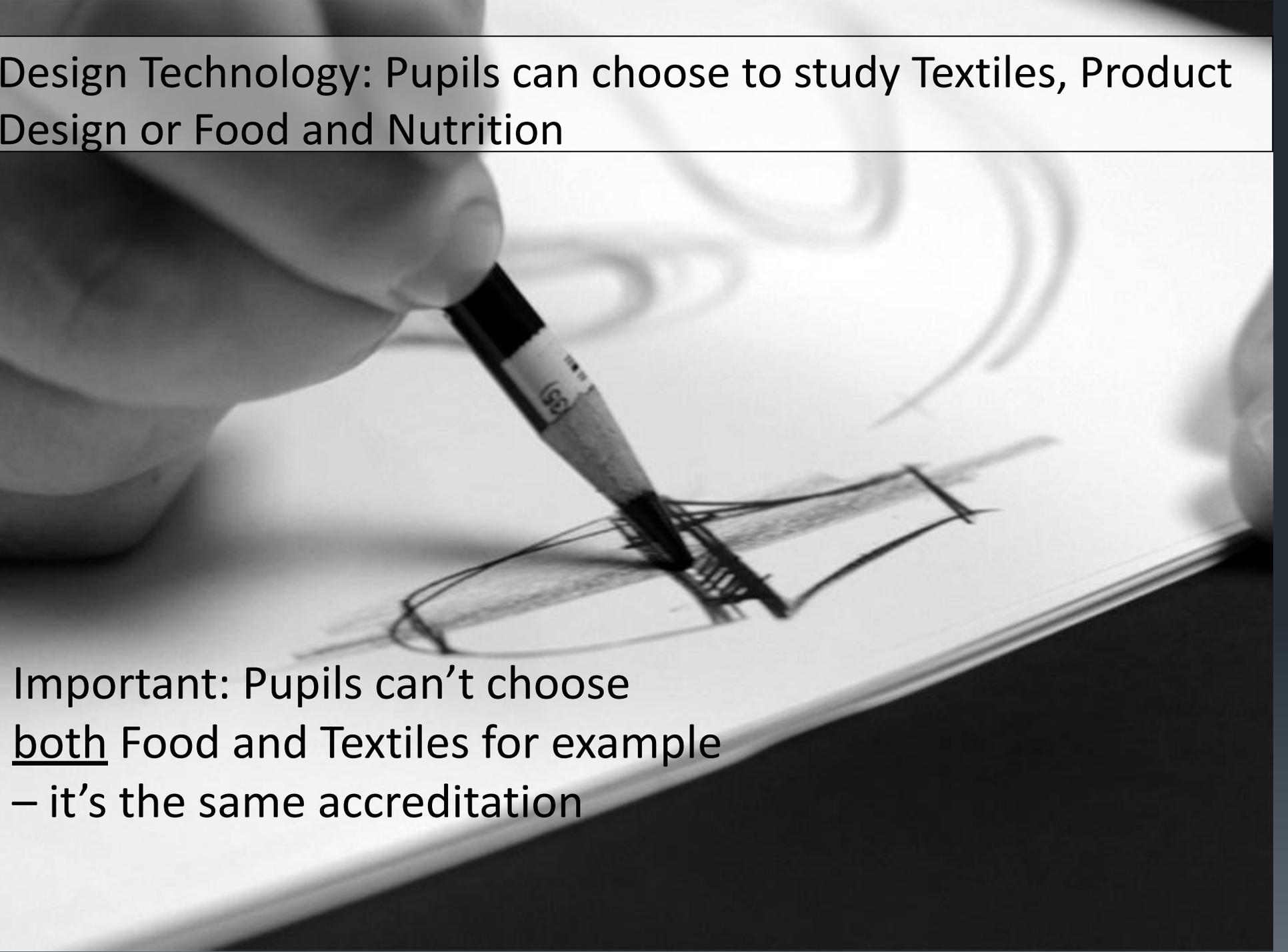
MFL: The majority of pupils will continue to study Language at GCSE level



Some pupils will have the opportunity to study more vocationally based subjects:

- Child Development: OCR National
 - Health and Social Care: BTEC
 - Sports Studies: OCR National
 - Travel and Tourism: BTEC
 - Digital I.T.: BTEC
-
- Both OCR Nationals and BTECs are Level 2 qualifications

Design Technology: Pupils can choose to study Textiles, Product Design or Food and Nutrition

A black and white photograph showing a close-up of a hand holding a pen, drawing a technical sketch of a mechanical part on a piece of paper. The sketch consists of several lines and hatching, representing a cross-section or a specific view of a component. The background is slightly blurred, showing more of the drawing area.

