




Year 8 Curriculum and Options Choices
– how to do it
Thursday 18th March 2025

Mr Wharton – Deputy Head
Mrs Brunning – Assistant Headteacher
Mrs Brown – Head of Achievement

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





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

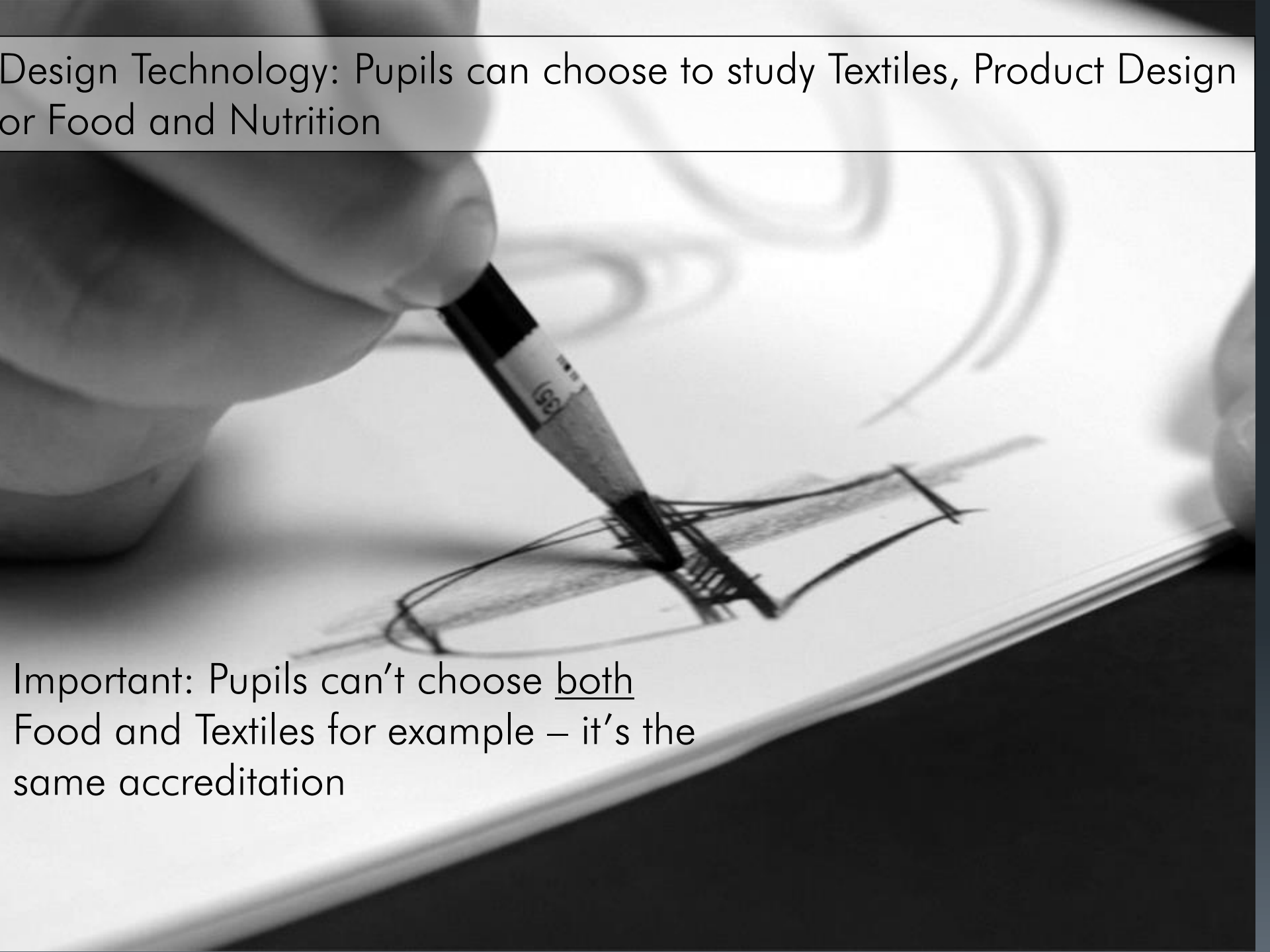


MFL: The majority of pupils will continue to study Language at GCSE



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
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- Both OCR Nationals and BTECs are Level 2 qualifications

A black and white photograph showing a close-up of a hand holding a black marker, drawing a sketch on a piece of paper. The sketch appears to be a technical drawing or a design sketch, possibly of a mechanical part or a structure. The background is blurred, showing some faint, curved lines. The overall tone is professional and focused on the design process.

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

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

Art/Photography:

Similarly, pupils can't choose both Art 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

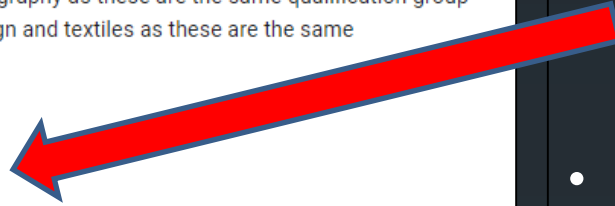
Open choices (2) *

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 2025

- The Options booklet, outlining each subject, is on the school's website and a copy is in each tutor base
- 'Taster' sessions for each new subject have been delivered through normal lessons from Monday 3rd March until Friday 14th March
- A Year 8 Options Fayre was held on Thursday 6th March, 'staffed' by older pupils who gave advice/guidance/insider 'tips'
- Options forms to be submitted via Google Forms by Monday 31st March.
- Confirmation of Option choices in early July 2025



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
- Parents will be notified of any proposed changes at the appropriate stages in finalising the subjects



Thank you