

Choosing your subjects for Y10 & Y11



Planning for your future

Key Questions:

1. What options are available to me at the end of Year 11?
2. How do I find out about the options available?
3. How do I plan for my chosen career / pathway?



What are my options?

A Levels

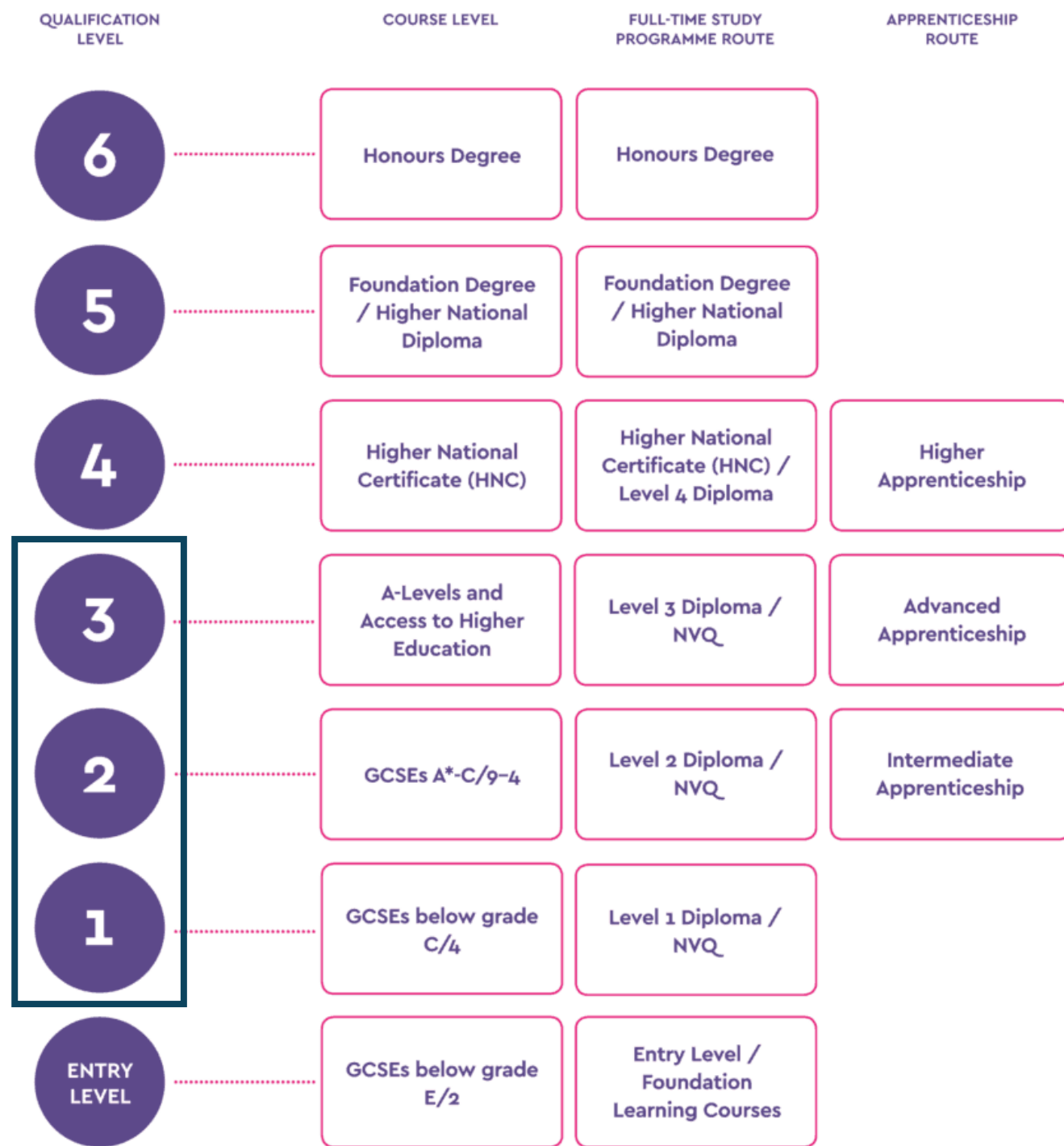
Vocational
Course

Apprenticeship

T Level



Your GCSE will
determine
which level
course you can
complete after
Year 11



A Levels or *Level 3* Courses

Entry requirements:

- 5 x grade 4s & Specific entry requirements for subjects

A Levels

Fine Art

Photography

3D Design

Textiles

Biology

Business

Chemistry

Computer Science

Drama and Theatre Studies

French

English Literature

Film Studies

History

Geography

German

Law

Mathematics

Further Mathematics

Music

Physics

Physical Education

Psychology

Sociology

Vocational Courses

Sport

Cyber Security and Networks

Applied Science

Health and Social Care (AAQ)

Vocational courses at college (L1, 2 or 3)

- Agricultural courses
- Bricklaying
- Carpentry
- Catering
- Childcare
- Early Years
- Hair and beauty
- Health and Social Care
- Motor Vehicle Engineering
- Plumbing and Electrical Installation

A few examples of courses at Herefordshire
College (HLNSC)



Apprenticeships

INTERMEDIATE

**LEVEL
2**

Equivalent to
5 GCSE's
grade A* - C/4

ADVANCED

**LEVEL
3**

Equivalent to
2 A'Levels

HIGHER

**LEVELS
4, 5, 6 & 7**

Equivalent to a
Foundation
Degree or above

DEGREE

**LEVELS
6,7**

Equivalent to a
Batchelor's/
Masters Degree

T (Technical) Levels

Level 3

- 2 year courses for students aged 16-19
- Developed in collaboration with employers.

