



St Pius X College Year 10 Key Stage Four Option Information



Main aim of this power point

- To inform you of our pathways and curricular provision at KS4
- To help your son/daughter decide on their KS4 subjects

ST Pius X Pathways

St Pius X College offers three main pathways through Key Stage 4: Pathway S , Pathway P , and Pathway X



KEY STAGE FOUR S.P.X. PATHWAYS

Pathway S and P

- learning more subject theory
- less practical work
- more exam based
- more independent work/detail
- more homework/research

Pathway X

- work related subjects
- learning more skills
- more practical work
- less theory to learn/non exam
- more controlled assessment
- smaller class sizes/more support

KS4 OPTION STRUCTURE

- Band S 9 Qualifications [English Lit]
- Band P 8 Qualifications [extra support in English and Maths]
- Band X 9 Qualifications

All pathways will have core and optional subjects.

KS4 Core and Optional Subjects

- We, as a college, are stipulating that all pupils will follow core courses in English and Mathematics, RE, non exam PE and Careers.
- We would strongly *advise* all students to choose a Science. [A level /University / NRC requirements]
- Pupils then have a free choice of 4/5 optional subjects depending on their pathway.

Pathway S and P

Core Subjects

Pathway S

- English Language & Literature
- Mathematics GCSE
- RE GCSE
- Careers
- PE

Pathway P

English Language GCSE + support
Mathematics GCSE + support
RE
Careers
PE

S and P Pathways choose 5 subjects

- ART AND DESIGN/ CONTEMPARY CRAFTS
- AGRICULTURE AND LANDUSE
- BUSINESS AND COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS
- CHILD DEVELOPMENT
- CONSTRUCTION
- DRAMA
- DOUBLE AWARD SCIENCE
- ENGINEERING
- FRENCH
- FURTHER MATHEMATICS [S]
- GEOGRAPHY
- HISTORY
- APPLIED SCIENCE
- HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE
- HOME ECONOMICS – Food Nutrition
- HOSPITALITY
- IRISH
- IT [DA]
- LEARNING FOR LIFE AND WORK
- JOURNALISM
- MUSIC
- PHYSICAL EDUCATION (GCSE)
- SINGLE AWARD SCIENCE /OCN SCIENCE
- SOCIOLOGY

Option Form

Pathway S and P

5

From the list of optional subjects choose any 5 and enter them in the table opposite in the order of your choice.

In the last box enter the subject you would be happy to take if we were not able to facilitate some of your choices:
ie. A reserve subject.

Name _____ Class _____

Parent's Signature _____

Subject Choices	
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
Reserve	

Core Subjects

English

[GCSE / Level 2]

Prince's Trust

[2 GCSEs]

Mathematics

[GCSE / level 2]

Religious Studies

[level 2 OCN]

Careers

(Non Exam)

PE

(Non Exam)

Pathway X

CHOOSE 4 SUBJECTS

BUSINESS AND SERVICES

[Occupational Studies]

CONTEMPORARY CRAFTS

[Level 2]

CONSTRUCTION

[GCSE/Occupational Studies]

CHILD DEVELOPMENT

[GCSE]

ENGINEERING

[Occupational Studies]

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE [SA]

[GCSE]

HOSPITALITY

[Occupational Studies]

IT DA

[Level 2]

APPLIED SCIENCE

[Level 2 OCN]

SPORT AND LEISURE or
HORTICULTURE

[Occupational studies]

Pathway X

From the list of optional subjects choose any **4** and enter them in the table opposite in the order of your choice.

