

# GCSE Options



Which is the  
right door  
for you?

Assembly to Year 8s – Monday 21<sup>st</sup> January

# What are your Options?



- ▶ Year 9 sees the start of KS4 for pupils at Rossett
- ▶ In KS4 you all study some 'core subjects':
  - English (Language and Literature)
  - Maths
  - Science (Trilogy or Triple Sciences)
- ▶ You also get to choose some option subjects.
- ▶ These can be subjects you have already studied at KS3 e.g.:
  - History
  - Food
  - Drama
  - French
- ▶ or can also be new subjects
  - Business Studies
  - Health & Social Care
  - I-Media



# When do you do your option subjects?



## ▶ Most of you will study:

- 2/3 options + your other GCSEs (English, Maths, Science) that start in Year 9
- 1/2 options that start in Year 10

## ▶ Exams

- You will have one exam at the end of Year 10.
- In all other subjects the exams will be at the end of Year 11



# What are Pathways?

- ▶ The Pathways have been created to help you choose subjects that are most suitable for your ability.
- ▶ The pathways are:
  - Red
  - Green
  - Purple
  - Blue
- ▶ You have all been allocated to a pathway.
- ▶ This was based on how well you did in your KS2 SATs and on how well you have done at Rossett in English, Maths and Science at KS3.





# Why are there certain subjects that I am being made to study?

- ▶ There are certain subjects that everybody in the country has to study:
  - English
  - Maths
  - Science
- ▶ The government has also made some other subjects more important recently. These include:
  - History
  - Geography
  - French
  - Spanish
- ▶ Most of you will therefore have to study one or two of these subjects.



# When will I study these subjects?

	Eng	Mat	Sci	PE	PSHE	Fre/ Spa	Geog/ Hist	Opt 1	Opt 2	Arts/ DT/IT
Year 9	8	8	6	4	2	5	5	5		7
Year 10	8	8	9	3	2	5	5	5*	5	
Year 11	9*	9*	12*	3	2	5*	5*		5*	

- ▶ \* = Year you will be examined
- ▶ Nb. Purple Pathway is a little different

# A New Grading Structure

NEW GCSE GRADING STRUCTURE		CURRENT GCSE GRADING STRUCTURE
9		A*
8		
7		A
6	<div>GOOD PASS (DfE)</div> <div>5 and above = top of C and above</div>	B
5		
4		C
	<div>AWARDING</div> <div>4 and above = bottom of C and above</div>	
3		D
2		E
1		F
		G
U		U

- ▶ The Government have reformed GCSEs and have created new specifications for different subjects.
- ▶ The exam regulator, Ofqual, has decided that the new GCSE qualifications will:
  - be more demanding
  - be linear, meaning that students take all their exams at the end of the course
  - have the non-exam assessment (coursework or controlled assessment) removed or reduced in the majority of GCSEs
  - have the tiered element (i.e. foundation paper) of some courses removed
  - have a new national grading scale from 9 to 1

