Year 8 Pathways Evening

Thursday 12th March 2025

Your journey through Marshalls Park

KS3 – Years 7, 8 and 9

- Continuous internal assessments by your child's teachers throughout the 3-years to help inform and determine the best pathway into KS4.

KS4 – Years 10 and 11

- Continuous internal assessments (PPEs/mocks) and final external assessments at the end of year 11 that determines pathways into further study or apprenticeships.

Tailoring your curriculum to you

You have already been given the option of choosing your language. This is now fixed.

After the opportunity of studying two languages in Year 7, you have already chosen which language to continue studying in Year 8 and which to drop.

You are given two more opportunities to tailor your curriculum to suit your needs. First in Year 8 (now) and secondly into KS4 (Year 9).

Year 9 Curriculum

Year 9 is a transition year.

Teachers begin to expose students to the skills and rigour of Key Stage 4, whilst still ensuring the Year 9 curriculum is:

- Broad and Balanced
- Relevant
- Challenging
- Enjoyable
- Personalised

Year 9 Curriculum

The time allocation for Science increases to better prepare students for the different pathways available in GCSE Science.

History and Geography increase by one lesson.

This blend between KS3 and KS4 allows students to truly appreciate their chosen subjects, and helps students make a better informed set of option choices to study as part of their GCSE's in Years 10 and 11.

Year 9 Curriculum – Compulsory Subjects

Year 9 compulsory subjects (lessons per fortnight)
English (7)
Mathematics (7)
Science (8)
French or Spanish (4)
Computer Science (2)
Geography (4)
History (4)
RE (2)
Core PE (3)
Option Subject 1 (3)
Option Subject 2 (3)
Option Subject 3 (3)

Year 9 Curriculum – Option Subject Blocks

Pupils to choose 1 of:	Pupils to choose 1 of:	Pupils to choose 1 of:
Design & Technology	Art	Art
Food & Nutrition	Drama	Drama
	Music	Dance
		Design & Technology
		Food & Nutrition
		Music
		PE (GCSE)

Decision Time – what to consider?

What you are good at

What you enjoy

What will help you in the future

Where you want to be in 5 years / 10 years time

Asking your teachers for advice

Aiming for a broad and balanced curriculum – a variety of subjects

Take some time. Read the information booklet. Visit the linked websites. Speak to your Form Tutor, subject teachers and year lead.

Decision Time – what NOT to consider

Don’t choose a subject just because your friends are taking it

Don’t choose a subject just because you like your current teacher

Don’t choose too many similar subjects

Don’t choose a subject because you think it is an ‘easy option’ – there aren’t any!

Important Note

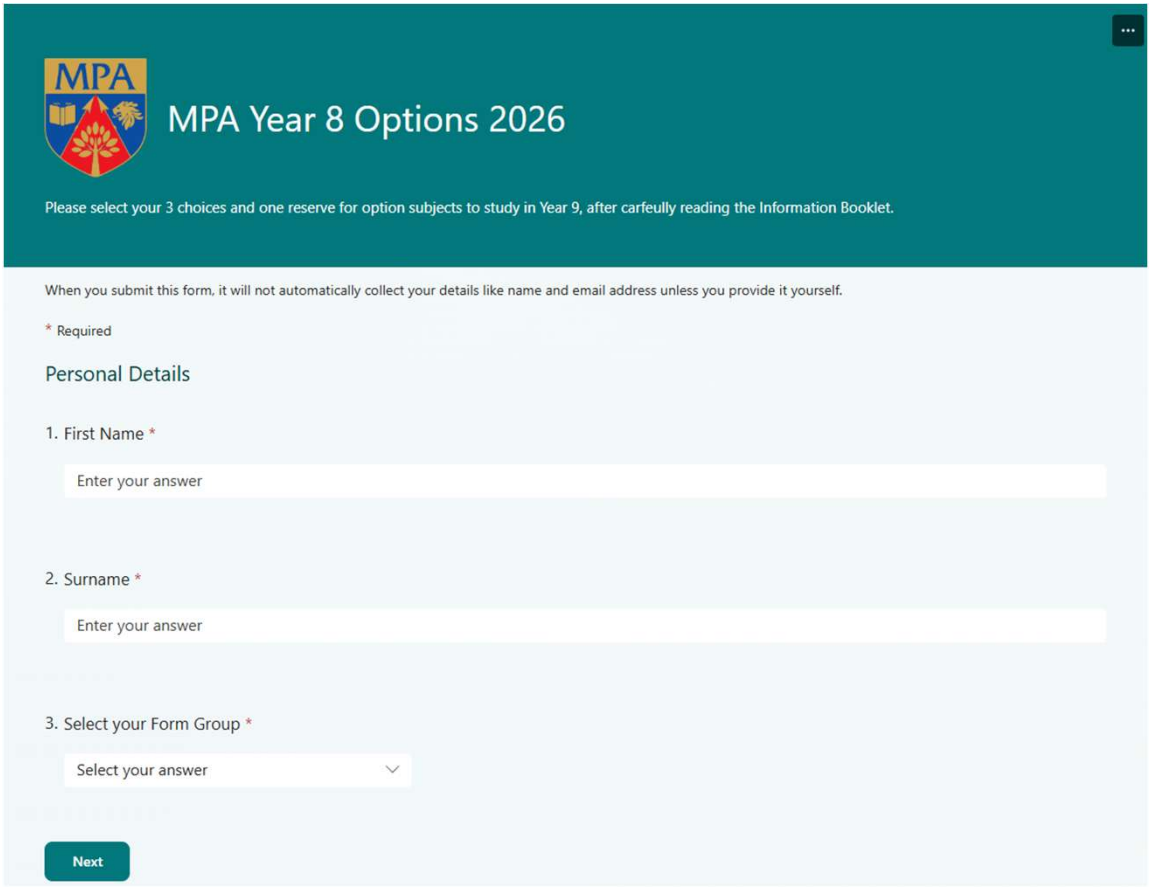
If numbers are too low, courses may not run.