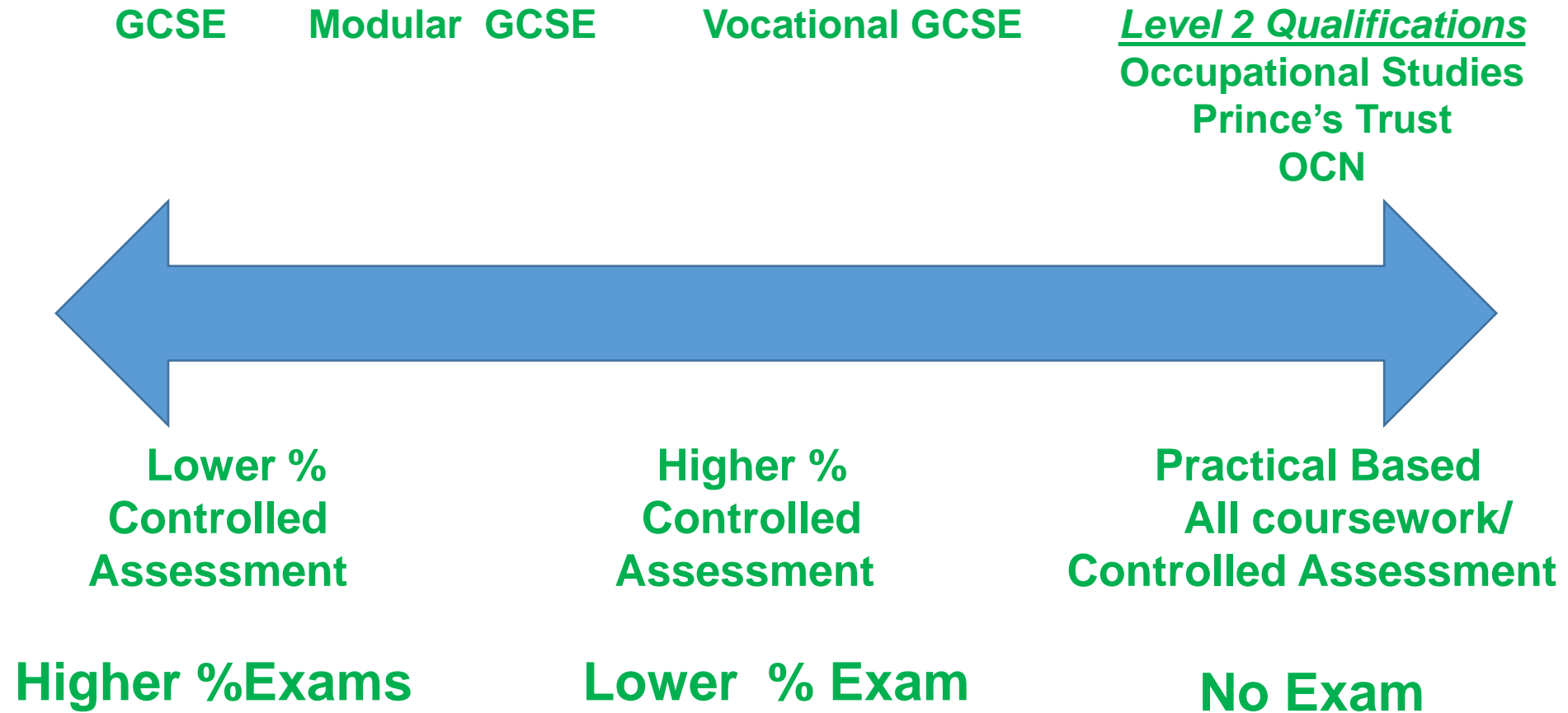
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Name _____ Class _____

Parent's Signature _____

Subject Choices	
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
Reserve	

DIFFERENT WAYS OF LEARNING



HOW DO RESULTS COMPARE ?

GCSE A* - C	Essential Skills - Level 2 Occupational Studies - Level 2 OCN - Level 2 Prince's Trust Pass
GCSE D – G	Essential Skills - Level 1 Occupational Studies - Level 1

OTHER QUALIFICATIONS

We also offer a range of practical courses, using relevant everyday content to promote skills needed for a range of further education courses it includes

Essential Skills
Prince's Trust
OCN Qualification
Occupational Studies

In these qualifications you learn important skills and knowledge related to the world of work. These are all practical based and have no exam.

Some departments may be able to offer a combination of qualifications.

New GCSE Grading

New A*-G Structure (summer 2019)	9-1 Structure (awarding phased in from 2017)	Old A*-G Structure (phased out from 2019)
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A*	9	
	8	A*
A	7	A
B	6	B
C*	5	
C	4	C
D	3	D
E	2	E
F		F
G	1	G

HOW DOES MY CHILD SELECT A PATHWAY AND SUBJECTS

- Be realistic about their pathway and subject choices.[CAT scores/CM]
- Reports/KS3 continuous monitoring results
- Listen to their teachers' advice on GCSE standard of work/transition from KS3 to KS4
- Be very aware of to subject content
- If they enjoy the subject - are you interested and find it easy ?
- Decide how they work best - check weighting of subject practical - exam

- Are they are necessary for certain careers e.g. Double Award Science
- St Pius X strongly recommend taking a Science
- Future prospects - where will it take them e.g. university course, potential jobs, NRC courses
- Careers Advice – employment opportunities
- Take time to think about it, as there is little room for change later on.