# Why are Options Choices so Important?



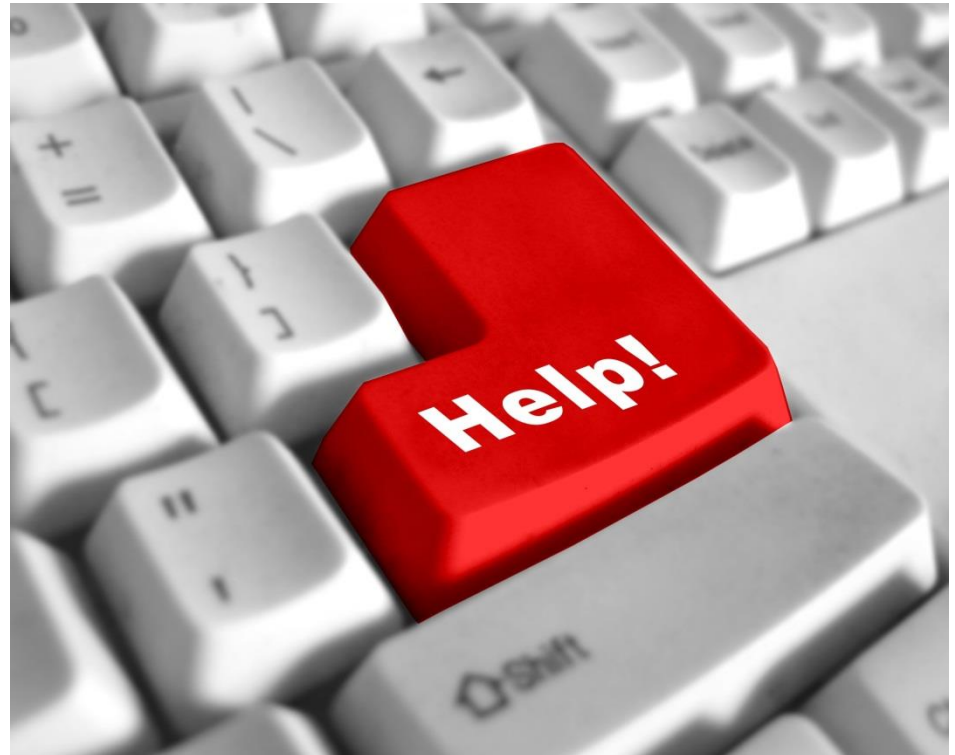
- ▶ The single most important thing about what you choose to do over the next three years is that it must give you the best possible chance of getting the best possible qualifications you can achieve!
- ▶ The doors you choose to open need to be ones that allow you to do this.
- ▶ Your GCSE results will have a major impact on your future and give you freedom to choose what you want to do!



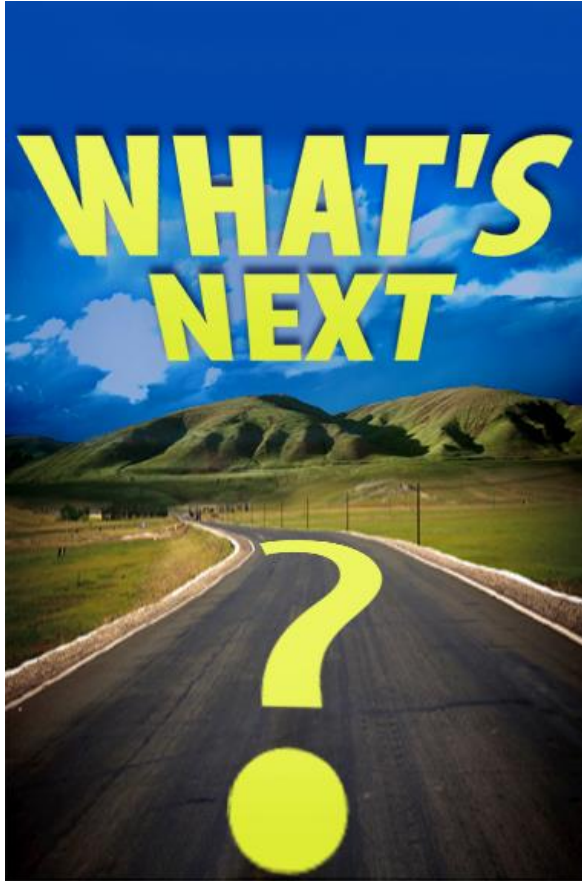
# Who should you ask for help on deciding about your options?



- ▶ Your teachers
- ▶ Your tutor
- ▶ Your parents



# What happens next?



- ▶ Options booklet and options form e-mailed to you and to your parents today.
  - Read it carefully!
- ▶ Pathway assemblies – Wednesday – Period 2.
  - More information specific to your pathway.
- ▶ Options evening – Thursday evening – 7:00 til 8:30.
  - Chance for you and your parents to visit the options fair and find out more information about the options process.
- ▶ Decide on options by Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> February
  - Return form to your tutor.