Welcome

The Piggott School
EAL Year 8 Options Evening

Secondary School Timeline

Key Stage 3
- Year 7 and 8

Key Stage 4
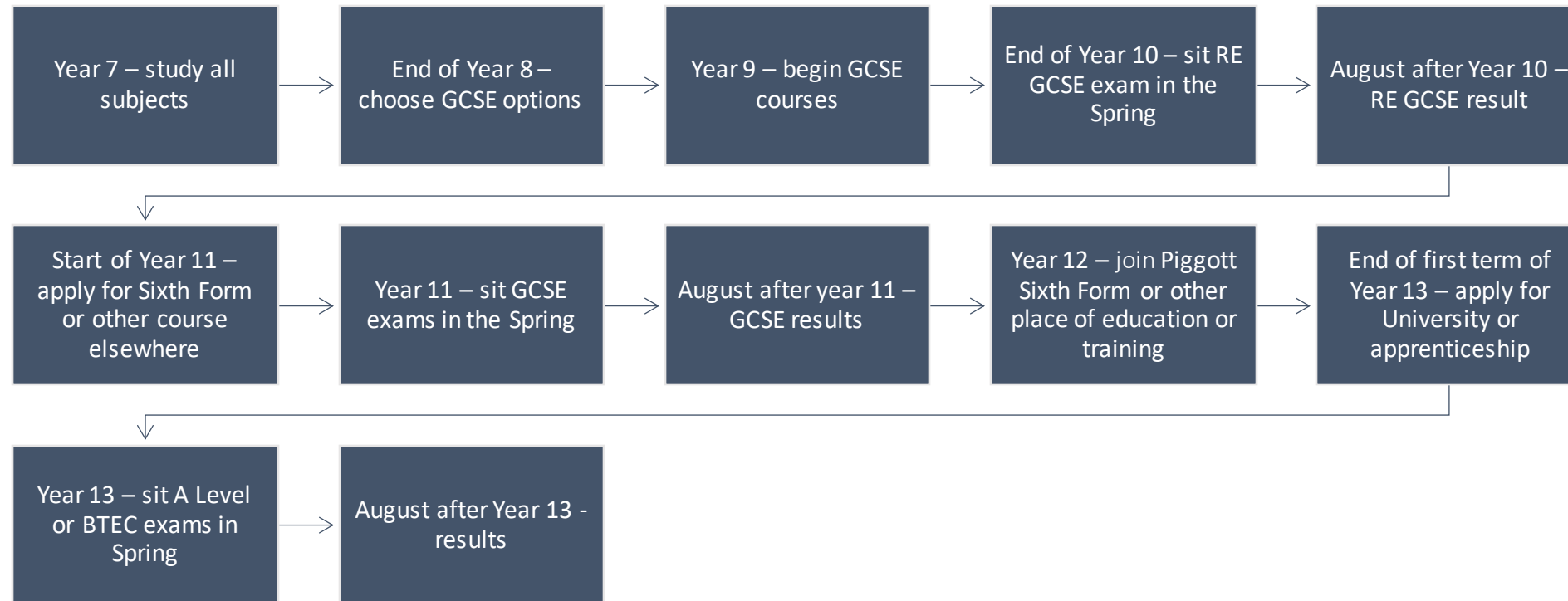- Years 9 to 11

Key Stage 5
- Years 12 and 13 – also known as Sixth Form

Assessment Timetable

Stage	Year Group	Age Range	Assessments	Subjects
Key Stage 3	Year 7 and 8	11-12 12-13	Start of Year 7 and regularly throughout KS3. NGRT / CATs	English, Maths, Science, D&T, History, Geography, RE, Music, Drama, PE, MFL, Art
Key Stage 4	Year 9, 10 and 111	13-14 14-15 15-16	Ongoing internal assessments. May/June of Year 11 – GCSE (general Certificate of Secondary Educatoin)	Core subjects; English, Maths, Science, RE. Optional subjects such as humanities, MFL and creative subjects
Key Stage 5	Year 12 and 13	16-17 17-18	A Level or vocational pathway	Three optional subjects

Timeline

Year 7 – study all subjects → End of Year 8 – choose GCSE options → Year 9 – begin GCSE courses → End of Year 10 – sit RE GCSE exam in the Spring → August after Year 10 – RE GCSE result

Start of Year 11 – apply for Sixth Form or other course elsewhere → Year 11 – sit GCSE exams in the Spring → August after year 11 – GCSE results → Year 12 – join Piggott Sixth Form or other place of education or training → End of first term of Year 13 – apply for University or apprenticeship

Year 13 – sit A Level or BTEC exams in Spring → August after Year 13 - results

GCSEs

GCSEs

GCSE stands for General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE).

