



THE BRITISH SCHOOL
OF BEIJING, SHUNYI
A NORD ANGLIA EDUCATION SCHOOL

(I)GCSE Options Evening November 2020

(I)GCSE Options Event **24th November 2020**

Mr. Darren Mumford
Assistant Head of Secondary

Aims for this evening

1. To understand what the next two years of your child's education entails, including the UK grading systems
2. To be aware of important factors in making GCSE subject choices
3. To understand the steps in the process of selecting your options

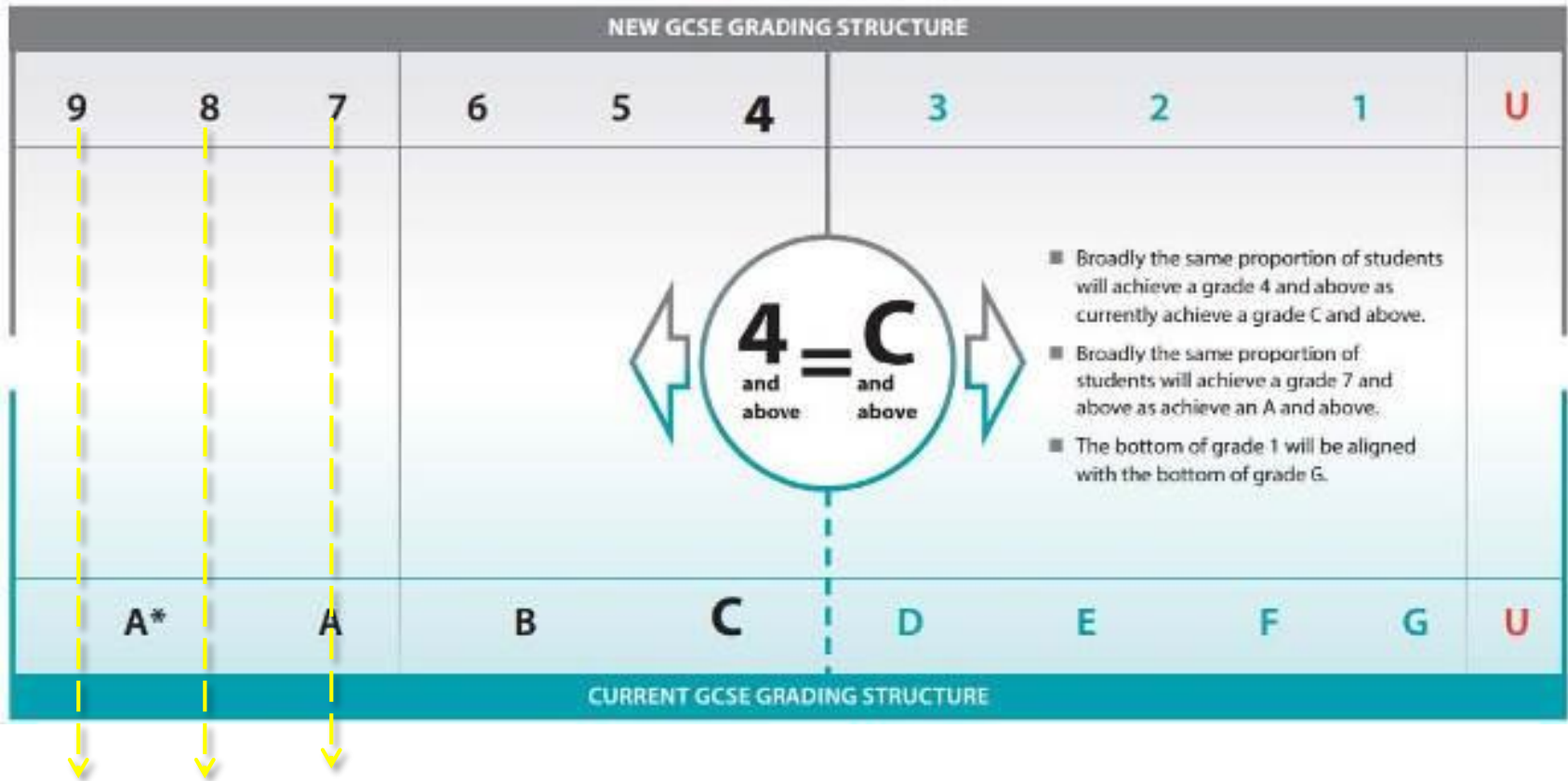
Phase of Education

Key Stage	Year Groups	Curriculum
1	Years 1-2	Common
2	Years 3-6	Common
3	Years 7-9	Common + choice of Languages
4	Years 10-11	Choice of 6 Subjects
5	Years 12 and 13	Choice + Core

Understanding the Technical Terms

- What is the difference between a GCSE and an IGCSE?
- What is meant by (Key Stage 4) KS4?
- Who are Cambridge and Edexcel?

