



**KS4 Curriculum Information Evening**

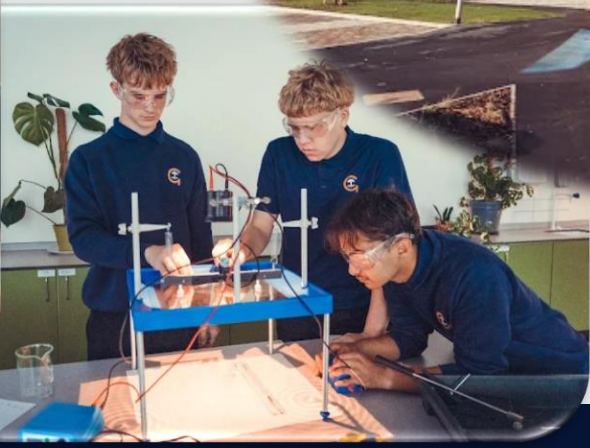
**26.02.26**

# Purpose of this evening

- To outline the Year 10 and Year 11 curriculum (KS4)
- To introduce the KS4 options process
- To share the support students will receive when opting for subjects



# Our wonderful students



# A student's journey at Callerton

**Year 11** – Confident and secure knowledge and skills so students are ready for examinations and Post-16 study

**Year 10** – Establishing strong knowledge and growing the skills learnt at KS3

**Year 9** – Cementing of knowledge and skills and ensuring strong foundations for KS4

**Year 8** – Enhancement of knowledge and skills

**Year 7** – Development of knowledge and skills built on from KS2

Throughout their 5-year journey we are developing young people who are confident, well rounded and have a wide range of experiences. These include:

- Trips
- Extracurricular
- 7Up
- Careers sessions
- PSHE
- Reading
- Visitors and speakers



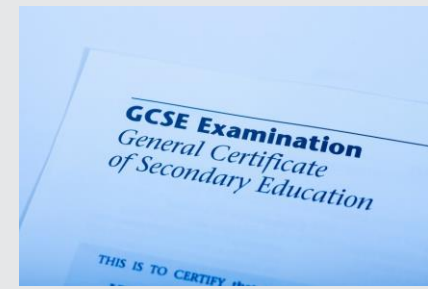
**Students across the country will sit most of their examinations in May / June 2028.**

**Provisional Results Day is Thursday 24th August 2028**

# Key Stage Four

- Year 10 and 11
- Wide range of GCSE and vocational courses
- Compulsory and option subjects
- Lessons delivered by subject experts
- Challenging two years
- Require full commitment for both years
- Step up in workload and expectation
- Results will influence choices at post-16

# What are GCSEs?



- General Certificate of Secondary Education
- Nearly all students in the country complete these at the end of Year 11
- Designed to be a two-year course
- In-depth study of a subject
- Most GCSEs are examination only
- Some have controlled assessment parts that students complete during the two years
- Nationally, all students complete some core subjects:
  - GCSE English Language (and another GCSE in English Literature)
  - GCSE Maths
  - GCSE Science (This is two or three GCSEs; DOUBLE or SEPARATE science)
  - Normally a humanities and for some a language

# What is a BTEC or a vocational course?

- Level 2 BTEC or vocational = GCSE equivalent
- Level 1 BTEC or vocational = Pre-GCSE equivalent
- Often have controlled assessments/coursework elements – this means students might complete tasks which count towards their final grade throughout the two years.
- They can sometimes be more practical based
- They are just as challenging and are equal to a GCSE.

# What do all the different grades mean?

- A grade 4 or above is classed as a pass grade.
- Students must pass English and Maths or they will need to continue with these after Callerton.
- The grades students achieve will inform their choices after Callerton.
- Some subjects are tiered – Higher and Foundation

Old GCSE style grades	GCSE Grades	Level 1 or 2 Vocational Grades
A*	9	L2 Distinction* (D2*)
	8	
A	7	L2 Distinction (D2)
B	6	L2 Merit (M2)
	5 (Strong Pass)	
C	4 (Pass)	L2 Pass (P2)
	3	L1 Distinction (D1)
D	2	L1 Merit (M1)
E	1	L1 Pass (P1)
F/G		
U	U	Fail

# Callerton Academy KS4 curriculum

*The school has developed a broad and highly ambitious key stage 3 curriculum. It provides pupils with a deep and coherent body of knowledge that is preparing them well for their future studies at key stage 4 and beyond. Ofsted, 2024*

- Comprehensive and ambitious
- Broad choice of option subjects, including vocational subjects
- Planned and developed by our experienced staff
- Prepares students well for A-levels, apprenticeships or vocational courses.
- Some courses have specific or/and advisory entry requirements i.e. GCSE Computing need to be exceeding in IT and Maths in Y9

# Compulsory Curriculum

English Language GCSE

English Literature GCSE

Mathematics GCSE

Science GCSE

Separate Science (3 GCSEs) - Set 1  
or  
Double Science (2 GCSEs)

Humanities Option  
Geography or History GCSE

+

3 Option Subjects

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Mathematics GCSE

Science GCSE

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Double Science (2 GCSEs)

Humanities Option  
Geography or History GCSE

Non exam PSHE

Non exam PE

+

3 Option Subjects

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Humanities Option  
Geography or History GCSE

+

3 Option  
Subjects

Non exam PSHE

Non exam PE

This leads to 9 qualifications or 10 if studying separate sciences. This is in line with all schools nationally.

