



Y9 Electives Information Booklet 2026-2027

Choosing a curriculum that is right for you

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Please note:

- Whilst all the information contained in this booklet is accurate and up-to-date at the time of publication, subsequent and unforeseen changes may occur
- We make every effort to give students their preferred choice, but factors beyond our control occasionally make it impossible

Welcome to Year 9 Electives!

Excitingly, for the first time at Aloha College Marbella, you will have the opportunity to personalise your curriculum and choose subjects that align with your interests and future aspirations. In this booklet, you will find detailed information about the elective options available to you, each designed to offer unique learning experiences and help you develop valuable skills.

The Purpose of Year 9 Electives

Year 9 electives are designed to provide students with:

- A Foundation for IGCSE: An opportunity to explore and build skills in subjects that may become IGCSE options.
- Standalone Learning: These are not 'pre-IGCSE courses' but taster courses that allow students to dive deeper into a subject and enjoy a focused learning experience.
- More Lesson Time: Elective subjects are allocated double the usual lesson time, with two hours per week for each subject. These electives are crafted to spark curiosity and excitement while giving students a glimpse of what future academic paths may hold.

We look forward to supporting you as you make these important decisions!



Year 9 Curriculum overview

In Year 9, students will continue to build a strong foundation through a core curriculum designed to ensure a well-rounded education. The core subjects include:

- English
- Maths
- Science
- Spanish, including Geografía e Historia.

Additionally, students will study:

- Humanities
- French or German
- Physical Education (PE)
- Personal, Social, Health, and Economic Education (PSHEE)

To complement the core curriculum, students will choose two elective subjects from the following exciting options:

- Visual Arts
- Sports, Health, and Exercise Science
- Theatre Performance
- Computing and Digital Technologies
- Enterprise
- Musical Performance

Each elective will be allocated **two hours per week**, allowing students to dive deeply into their areas of interest. Year 9 also provides a valuable opportunity for students to explore a range of subjects, including completing studies in areas they may not wish to pursue at the IGCSE level. This approach allows for a fresh start in shaping their future academic and career paths.



Benefits of Year 9 Electives

Year 9 electives offer students a unique opportunity to explore their interests and prepare for future studies. Key benefits include:

- **Preparation for IGCSE:** Build a strong foundation by exploring subjects that align with IGCSE courses.
- **Exploration and Discovery:** Try out subjects to determine if they're the right fit for you—or discover they might not be what you expected.
- **Flexibility and Freedom:** Year 9 electives are commitment-free. You're not obligated to continue the same subjects at IGCSE and can select different options later, even if you didn't study them in Year 9. This flexibility empowers students to make informed, confident decisions about their academic pathways.

Subject Combination Information

When planning for IGCSE, keep in mind the following combinations are not permitted:

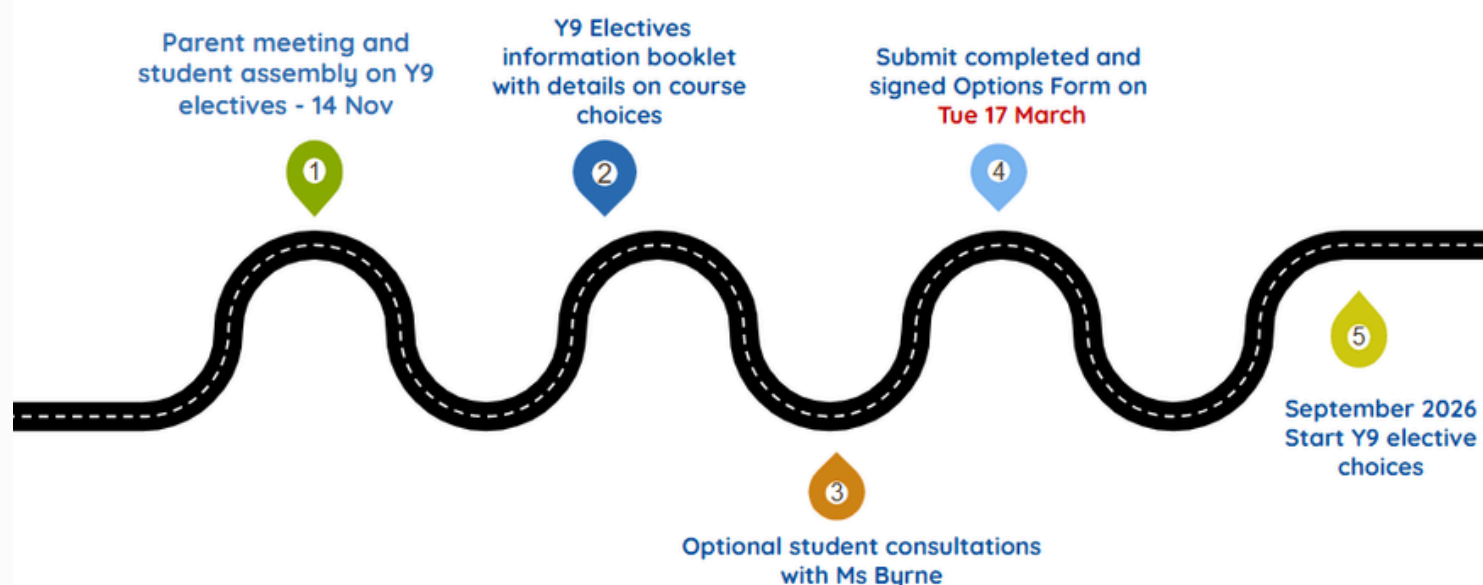
- Sports Science and Music
- Sports Science and Computer Science (ICT is available in Option 5)

However, these restrictions don't apply to Year 9. You are welcome to choose any of these subjects in Year 9 to explore them for a year without commitment. Further details will be clearly outlined on the elective options form.



Road Map of Y9 Electives Process

Y9 Electives Roadmap



Making Your Year 9 Elective Choices

Selecting your Year 9 electives is an exciting opportunity to explore your interests! Here's what you need to know:

You've received the Year 9 Electives Information Booklet with detailed guidance about the electives process. Please review it carefully.

- An electronic electives form has been sent to you to submit your choices. You'll list three options in order of preference: first, second, and third.
- While we strive to accommodate first and second choices, in some cases, your third choice may be needed.
- Ms. Byrne and Heads of Department are available to provide additional support and guidance as you make your decisions.

Take your time to think carefully about your options. The deadline for submitting the electronic form is **Tuesday, 17th March**, but we encourage early submissions once you're ready.

Assessment Overview for Year 9 Students

In Year 9, assessments are designed to provide ongoing feedback and prepare students for future academic challenges.

Core Subjects

- **Subjects:** English, Maths, and Science.
- **Assessment:** Three Progress Check Tasks (PCTs) across the year, including written exams, projects, and ongoing evaluations.
- **External Exams:** Students will also take **Cambridge Checkpoint exams**, externally assessed to support IGCSE preparation.

Elective Subjects

- Students choose **two electives**, each assessed through three PCTs per year. These may include written tasks, projects, or practical evaluations.

Non-Elective Subjects

- **Subjects:** Spanish, Humanities, Modern Foreign Languages, PE, and PSHEE.
- **Assessment:** Three PCTs per year, tailored to the content and skills of each subject. No attainment grade is given for PSHEE.

This structured assessment approach ensures balanced feedback and preparation for academic success, supporting students' progression to IGCSE and beyond.



Computing and Digital Technologies

Get ready for an exciting journey into the world of Computing and Digital Technologies in Year 9! This dynamic course offers students a hands-on introduction to both Computer Science and Information Communication Technology, with two lessons per week that allow you to dive deep into the latest digital innovations.