Grading System



Grading proportions

NEW GCSE GRADING STRUCTURE	CURRENT GCSE GRADING STRUCTURE
9	A*
8	A
7	A
6	B
5	B
4	C
3	D
2	E
1	F
	G
U	U

3 : 2 Grades

GOOD PASS (DfE)
5 and above = top of C and above

AWARDING
4 and above = bottom of C and above

Grade 9 – 3%

Grade 8 – 4%

Grade 7 - 14 %

Grade 5 - 26 %

Examination Boards at BSB

Subjects		Exam Board	Grading
Fine Art	IGCSE	Edexcel	9 to 1
Music GCSE	GCSE	Edexcel	9 to 1
Spanish IGCSE	IGCSE	Edexcel	9 to 1
German IGCSE	IGCSE	Edexcel	9 to 1
French IGCSE	IGCSE	Edexcel	9 to 1
Psychology GCSE	GCSE	Edexcel	9 to 1
All other Exams – Cambridge IGCSE			A* - G

Structure of (I)GCSE Courses

- 2 year course
- Coursework / controlled assessment in some subjects
- Coursework varies from 0 - 60% of final grade
- Final examinations in May and June 2022
- Teacher/student/parent partnership
- Importance of meeting deadlines and excellent attendance

What will my child's GCSE timetable look like?

Everyone will study:	Lessons per 2 week cycle
English Language and English or EAL	10
Mathematics	8
A Science	6
A Language	6
A Humanity subject	6
3 Further options of their choice (6 lessons for each choice)	18
PE - not examined	4
PSHE - not examined	2
Total	60

How should my child make their choices?

- **Not Sure, then go for Broad and balanced:** Sciences (1-2), humanities(1-2) languages (1) arts/creative/physical(1)
- Choose subjects that you enjoy
- Choose subjects that you are good at
- Consider university/employment plans
- Don't take a subject because of your friends' choices
- Don't pick a subject because you get on well with a particular teacher
- Leading into IB? Pick a broad selection of subjects

Universities

- (I)GCSE: Require C/4 and above
- Consider Country pre-requisites
- Consider faculty pre-requisites
- Recommended that you contact universities directly

How it works

Mathematics & English are Compulsory Examination Subjects

You must choose one subject from the Language, Science and Humanity blocks.

Choose one Language	✓	Choose one Science	✓	Choose one Humanity	✓
German 1 st Language		Biology		Economics	
Korean 1 st Language		Chemistry		Geography	
Mandarin 1 st Language		Physics		History	
French 2 nd Language				Psychology	
Mandarin 2 nd Language					
Spanish 2 nd Language					

Please select a further three subjects (including if you wish to take additional Science/Language or Humanity options) from the list below. Please rank your preferences 1-3 (1 being most important, 3 being least important)

Art		Economics		Physical Education	
Biology		French 2 nd Language		Physics	
Chemistry		Geography		Psychology	
Computer Science		Mandarin 2 nd Language		Spanish 2 nd Language	
Drama		Music			
Design and Technology					

Key dates

- 5th December Subject choices form returned
- December Staffing requirements reviewed
- January Options blocks created
- Mid March Final choices made by students who did not get all their first choices
- April/May Timetabling

Who can help you and your child?

- Tutor
- Subject teachers or Head of Department
- Friends and family
- Head of Year 9 – Ms Anita Hameed
- Careers officer – Mr Brian Chesher
- IB Coordinator Ms Sarah Donnelly
- Assistant Head of Secondary – Mr Darren Mumford

What do I do now?

- Read the options information carefully with your son/daughter
- Speak to subject teachers or Heads of Department
- Talk to your child about their choices and possible future career plans
- Consider/research potential universities and course requirements
- Complete the options form and return it to school by 29th November



THE BRITISH SCHOOL
OF BEIJING, SHUNYI
A NORD ANGLIA EDUCATION SCHOOL

*MDR Room
Thank you*