It is an academic qualification in a range of particular subjects, taken in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland.

Studies for GCSE examinations take place over a period of three academic years starting in Year 9 at The Piggott School with examinations being sat at the end of Year 11.

GCSE Grades

In England, GCSEs are now graded using a numerical system from 9 to 1.

9 is the best grade possible.

Students will have needed a 4 for a "standard pass" and 5 for a "strong pass".

Many sixth forms insist on a minimum point score as a condition of entry for further study.

Choosing GCSE Options at The Piggott School

Compulsory Subjects:

- English Literature and Language
- Maths
- Science – Double or Triple
- Religious Studies GCSE (in keeping with the Christian Values and Character of our School)

- PSHE- No qualification
- Core PE- No qualification

English Baccalaureate (EBacc)

The EBacc is not a qualification in its own right – it's a combination of GCSE subjects, including a language, that offer an important range of knowledge and skills to young people.

EBacc is made up of:

✓ English

✓ mathematics

✓ history or geography

✓ the sciences including computer science

✓ a modern foreign language

Students must choose at least one, preferably two, EBacc subjects.

EBacc at GCSE gives students access to a full range of employment options when they leave secondary school and the broad knowledge that employers are looking for.

The GCSE Options Process

Students will then choose **four** full course GCSE/Level 2 courses from the following list:

- Art & Design GCSE
- Business GCSE
- Chinese GCSE
- Computer Science GCSE
- Design & Technology GCSE
- Drama GCSE
- Food Preparation & Nutrition GCSE
- French GCSE
- Further Maths Level 2 & Statistics GCSE
- Geography GCSE

- German GCSE
- History GCSE
- Media Studies GCSE
- Music GCSE
- Photography GCSE
- Physical Education GCSE
- Spanish GCSE

EBacc

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- French GCSE
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- Geography GCSE

- German GCSE
- History GCSE
- Media Studies GCSE
- Music GCSE
- Photography GCSE
- Physical Education GCSE
- Spanish GCSE

Taking a GCSE in a student's first language

Students can take a GCSE exam in their first language, depending on the language.

These GCSE exams are in addition to the student's GCSE options.

E.g. a student whose first language is Chinese does not need to opt for Chinese GCSE. They can just do the exam.

These exams normally take place in Year 10.

Parents will be approached about this option in Year 9 by Mr. MacLeod, or by language staff

Final Remarks

- ✓ Students must choose one, preferably two, EBacc subjects

- ✓ Students are strongly advised to choose a modern foreign language

- ✓ The Piggott School try to provide students with all their option choices, and, unlike many schools, we offer a free choice to all

- ✓ The option blocks are built after students have made their choices rather than before

- ✓ Staffing issues and class size constraints mean that students will need to select a reserve option. This might replace one of your other choices if your choice combination is not possible

- ✓ If this happens, we will discuss this with the student

- ✓ This reserve choice is to be included on the Options Preference form as a 5th choice

Next Steps

Thursday 11th January	Options Evening
Thursday 1st February	Parents' Evening
Friday 2nd February	Deadline for Preference Form
Early March	Options discussions start with a member of staff
End of the summer term	Subjects confirmed

Further Support

Piggott School Website:

www.piggottschool.org

Year 8 Options Eve:

www.piggottschool.org/_site/data/files/5FDD7DE4F192DDC
CA3E2F167BD4F1450.pdf

Further Support

Mr Alex Macleod

Deputy Head

Macleoda@piggottschool.org

Miss Sarah Parsons

Acting Assistant Head & EAL Lead

Parsonss@piggottschool.org

Mrs Aditi Shah

EAL Coordinator

Shaha@piggottschool.org

Mr Ben Lau

EAL Club Coordinator

Laub@piggottschool.org

Further Support

The Bell Foundation: www.bell-foundation.org.uk

UKHK: www.ukhk.org

Seven Springs Education has created a welcome pack for HK families – Schools in England (thorough school system introduction in the UK) by Seven Springs Education
https://seven-springs.co.uk/pdf/Welcome-Pack-for-HK-Families.pdf

Hong Kong Student Alliance CIC – This organisation is the first student association for Hongkongers in the UK. Being students themselves they understand the unique pressures upon the new generations of Hongkongers and can advise on activities or support which may help integration. Facebook: www.facebook.com/hksa.official & Instagram: www.instagram.com/hksa_official

Any Questions?