



Life after Laurus Guide at Post-14 Options

The intended audience for this document is **Students/Parents/Carers**.

All students have an equal entitlement to high quality Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance at Laurus schools that helps to prepare them for choices and transitions affecting their future education, training and employment.

Post-14 - Options

Options in Year 9 are an important decision that needs some careful thought and planning, however there are some important rules to consider:

- Choose based on your interests and values, not those of your friends.
- Choose subjects you enjoy and might want to study further at Post-16
- Don't choose a subject based on your like or dislike of a teacher (they may not be there next year and may place your own plans for the future at risk).
- Give yourself time to stop, think and reflect before making your final decisions.

Before you have to make any decisions, the school will support you with Assemblies, Information from Subject leaders and a full booklet providing details of the option process.

Here are some things you might want to know about:

GCSE

GCSEs are qualifications that most school children in the UK study towards when they're 14 years old or in Year 10. GCSE stands for General Certificate of Secondary Education and chosen subjects are studied over two years with final exams taking place in Year 11.

BTEC

A BTEC is an alternative to GCSE, but can also be studied up to A-Level. These offer a different way of learning, which may suit some students as they are predominantly coursework based, and in some cases focus on honing practical skills. They are Nationally recognised and accepted as a step to move onto further and higher qualifications.



Understanding Subject Choices
"A great video that the choices you make at Year 9 and explains how you might make your choices"



Understanding GCSE Grading
"This video explains the NEW grading system 1 – 9 for GCSEs"



Understanding BTEC
"This PDF contains information about BTEC and has various hyperlinks to other questions about their structure"



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Understanding the new grading system for GCSE

9	A*
8	A
7	
6	B
5 (strong pass)	C
4 (standard pass)	
3	D
2	E
1	F
	G
U	U

Trust Careers Advisor



Katy Rush
"Lead Careers Advisor"



Carmel Threader
"Careers Advisor"



George Fitzpatrick
"Careers Advisor"



Milly Baldwin
"Careers Advisor"

We have four dedicated Careers Advisors working in the Laurus Trust. Katy Rush is the Lead Laurus Trust Careers advisor. Katy leads three other advisors George Fitzpatrick, Milly Baldwin and Carmel Slack. Katy, George and Milly have a dedicated base within each school and will be introduced to students throughout their time with us in the Laurus Trust. Carmel works directly at Priestnall School. All students are provided with an opportunity to at least one Careers Appointment in KS4 and where appropriate KS5.

Parents can contact our careers team using the school enquiries@ email address. Students should speak to their Form Tutor or HOY about making an appointment.