Some courses have strict limits on the number of places available. If a course is oversubscribed, a student's commitment to the subject will be taken into account, as well as the mix of other options chosen.

Where possible, students will be allocated their first choices, but not all combinations will be possible.

Reserve choices must be made.

The option form



MPA Year 8 Options 2026

Please select your 3 choices and one reserve for option subjects to study in Year 9, after carfeully reading the Information Booklet.

When you submit this form, it will not automatically collect your details like name and email address unless you provide it yourself.

* Required

Personal Details

1. First Name *

Enter your answer

2. Surname *

Enter your answer

3. Select your Form Group *

Select your answer

Next

The option form

Option Choices

4. Choose a technology subject *

- ◯ Design & Technology
- ◯ Food & Nutrition

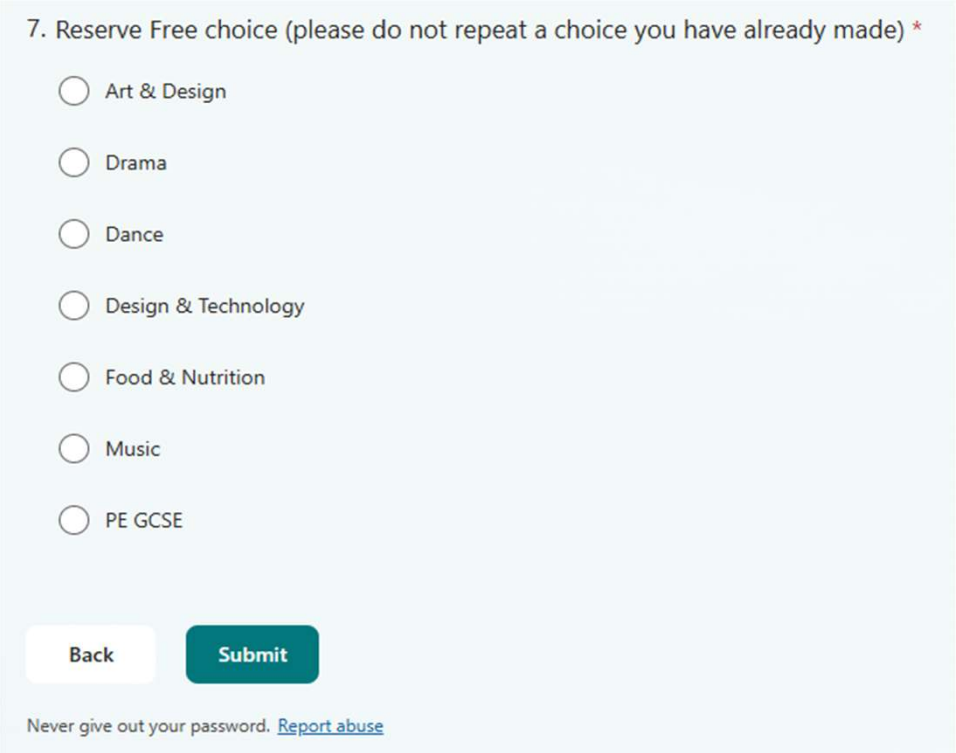
5. Choose an Arts subject *

- ◯ Art & Design
- ◯ Drama
- ◯ Music

6. Free choice (please do not repeat a choice you have already made) *

- ◯ Art & Design
- ◯ Drama
- ◯ Dance
- ◯ Design & Technology
- ◯ Food & Nutrition
- ◯ Music
- ◯ PE GCSE

The option form



- Please don't rush to complete – think carefully about your options following this evening.
- Please only complete once – if you think you have made a mistake, please see Mrs Gilroy or Mr Goude.
- Deadline for completion is Friday 20th March.

Deadline – Friday 20th March

MPA Year 8 Options 2026