Each T Level include:

- Exams and coursework.
- Practical skills for a specific job.
- Industry placement (at least 315 hours, or about 45 days).



What careers are out there?

MYPATH
**CAREERS EDUCATION,
DONE DIFFERENTLY**

HOME | ABOUT US | STUDENTS | CONTACT

THE A-Z of Jobs

You can use this page to explore a wide range of job profiles. Each job is presented as a short video so you can explore a little about each job. Our videos give you a quick insight and overview but we'd encourage you to find out more! Speak to a Careers Advisor for support on where to find more information.



A

- Actuary
- Accountant
- Aerospace Engineer
- Agricultural Engineer
- Airframe Engineer
- Anaesthetist
- Animator
- Antiques Dealer
- Architect
- Archival Assistant
- Army Officer
- Art Therapist
- Audiologist
- Automotive Engineer



Visit to Three Counties Careers Fair – Thursday 22nd January 2026



Which subjects will I have to study in Y10 and Y11?

Everyone will complete GCSEs in:

- English language
 - English literature
 - Maths
 - Combined science (two GCSEs) or Triple science (three GCSEs)
-
- You will also study core PE, PHSE, citizenship, careers, RE and be taught computing



Triple or Combined Science

Triple science	Combined science
6 lessons per week (including one afterschool on Tue)	5 lessons per week
Study biology, chemistry, and physics	Study biology, chemistry, and physics
3 GCSEs	2 GCSEs
More content and longer exams	Less content and shorter exams



Why might you choose Triple science?

- You enjoy science lessons.
- You want to learn more content and gain an extra GCSE
- You are good at science and perform well in tests.
- You are happy to attend after school lessons.
- Your behaviour is good and you are prepared to work hard.

Note – you can study sciences at A Level after Combined or Triple science



You then choose between two pathways

- 1) Academic pathway
- 2) Open pathway



Academic Pathway

Core Subjects: English Language, English Literature and mathematics

Separate Sciences (Biology,
Chemistry and Physics)

or

Combined Science

History

or

Geography

French

or

German

Choose two option subjects (including the ability to study a second language
or humanity)



Open Pathway

Core Subjects: English Language, English Literature and mathematics

Separate Sciences (Biology,
Chemistry and Physics)

or

Combined Science

History

or

Geography

or

French

or

German

or

Computer
Science

Choose three option subjects (including the ability to study a second language or humanity)



Our recommendation for most students is to study the academic pathway.

Why?

- Offers a broad range of subjects.
- Keeps your options open – allows almost any pathway after Y11.
- Avoids becoming too specialised, too soon.
- Helpful if you don't yet know exactly what you want to do after Y11.



The open pathway can be better for some students.

Why?

- Gives you more choice if you know exactly what you want to do.
- Helps you to avoid subjects that you find particularly difficult.
- Helps you to study subjects that you will really enjoy.



Which options subjects can I chose?

- Art
- 3D Design
- Business Studies
- Computer Science
- Drama
- Enterprise and Marketing
- Food Preparation and Nutrition
- French
- German
- Geography
- History
- Health and Social Care
- Music
- Photography
- PE / Sport
- Textiles



How do I choose?

Think about future plans

Think about keeping options open

Think about things you will enjoy

Take advice from your families

Take advice from your teachers



The application process

- Applications are made using the online platform 'Applicaa'.
- Students have been sent an email to their school account this evening inviting them to Applicaa.
- Students will need to log on to make the application online.
- Applications must be approved by parents/carers.



NEW APPLICATION

Use the button below to start a new application. You don't have to finish your application immediately. You can save it and continue later.

Start New Application

Don't use this – an account has already been made for you.

