



BYRCHALL HIGH SCHOOL

Curriculum Choices

2027-2029

YOUR SCHOOL
YOUR FUTURE
YOUR COMMUNITY!

THINK SMART | LOOK SMART | BE SMART

Aims

The curriculum offers opportunities for all young people to become:

- **successful learners** who enjoy learning, make progress and achieve
- **confident individuals** who are able to live safe, healthy and fulfilling lives
- **responsible global citizens** who make a positive contribution to society

Choices

- Conventional GCSE Courses
- Technical/Vocational Courses
- 1 humanities choice
- 2 further choices
- Plus a reserve choice

How to Choose

- A subject **you** like and are good at.
- Because **you** have chosen it rather than your friend
- You like the **subject** not the present teacher.
- Because **you** think you will enjoy it
- Coursework or exams? What are **you** more comfortable with?
- It's **your** choice

GCSEs and Technical/Vocational Qualifications

GCSEs

- Academic study and final assessment
- Graded 9-1

Technical/Vocational Awards

- Specifically for pre- 16 and challenging
- Industry related, with practical elements
- 25% externally assessed, 75% coursework
- Grade Pass, Merit, Distinction, Distinction* at Level 1 or Level 2

Core Curriculum

- GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature
- GCSE Science (Double Award) – NB Triple Science is an option
- GCSE Maths
- GCSE RE
- Physical Education
- PDL – Personal Development Lessons

Curriculum Choice A

GCSE Geography

or

GCSE History

Curriculum Choice B, C and Reserve

GCSE Art
GCSE Business Studies
GCSE Computer Science
GCSE Dance
GCSE 3D Design
GCSE Food and Nutrition
GCSE French
GCSE Geography
GCSE History
GCSE PE
GCSE Photography
GCSE Spanish

BTEC Music
Child Development Award
Creative i-Media Award
Drama/Performing Arts Award
Engineering Award
Enterprise and Marketing Award
Further Maths
Further Science
Health & Social Care Award
IT Award
Sport Science Award

Different Examples

1)

- Curriculum Choice A- GCSE History
- Curriculum Choice B- GCSE French
- Curriculum Choice C- Further Maths

2)

- Curriculum Choice A- GCSE Geography
- Curriculum Choice B- IT Award
- Curriculum Choice C- GCSE History

3)

- Curriculum Choice A- GCSE Geography
- Curriculum Choice B- Health and Social Care Award
- Curriculum Choice C- Drama- Performing Arts Award

Support

- Students have already taken part in taster lessons and subject leads have spoke in assembly about their subject.

Plus:

- Opportunities for an appointment with the Careers Personal Advisor.
- Parents and students can see the subject presentations available on the school website and discuss the choices available.
- Students can discuss the subjects on offer with their current teachers and ask for further advice.
- Progress Report 13th February 2026 followed by Parents' Consultation evening on 25th February 2026.
- Parents can contact Miss Hesketh, Miss Jones or Mrs Smith if they have questions or need to discuss choices during the week beginning 2nd March 2026 and an appointment can be made if necessary.

Help and Advice

If you need any more help speak to:

- Your subject teachers
- Mr Rastrick
- Miss Matthews
- Mrs Robinson
- Mrs Shaw - SENDCo
- Careers Advisor – Anna Fishwick is available on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and Julie Tindall is available on alternate Wednesdays.

Key Dates

- Progress report – 4th February 2027
- Parents' Consultation evening (Online) – 25th February 2027
- **FINAL** deadline for return of the options form 12th March 2027