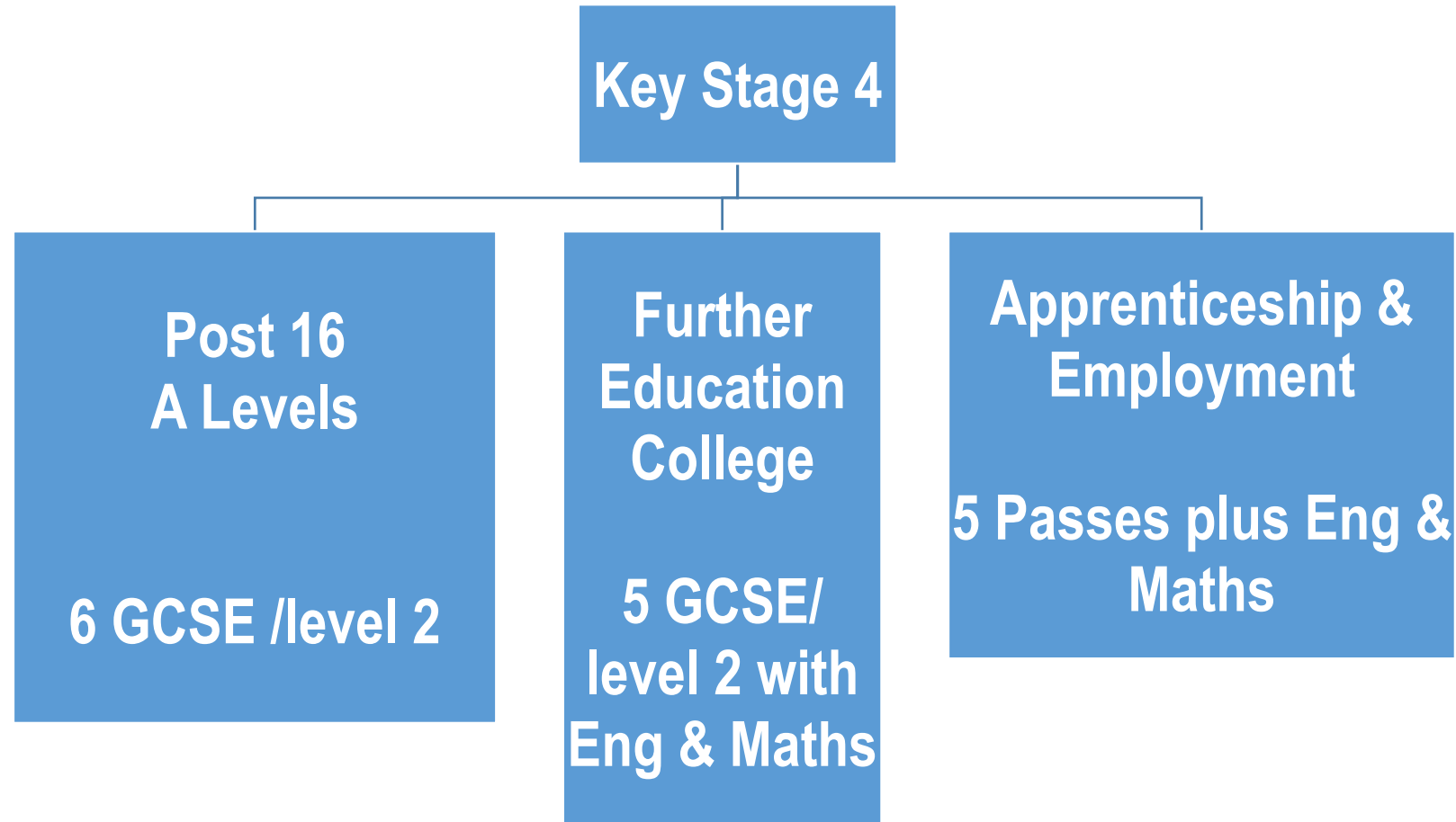
OPTION BOOKLET 2022-2023

- Key Stage Four Option Structure
- Subjects offered within each department
- Subject outline – controlled assessment %
- Range of qualifications available
- Required subjects for certain career paths
- GCSE Subjects required for University Courses
- Sixth Form Curriculum Subjects

Option Programme of Events 2022-23

Date	Event
September 26 th	Tourism Master Class
October 6 th	Astronomy Careers
October 18 th	STEM Careers for Girls
October 20 th	MAC Art Exhibition
October 25 th	Creative Arts Workshop
October 27 th	Project Business
November 9 th	Option Introduction Talk
November 11 th	Irish Language Career Day
November 14 th	Subject Promotion Week
November 23 rd	Career Service Presentation
December 1 st	Year 10 Art Club Craft Fair
December 7 th	Discover IT Workshop
December 20 th	Parent/Teacher Meeting
January 13 th 2023	Option Choices hand in Deadline

Progression Route: WHERE DO I WANT TO GO?

