

Welcome to Year 9 Options Evening 2026

مرحبا
خوش آمدید

Soo dhawow



Mr Eldon- Principal
Mrs Latif – Vice Principal

We are now looking to the future

A clearer line of sight to high quality jobs



The English Baccalaureate

The EBacc provides a strong academic route that is valued by Britain's most prestigious universities.

at **14**

Essential qualifications

English Language & Literature

Maths

Sciences

Digital Skills

EBacc GCSE options

Modern Languages e.g.

- French
- German
- Spanish

Humanities e.g.

- History
- Geography

Young people choose A Levels based on their interests and aspirations.

The Greater Manchester Baccalaureate

The MBacc offers a clear route into high quality skilled jobs - with qualifications valued by Greater Manchester employers.

MBacc qualification options

Qualifications common to the gateways e.g.

- Business Studies
- Design & Technology
- Engineering
- Food Preparation & Nutrition
- Performing Arts and Art & Design

The MBacc gateways help young people pick the courses that maximise their ability to get a skilled job in the growing success story of the Greater Manchester economy.

- ➔ Health and Social Care
- ➔ Digital and Technology
- ➔ Engineering and Manufacturing
- ➔ Construction and the Green Economy
- ➔ Financial and Professional
- ➔ Education and Early Years
- ➔ Creative, Culture and Sport

A clearer line of sight to high quality jobs!

The Greater Manchester economy is desperate for well trained and enthusiastic young workers!

We want your children to be part of this.

at **16**

A Levels

T Levels, Apprenticeships, other technical qualifications

18 onwards

University

Great Jobs or higher education



Manchester Academy

The best in everyone™

A member of United Learning

- Confidence
- Creativity
- Respect
- Enthusiasm
- Determination

We are now looking to the future

The Greater Manchester Baccalaureate

Your gateway to Construction and the Green Economy



Potential employers:



The Greater Manchester Baccalaureate

Your gateway to Creative, Culture and Sport



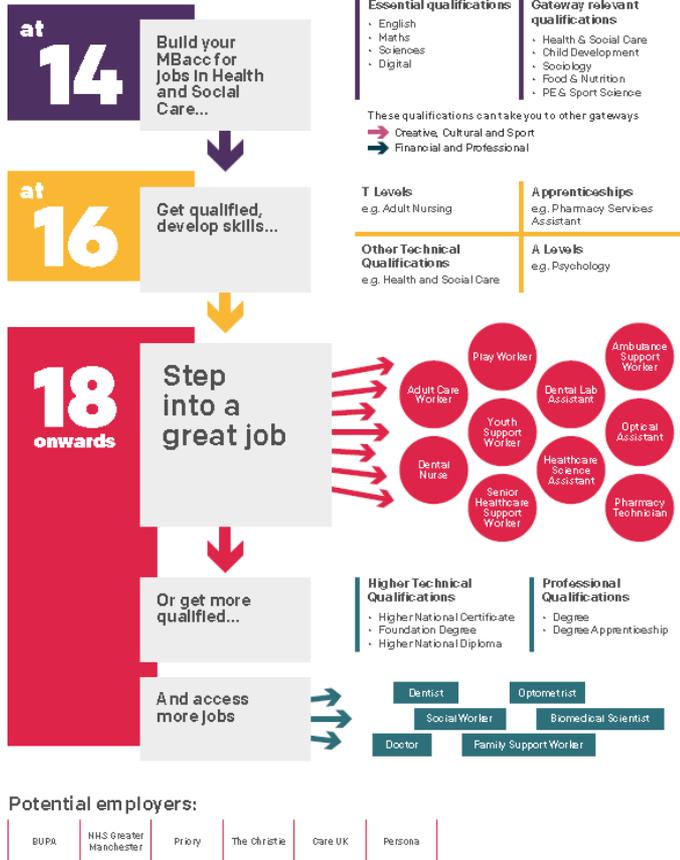
Potential employers:



