

St Alban's Catholic High School



Year 9 Options 2026-2028



Domine Ut Serviam - Lord, that I may serve





Opening Prayer

Lord,

As we gather here today, we stand at a time of change.

We look ahead to new challenges and new opportunities.

Give us calm minds as we think about our future, and open hearts to embrace the possibilities before us.

Grant us the courage to make choices that will help us grow, learn, and become the best versions of ourselves.

Guide us with wisdom, strengthen us with confidence, and help us support one another along the way.

St Alban, pray for us

Amen





GCSE Options 2026 - Building your future!

- **A Time of Change , Choice and New Opportunities**
 - choices start to shape your future
 - think ahead, explore your strengths, and imagine who you want to become
 - building blocks for your journey through school, college, and beyond
- **Planning for the Future**
 - GCSE Options help you discover what you enjoy and where you excel
 - They open pathways to A-Levels, apprenticeships, college courses, and careers
 - The more thought you put in now, the stronger your foundation will be later

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What can I study?



- All students take four core subjects. Religious education, English, science, and mathematics
- The core subjects will lead to six or seven GCSE qualifications
- They now need to choose their final three subjects
- There is no longer any requirement for students to study several EBacc subjects as part of their GCSE options choices
- A broad and balanced choice is key
- We offer an alternative course (ASDAN)
 - Based on key skills, both academic and interpersonal
 - Guided option

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Why are my choices important?

- A broad and balanced curriculum develops both academic knowledge and creative skills

For example:

- The Arts build creativity, confidence, communication and innovation
 - Humanities develop critical thinking, cultural understanding and informed citizenship helping you become an informed thoughtful and responsible person
 - Maths and Science build logical reasoning, problem solving skills and analytical thinking
-
- Combining Arts, Humanities and STEM keeps future pathways open



Subject Choices



Art & Design
ASDAN*
Business
Computing
Design & Technology
Drama
Food and Nutrition

French
Geography
Graphic Communication
History
Music
Spanish
Sport & Coaching Principles
Textile Design

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GCSE Choices

- Quality not quantity – do you enjoy it? Do you want to study it? Is it manageable?
- Commitment – this is a two-year course
- Keeping options open – broad range of subjects
- Staff support and commitment including a Careers Advisor
- Parental involvement

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The Sixth Form at St Alban's



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Do NOT consider subjects

- Just because your friends are doing them
- Just because you think they are an “easy option”
- Just because you like the teacher



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Choosing your Year 10 & 11 Options subjects

	Year 10 Options Choices 2026-2028	
Name: Joe Bloggs		Form: 9DON
Parent/carer signature:		
Subject	Choices <i>(See below)</i>	
Art		
ASDAN (Alt. Curriculum)		
Business Studies		
Computing		
Design & Technology		
Drama		
Food & Nutrition		
French		
Geography		
Graphic Communication		



Make sure you have
the form with your
name and form
printed on it.

Choices: Please choose your **three main choices** and number them in order of preference from “1” to “3”. Please also choose two **reserve subjects** and write “R” by the subject.

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Please return to your form tutor by **Friday 17th April 2026**



Add your choices, numbered 1 to 3 and then add two reserve subjects with an R.

Finally, get your parents/ carers to check they are happy with your choices and **sign the form.**

Once complete, return the form to your form teacher. You **MUST** return the form by **Friday 17th April at the latest.**



Year 10 Options Choices 2026-2028

Name: Joe Bloggs

Form: 9DON

Parent/carers signature:

Subject	Choices <i>(See below)</i>
Art	
ASDAN (Alt. Curriculum)	
Business Studies	
Computing	1
Design & Technology	
Drama	R
Food & Nutrition	
French	
Geography	3
Graphic Communication	
History	
Music	2
Spanish	
Sport & Coaching	
Textile Design	R

Choices: Please choose your **three main choices** and number them in **order of preference** from "1" to "3". Please also choose two **reserve subjects** and write "R" by the subject.

Please return to your form tutor by **Friday 17th April 2026**





What if I do not settle into a subject?

- We hope that with the greater depth of knowledge that you have gained in each subject during year 9 you will have a clear idea of what subjects you want to study at GCSE
- We do, however, recognise that it is possible for some students to find that the subject they have chosen is not suitable for them. You will, if needed, have the opportunity to change a subject up to **October half term**. **The changes will have to be agreed by parents/carers and heads of subject**



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Where to get help and advice



The screenshot shows the homepage of successatschool.org. The logo at the top left says "Success at school .org" with the tagline "choose your next steps". The navigation menu includes Home, Career Paths, Advice, Employers, Universities, Jobs & Courses, and Forums. A central banner features several "5 WORK SKILLS" guides for subjects like English, Art & Design, Geography, Drama, and Music. Below this is a "Parents: Be ready for GCSE results day" article. A "Welcome to Success at School!" message encourages users to register. At the bottom, there are four main categories: Career Zones (with a compass icon), Employers (with a speech bubble icon), Universities (with a graduation cap icon), and News (with a "Go >" link). The News section highlights "It's National Career Week - resources for careers..." and "It's National Apprenticeship Week 2020".

The screenshot shows a YouTube video player for the video "What GCSE subjects should I choose?". The video title is displayed in large white text on a red background. The video player interface includes a play button, a progress bar showing 0:03 / 1:56, and a "MORE VIDEOS" button. The YouTube logo is visible in the bottom right corner.

successatschool.org

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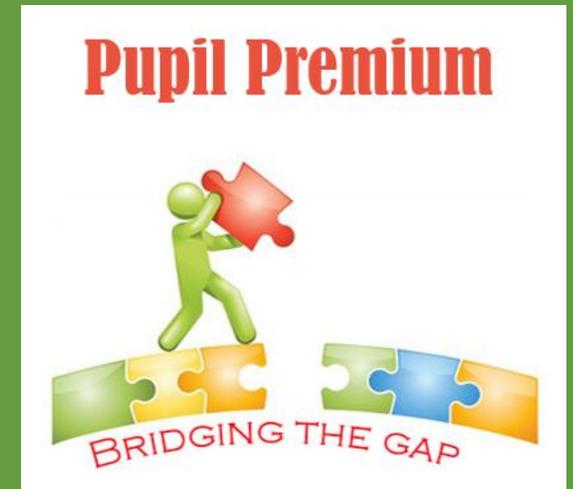


Pupil Premium Students



- If you receive Pupil Premium funding you will have a meeting with our Pupil Premium Support Lead, ***Mrs Iachetta***, to help support you when making your final choices

This support will continue through GCSE to ensure that you have the best possible chance to reach your potential.



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Reminders



- Please complete the **Options Choices** form by **Friday 17th April 2026** at the latest
- Parents/carers must **sign to approve** the choices their child has made on the form
- If students are having any difficulty with their choices they may speak to their form tutor, subject leaders or go to see Mrs Block or Mr O'Neill

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Layout for Year 9 Options Evening Departments