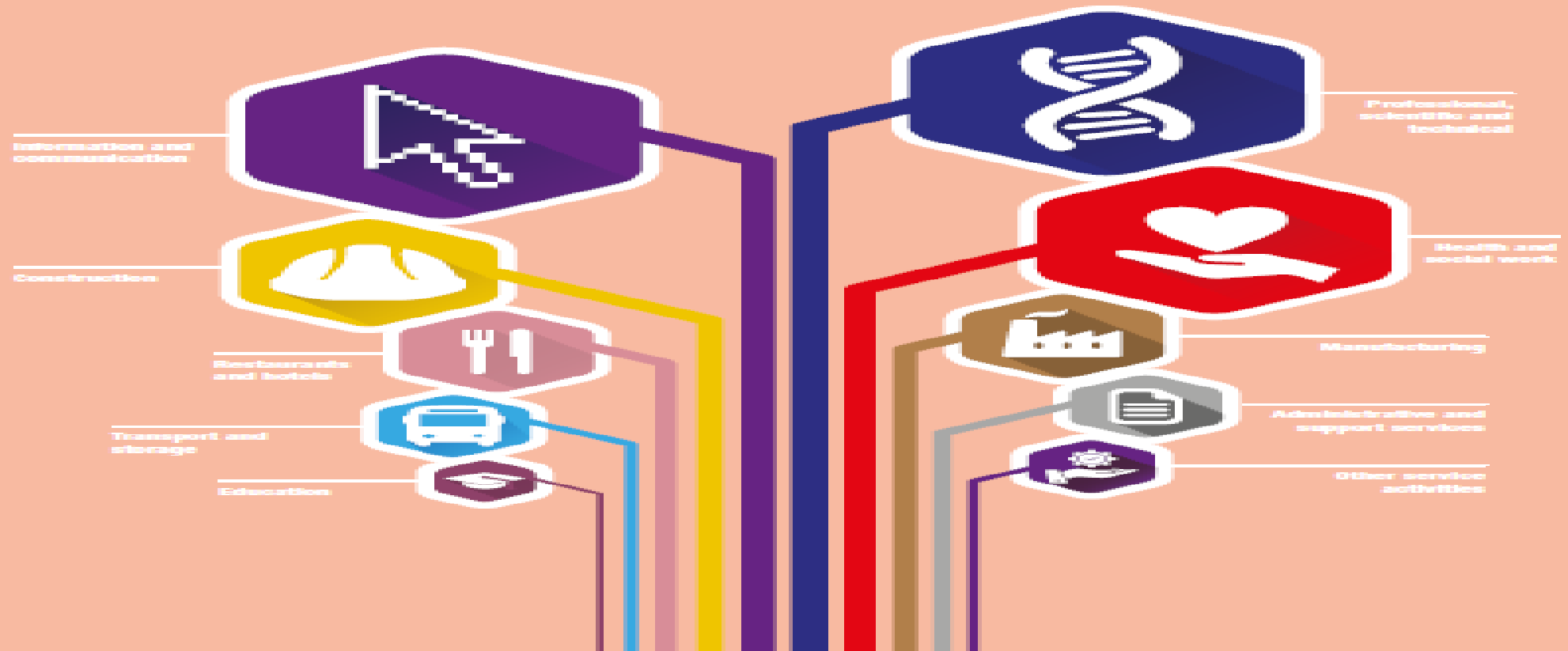


Future job opportunities in Northern Ireland

- ICT
- Creative and digital media
- Agri- food sector
- Business and financial services
- Advanced manufacturing and engineering
- Renewable energies and recycling
- Health and life sciences

EMPLOYMENT PROJECTIONS

Top 10 growth sectors
(2020-2030)



There will be growth opportunities for all skills levels across a range of sectors - the focus will be predominantly on higher level skills.

Conclusion

- Decide on which of the pathway suits your child's learning needs and will offer the most chance of success
- Discuss progress within the Core subjects – English and Maths
- Within each pathway, the compulsory subjects are listed so you must decide on the other 4/5 optional subjects you wish to study alongside these
- Hand in final choices by Thursday 12th January 2023 to Form Teachers.