Registered Users

Username or Email address

Password

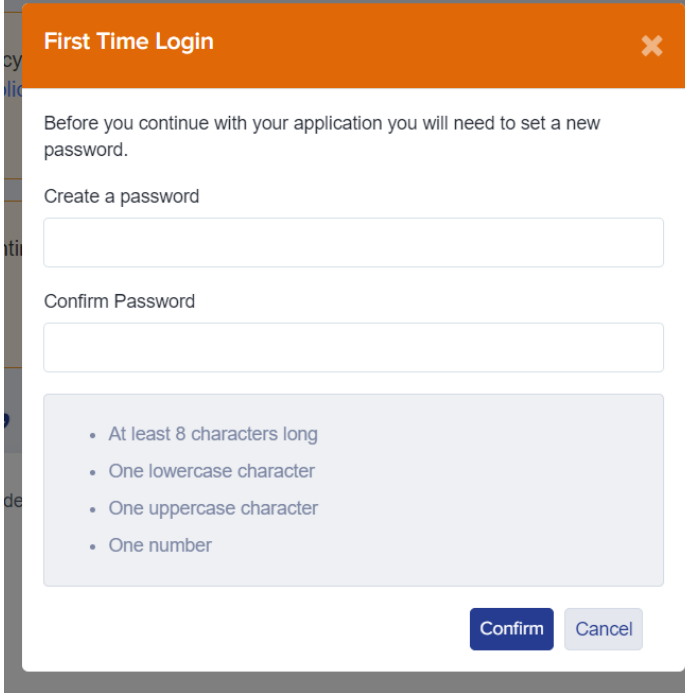
Login

[Forgot your password?](#)
[Trouble logging in?](#)

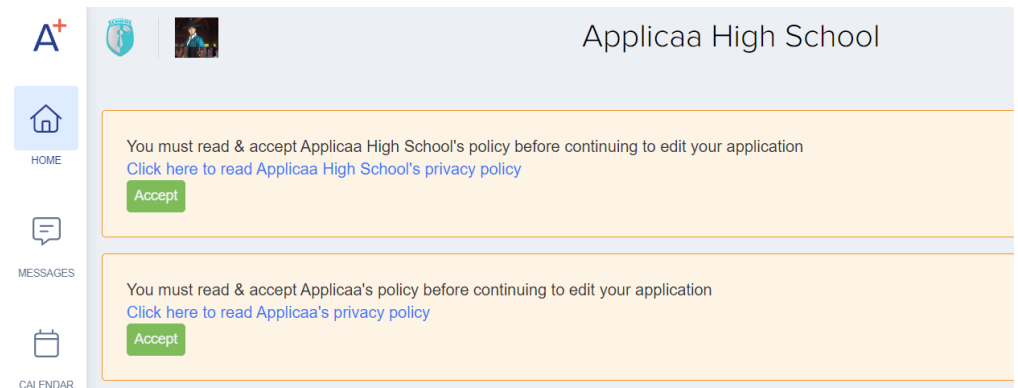
Add your email address and password here and login as a Registered User

Once you're logged in...

- You will be asked to change your password before you can continue with your application
- Also, please read and accept both the school and Applica's privacy policies



A screenshot of a 'First Time Login' dialog box. The title bar is orange with the text 'First Time Login' and a close button. The main content area is white and contains the following text: 'Before you continue with your application you will need to set a new password.' Below this is a section titled 'Create a password' with a text input field. Underneath is a section titled 'Confirm Password' with another text input field. At the bottom right are two buttons: 'Confirm' (blue) and 'Cancel' (light blue). A light blue box below the input fields lists password requirements: 'At least 8 characters long', 'One lowercase character', 'One uppercase character', and 'One number'.



A screenshot of the Applicaa High School dashboard. The top header is light blue and contains the school's logo, a profile picture, and the text 'Applicaa High School'. Below the header is a sidebar with icons for 'HOME', 'MESSAGES', and 'CALENDAR'. The main content area has a light blue background and contains two orange boxes. Each box contains the text: 'You must read & accept Applicaa High School's policy before continuing to edit your application' followed by a link 'Click here to read Applicaa High School's privacy policy' and a green 'Accept' button.



John Masefield High School & Sixth Form Centre



HOME



MESSAGES



CALENDAR

Hello TestLee,



TestLee TestRamsey Student Code: U-S21Y4

School Email: lee.ramsey@jmhs.hereford.sch.uk

Form Status

Incomplete



GCSE Opti...



Upcoming Events

No event

GCSE Options



GCSE Options Progress

☒ [Step 1: Pathway](#)

☐ [Step 2: Options](#)

[Continue Application](#)

The application process

- When students choose their subjects they will need to rank them in priority order.
- They will also need to choose a reserve subject.
- Once students have completed the application, parents/carers will receive an email asking them to approve the choices.



Frequently asked questions

- Are courses first come first served?
- Will I study the subjects that I choose?
- Can I choose courses without letting my parents know?
- Will I get a certain teacher in Y10 and Y11?
- If my friends and I choose the same option will we be together?
- Will I do less work in some subjects?



Timeline

15 – 26 Jan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Window for students and families to apply for their chosen options using ‘Applicaa’.
26 Jan – 13 Feb	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All Year 9 students will meet with a member of the Senior Leadership Team or their Year Leader (Mr Day) to review the options that they have chosen and finalise their choice.• Parents and Carers will be invited to attend these meetings.
13 Feb	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All interviews should be complete. If you wish to make any changes to the choices already entered, then please use the email Y9choices@jmhs.hereford.sch.uk
6 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Timetabling to be completed
9 March – 20 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Window for resolving issues with classes and blocking• Parents/carers will be contacted if it has not been possible to offer a student their preferred choices
23 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Individual letters to be sent to all parents and carers to confirm the subjects that have been offered for their child