Important: Pupils can't choose both Food and Textiles for example – it's the same accreditation



Fine Art/Art, Craft and Design and Photography:
Similarly, pupils can't choose both Fine Art and Art,
Craft and Design and Photography for the same reason



How to complete the Options form

Please choose from the following sections.

Further information regarding subjects can be found in the [Options booklet](#) and by speaking to the head of department. Students will also need to choose two reserve subjects

If you have any issues with this form or the process, please contact Mrs Brunning using victoria.brunning@springfield.uk.net

Core subjects (Maths, English, Science, IT, PE and PDL) will automatically be assigned

Your email address will be recorded when you submit this form

*Required

Forename *

Your answer

Surname *

Your answer

Tutor group *

Choose

- You will receive the link to the options form via email
- The form will collect your email address when you complete it
- It is essential that you include forename and surname when filling in the form
- You can then select your child's tutor group from the drop down menu

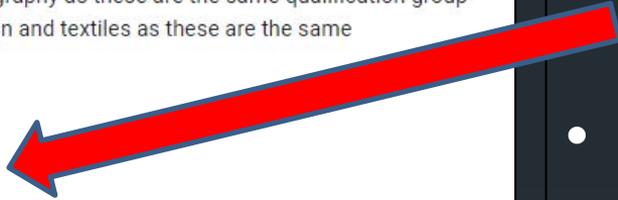
Open choices (2) *

Please choose 1 subject from the following options

*Reminder- you cannot choose art and photography as these are the same qualification group

* Reminder- you cannot choose product design and textiles as these are the same qualification group

- Drama
- Art
- Music
- Digital photography
- Religion, ethics and philosophy
- Sociology
- Product design
- Textiles
- Computer Science
- Food preparation and nutrition
- Media studies
- PE



- The form will then take you through some multiple choice questions where you can select your option choices and reserve subjects
- There is space at the bottom to add comments should you need to
- You can ask the form to email you a copy of the response for your record should you wish
- Press submit and the form response will be send to the school

Any other comments *

Your answer

Send me a copy of my responses.

Submit

Clear form

Decision Making

- Important principles
 - Not choosing a subject because their friends are doing it
 - Not choosing a subject because they like the teacher
 - Not choosing a subject in which they already have had difficulties – e.g. not regularly bringing their kit to PE, not bringing ingredients for Food Technology



How can parents help?

- Encourage your child to make positive choices based on his/her engagement and success with the subject.
- Encourage your child to consider potential career areas and what subjects may be relevant.
- Emphasise the importance of accurate 'SPAG' and good handwriting in all curriculum areas.
- Explain the importance of subjects over which there is no choice, e.g. Maths, English.
- 'Keep up the pressure' on homework and reading.
- Make your child aware that it is rarely possible for students to change options once the timetable is established.
- Promote the EBacc and continuous learning – 'the GCSE starts now'.

Key Dates 2026

- The Options booklet, outlining each subject, will be on the school's website from Friday 27th and a copy will be in each tutor base
- 'Taster' sessions for each new subject will be delivered in the two week period from Monday 2nd March
- A Year 8 Options Fayre will be held on Thursday 5th March, 'staffed' by older pupils who will give advice/guidance/insider 'tips'
- Year 8 Parents' Evening on Thursday 12th March
- Options forms to be submitted via Google Forms by Thursday 26th March.
- Confirmation of Option choices in early July 2026



Terms and Conditions

- This is a preliminary choice to help us assess demand and create a timetable
- Every effort will be made to enable your son or daughter to follow the courses chosen
- Viability of a particular course will be dependent on pupil numbers and/or appropriate staffing
- Parents will be notified of any proposed changes at the appropriate stages in finalising the subjects



Thank you