# Options Subjects

**Students choose three options. These are from a series of set lists.  
All students will need to select a reserve choice.**

- GCSE Art
- GCSE Computer Science **OR** OCR Level 2 Information Technology
- GCSE Design Technology
- GCSE Food Technology **OR** Eduqas Level 2 Hospitality and Catering
- GCSE Drama **OR** Eduqas Level 2 Performing Arts: Music
- GCSE Geography
- GCSE History
- GCSE Physical Education **OR** OCR Level 2 Sports Science
- GCSE Religious Education
- GCSE Spanish
- BTEC Technical Award Level 2 Health and Social Care

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- GCSE Geography
- GCSE History
- GCSE Physical Education **OR** OCR Level 2 Sports Science
- GCSE Religious Education
- GCSE Spanish
- BTEC Technical Award Level 2 Health and Social Care

**OR** – Students can only opt for one of these courses. Students will be guided by staff about which one may be most appropriate.

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- GCSE Computer Science **OR** OCR Level 2 Information Technology
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- GCSE Geography
- GCSE History
- GCSE Physical Education **OR** OCR Level 2 Sports Science
- GCSE Religious Education
- GCSE Spanish
- BTEC Technical Award Level 2 Health and Social Care

**Level 2 courses** – These are equivalent to GCSEs but often include coursework and examinations across the two years of study.

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- GCSE Drama
- GCSE Geography
- GCSE History
- GCSE Physical Education **OR** OCR Level 2 Sports Science
- GCSE Religious Education
- GCSE Spanish
- BTEC Technical Award Level 2 Health and Social Care
- Eduqas Level 2 Performing Arts: Music

Students can choose to do more than one humanities subject

# Science

- Most students will continue with the Double Science (Trilogy) course worth 2 GCSEs. It combines elements of Biology, Chemistry and Physics.
- Most students across the country do Double Science.
- Students can continue with Science at A-level with this course.
- Set 1 Science will study Separate Science which results in 3 separate GCSE grades. This course is more demanding, including additional written and practical examinations.

# ASDAN Option

- Personal development course (L1 and L2)
- Ideal for students who may not thrive under the volume of work at Y10/Y11
- Support with homework and time management
- Literacy support
- Small group teaching
- One option choice
- Prepares students well for vocational courses at Post-16

# Making the right choices

Students should consider:

- Subjects they enjoy and are passionate about
  - Subjects that reflect their future ambitions
  - Subjects which are appropriate for their level and style of learning
- 
- Students will be given:
    - Taster sessions
    - Opportunities to discuss subjects with their teachers
    - One to one meetings

# Student 1

This student is working at exceeding or above in most of their Y9 subjects.

English Language GCSE

English Literature GCSE

Mathematics GCSE

Separate Science GCSE (3)

History GCSE

Spanish GCSE

Computer Science GCSE

Physical Education GCSE

This student is keen to take their A-levels and then go to university so have decided to follow an EBacc pathway.

They are in Set 1 for science.

They are particularly interested in computing and think they would like to go into a career related to this.

They also are strong at sport and play basketball to a high standard.

# Student 2

This student is working at achieving and some exceeding in most of their Y9 subjects

English Language GCSE

English Literature GCSE

Mathematics GCSE

Double Science GCSE (2)

Geography GCSE

Spanish GCSE

Art GCSE

Health and Social Care L2 BTEC

This student is working at Exceeding in Spanish so has chosen to study this subject.

They are particularly creative in Art and enjoy this subject.

They think they would like to go into nursing or childcare in the future so have chosen Health and Social Care.

# Student 3

This student is working at developing in most of their Y9 subjects but is exceeding in Art and Drama.

English Language GCSE

English Literature GCSE

Mathematics GCSE

Double Science GCSE (2)

Geography GCSE

Art GCSE

Drama GCSE

Sports Science L2 OCR

This student enjoys practical subjects and is particularly strong in creative subjects like Art and DT.

They have opted to study Sports Science as they like that this will be more coursework focused with deadlines staggered over the two years. They find science challenging and therefore Sports Science would be more appropriate.

# Student 4

This student is working at developing in most of their Y9 subjects but is emerging in some subjects

English Language GCSE

English Literature GCSE

Mathematics GCSE

Double Science GCSE (2)

Geography GCSE

Health and Social Care L2

Hospitality and Catering L2

ASDAN

This student has chosen vocational options and their teachers have suggested they do the ASDAN qualification.

If this student struggles with their option choices as Y10 progresses, they may take the Level 1 (L1) qualification. L1 is pre-GCSE level.

# Grades to be proud of

- Hard work – throughout the two years
- Deadlines and homework
- Choose subjects that you like
- Asking teachers for help
- Independent and wider reading
- Reading regularly to improve literacy levels
- Excellent attendance

# Support in making the right choices

- An opportunity to speak to staff this evening
  - Subject taster sessions
  - P7 Careers sessions
  - KS4 Information Booklet
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- Students will then meet with a member of senior staff to make their choices from 9th March. They will write in their planner the options they have selected. These will be confirmed next term once the options process is completed.

- Students will have made their choices before Easter ready to begin their courses in September.
- Students should get their choices; however, we may need to make some changes which we will discuss with students and their families if appropriate.

**Thank you for your time this evening.  
We look forward to the GCSE Years  
with our excellent students!**