We are now looking to the future

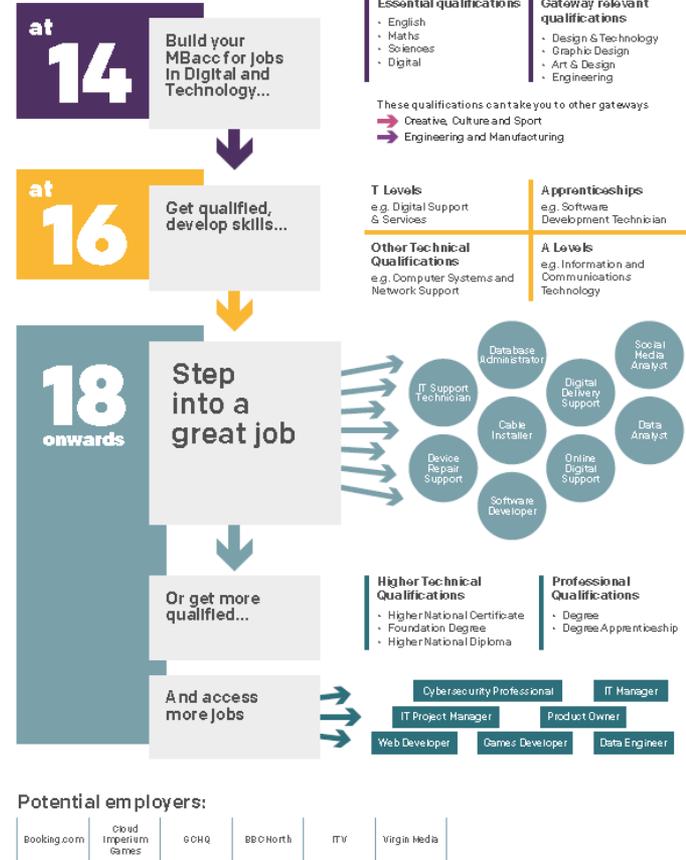
The Greater Manchester Baccalaureate

Your gateway to Health and Social Care



The Greater Manchester Baccalaureate

Your gateway to Digital and Technology



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We are now looking to the future

The Greater Manchester Baccalaureate

Your gateway to Education and Early Years



- Potential employers:
- GM Schools, Colleges and Universities
 - Kids Planet
 - Busy Bees
 - Bright Horizons
 - New Bridge Group

The Greater Manchester Baccalaureate

Your gateway to Engineering and Manufacturing



- Potential employers:
- Milliken and Co
 - Hexperia
 - Hitachi
 - Siemens
 - Unilever
 - P&G

We are now looking to the future

The Greater Manchester Baccalaureate

Your gateway to Financial and Professional



Potential employers:



There are more jobs beyond the 7 Gateways within the Mbacc BUT these careers are in demand.

You can access these gateways whether you are an Ebacc student or a Mbacc student.

With the cost of university rising, it may not be the right choice for all students, so apprenticeships and technical training are becoming more and more important.

We have a large number of ex-Manchester Academy students at the top Universities, but we also have ex-students flying high in high quality apprenticeships.



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The best in everyone™
A member of United Learning

■ Confidence ■ Creativity ■ Respect ■ Enthusiasm ■ Determination

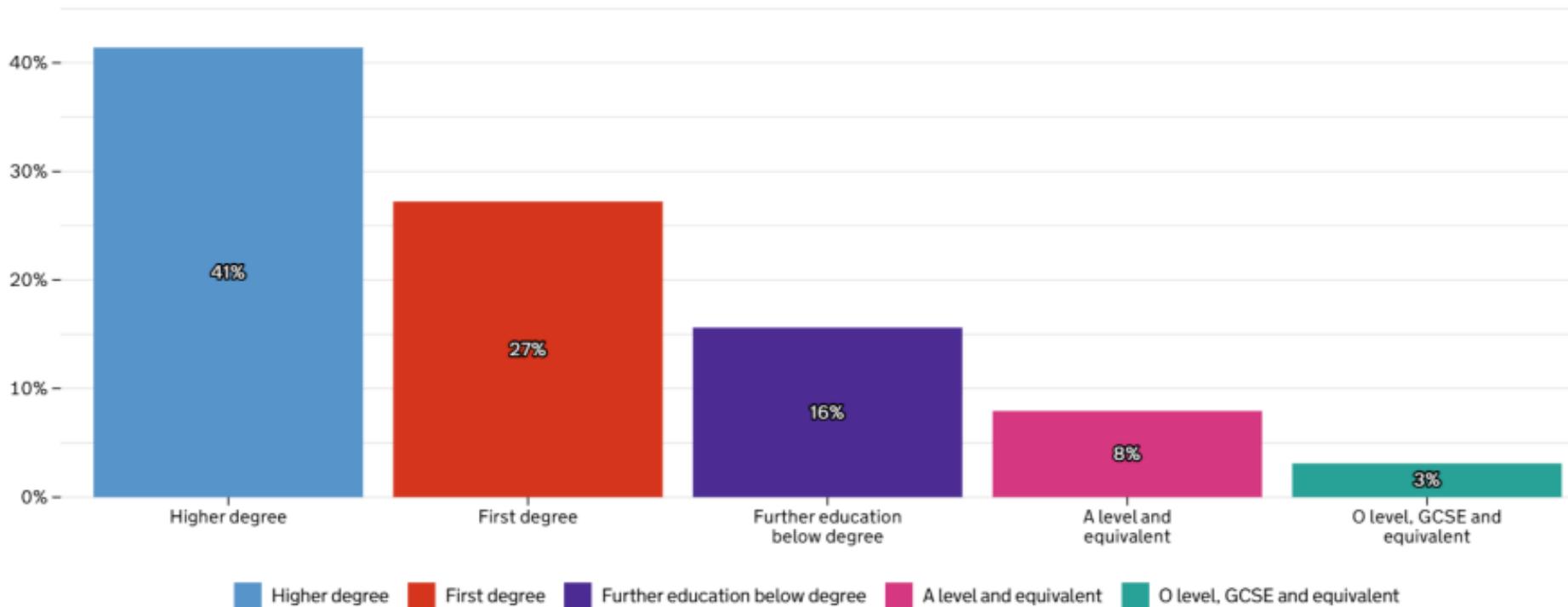
The aims of this presentation

- The importance of support
- The qualification framework
- Courses available
- How options work within the curriculum
- Help and support in making informed option choices.



Vision of future life, happiness, wealth, health, choice

Percentage differences in hourly earnings of 25 to 29 year olds, relative to those with lower level qualifications (below GCSE grade 1 or equivalent), controlling for socio-economic background, sex and age (UK, 2022 to 2024 combined)



Vision of future life, happiness, wealth, health, choice

Requirements

Essential qualifications

GCSE in:

Maths, English & Science/Technology (grade 4-9 (A-C) or above)

Share if you have other relevant qualifications and industry experience. The apprenticeship can be adjusted to reflect what you already know.

Skills

- Communication
- Attention to detail
- Problem solving
- Team working
- Initiative

Entry requirements for apprenticeships

To start an apprenticeship, you'll need to:

- be 16 or over
- live in England
- not already be in full time education

Entry requirements for HTQs

To start an HTQ, you'll need to be 18 or over and live in England. You can apply for an HTQ no matter what stage of education or employment you're in. This includes while you're still at school.

The grades, qualifications or experience you'll need will depend on the course you apply for and the provider delivering the course.

Check UCAS or contact the provider to find out the exact entry requirements you'll need.

You might do a level 3 qualification before studying an HTQ. Level 3 qualifications include [A levels](#), [T Levels](#), advanced [apprenticeships](#), [Free Courses for Jobs](#) and BTECs.

... if you're still at school.

... might need to have certain maths. If there are any additional requirements, the apprenticeship application

What does 'Options' mean?

The secondary school phase is split into two chunks:

- Years 7, 8 and 9 – what we call Key Stage 3, is where students start to gain a broad education.
 - You don't need to make any decisions at this stage.
 - There will be plenty of information shared with you in the coming weeks.
- Years 10 and 11 are where students can 'opting' to choose their subjects. They study by don't panic. They will continue to study English, Maths and Science as part of their core curriculum.



The Class of 2029

GCSEs in all subjects have been reformed.

We have no control over this and it is the same regardless of exam board etc.

It means:

- they are more challenging than years ago.
- they have little or no coursework/controlled assessment.
- they will be all linear
- they will be graded 9 to 1 and this changes year-on-year.

Old grades	New grades
A*	9
A	8
B	7
C	6
	5 STRONG PASS
D	4 STANDARD PASS
	3
E	2
F	1
G	1
U	U

Manchester Academy core curriculum

- **All** students will study the following core curriculum:
 - GCSE English Language
 - GCSE English Literature
 - GCSE Maths
 - GCSE Science (Combined)
 - Core PE (non-examinable)
 - PSHE-Personal, Social, Health, and Economic education (non-examinable)
- Plus 4 option courses



Vocational/Technical subjects

- We have introduced a range of BTECs/Technical qualifications to provide accessible and appropriate courses for the range of abilities for which we cater.
- **Assessment is based predominantly on coursework** that is externally verified. There is a small examined component (often 40%).

- The qualifications have GCSE equivalence with 9-4 e.g. a Distinction* award = 8.5

Level / Qualification Grade	Grade Equivalent
Level 2 / Distinction*	8.5
Level 2 / Distinction	7
Level 2 / Merit	5.5
Level 2 / Pass	4
Level 1 / Distinction	3
Level 1 / Merit	2
Level 1 / Pass	1.25

The Manchester Academy GCSE Curriculum

- The Ofsted framework requires schools to offer a ‘broadly academic curriculum that also meet the needs of pupils within the school’. We offer a wide range of Vocational Award other than EBACC subjects:

- **Food and Cookery**
- **Design and Technology**
- **Photography**
- **Art**
- ***Music***
- ***Drama***
- ***Business***
- **I media**
- **BTEC Sport Studies**
- **Child development**

Manchester Academy provides a broad and balanced curriculum that keeps further education and career options open for as long as possible, giving you the chance to follow your individual interests in development of your abilities both inside and outside the classroom.



EBACC and MBACC pathways

Students have been assigned a pathway- EBACC or MBACC. This is based on how well we know our students and their Big test data.

- **Both pathways can take a student onto A' Levels and university.**
- **There are only a few differences in terms of which subjects they can choose.**



EBACC and MBACC pathways

MBACC pathway			
Green	Blue	Purple	Yellow
History	RE	RE	Child development
Geography	Child development	Business & Enterprise	Drama
Spanish	Photography	Food	Photography
Arabic	Sports	Sports	Art
French	Music	Technology	IMedia
	History		Art
		Drama	Food
			Music

EBACC pathway			
Green	Blue	Purple	Yellow
History	Spanish	RE	RE
Geography	Arabic	Art	Child Development
	RE	Food	Drama
	French	Music	Business
	History	Sep Science - bench marked	Photography
		Sports	Technology
		Technology	Art
		Drama	Food
			Sports

Music pathways

Picking music: Do you want Tech/ Performance?
Speak to Mrs McLellan/ Mr Felton for more details

Music tech= produce music

Music Performance = perform music



General information

Students have been informed about the pathway they belong to, so please tune in to the MS Teams channel to retrieve all the following from the Channel:

- Option booklets
- Video on how to complete an option form
- E-link to the option form, please read the instructions carefully and watch the clip on how to complete the form before completing the form as it can only be completed once.

Here is the link to the both Channels for parents/carers.

- **EBACC TEAMS Channel** – [General | EBACC 25/26 | Microsoft Teams](#)
- **MBACC TEAMS Channel** - [General | MBACC 25/26 | Microsoft Teams](#)
- You have been given all the information about the subjects in the Option booklet so please take your time reading the booklet before submitting the Option form. Electronic copy is available from the Teams Channel.



Information on MA website

You can find all the relevant information through our website. You can also scan the QR code to get to the Options page or click on the link.

[Year 9 Options Page is here.](#)



CHOOSING WELL

How to make choices – Do's

- Do consider your career aims.
- Do take subjects that you enjoy.
- Do take subjects that you are good at.
- Do ask your teachers for advice.
- Do aim for a broad and balanced curriculum – a variety of subjects.

How to make choices – Don'ts

- Don't choose a subject just because your friends are taking it.
- Don't choose a subject just because you like your current teacher.
- Don't choose too many similar subjects.
- Don't choose a subject because you think it is an 'easy option' – there aren't any.
- Don't choose a subject because you think it's a good course for a boy/girl to do.



Other Information

- Everyone has to study the compulsory subjects.
- Some subjects may be over-subscribed therefore; we will choose on Attitude to Learning in Year 9.
- Current student progress may impact on choices available.
- **Taster lessons** – Subjects will put on taster lessons to allow students to experience what a GCSE lesson in that subject is like. Teachers will also talk to students about their subjects at GCSE without ‘selling’ it to them
- **Option Interviews** - Interviews will be with senior staff in school and will be an opportunity for us to talk through what students want to do and whether the options are right for them. Interviews will be individual to allow for personalised conversations so do not worry if you are unsure about any of your options.

Key dates for your diary

Options booklets have already received their options booklets two days ago. Booklets will be available on Teams along with today's presentation.

- **Options form are available vis MS Teams Channel – 12th Feb**
- **Taster week – 23rd Feb – 27th Feb**

Students will have opportunity to attend GCSE lessons of their choice before they finalise the choices on the option forms. Ms Sandford will provide more information to the students via TEAMS Channel and during assemblies.

- **Deadline for submitting an Option form – 2nd March**

final deadline for completed forms to be submitted. From Monday 24th March students will have one to one conversations with senior staff.

Throughout the whole process, keep communicating with the Academy about queries you may have. Working together is the best way to ensure a successful options process.

Contacts

The team!

Year Director Ms Sandford: Nikita.Sandford@manchester-academy.org

Senior Staff:

Mrs S Latif (Vice Principal): Shumaila.Latif@manchester-academy.org

Mr Hurst (Assistant Vice Principal): Matt.hurst@manchester-academy.org

Ms Trivedi (Assistant Vice Principal): Shaila.Trivedi@manchester-academy.org

SENDCo:

Mr Verity: Matthew.Verity@manchester-academy.org

Ms Dowden: Kate.Dowden@manchester-academy.org

Links to support resources:

- Choosing your career - <https://targetcareers.co.uk/careers-advice/choosing-your-career>
- iCould - Provides useful videos about a wide range of job roles. <https://icould.com/>
- National Careers Website - <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/>

Thank you for listening!

If you have any questions, please stay behind and we will support.