Key Topics Covered:

- **Databases with Access and SQL** – Unlock the power of databases as you design, set up, and use them to turn raw data into valuable insights.
- **Representing Images, Text, and Sound** – Ever wondered how your favourite videos and music are processed? Discover the fascinating science behind digital media!
- **Coding in Python** – Take your coding skills to the next level! Whether you're a beginner or already have some experience, this module will challenge and excite you.
- **Networks and Website Design** – Explore the world of digital networks and create your very own professional website using Dreamweaver.

- **App Design** – Imagine creating an app that helps you ace your IGCSE revision! You'll design and simulate your very own app to make revision more fun and effective.

Opportunities for Progression:

This course will lay the foundation for an exciting future in tech, giving you the skills to go on to study:

- IGCSE Computer Science
- IGCSE ICT
- Or both, plus the chance to keep expanding your skills during Year 9! Get ready to immerse yourself in the digital world!



Theatre Performance: First Steps

Step into the dynamic world of theatre with **Theatre Performance: First Steps**, a course designed to ignite your creativity, enhance your skills, and immerse you in the multifaceted art of drama.

In this course, students will:

- **Explore Key Theatre Roles:** Discover the responsibilities and artistry behind performers, directors, and designers.
- **Create Original Performances:** Collaborate with peers to devise and perform innovative group theatre pieces.

- **Perform and Analyse Scripted Theatre:** Bring characters to life through the study and performance of scripted scenes.
- **Master Monologues:** Hone your individual acting skills by performing powerful monologues from published plays.

Is This Course Right for You?

You'll thrive in Theatre Performance if you:

- Have a passion for the performing arts and storytelling.
- Enjoy working collaboratively in a creative, team-oriented environment.
- Are curious about deepening your knowledge of theatre as an academic discipline.
- Are open-minded and ready to take creative risks in a supportive setting.

Whether you're dreaming of the spotlight, eager to understand the mechanics of a production, or simply passionate about self-expression, this course will inspire and prepare you for future creative opportunities.



Enterprise: Ignite Your Potential

Enterprise is an exciting and practical subject that prepares students with essential skills for the modern world. Through this elective, students dive into key areas such as business planning, marketing strategies, financial management, and creative problem-solving. With a focus on real-world projects, Enterprise encourages entrepreneurial thinking, innovation, and collaboration. From brainstorming business ideas to pitching products, students build confidence, teamwork, and communication skills that are invaluable across all career paths. This course also lays a strong foundation for further studies in business, economics, or management. By fostering critical thinking, adaptability, and decision-making, Enterprise equips students to tackle future challenges with resilience and creativity. Packed with practical knowledge and life skills, it inspires initiative and empowers students to think outside the box—preparing them for success, whatever their ambitions may be.



Visual Arts: Unlock Your Creativity

In this course, students will:

- Create original art pieces inspired by a specific theme.
- Develop ideas through research, demonstrating a critical understanding of artistic influences and sources.
- Experiment with a range of media, materials, techniques, and processes to refine their work.

- Record ideas, observations, and progress in a sketchbook or digital format.
- Produce a personal and meaningful final piece that reflects their artistic vision and understanding of visual language. Students will also gain valuable skills in presenting a professional digital portfolio of their work.

This course is perfect for you if you...

- Love sketching, painting, and bringing your creative ideas to life.
- Are excited to explore new techniques in printmaking, sculpture, and digital art.
- Want to expand your knowledge of art and design while discovering your unique style.
- Are open-minded, adventurous, and ready to embrace artistic challenges.

Visual Arts offers a dynamic, hands-on experience that nurtures your creativity and prepares you for future studies in art and design. Let your imagination lead the way!



Musical Performance: First Steps in Music

In this exciting course, students will:

- Explore a variety of musical genres, from classical to contemporary.
- Dive into the rich history of music and its cultural significance.
- Experiment with cutting-edge music technology to create and produce sound.

- Develop skills in improvisation and composition, bringing their musical ideas to life.
- Perform regularly in class and at school assemblies, building confidence and stage presence. This course is open to all students, regardless of prior musical experience or skill level.

This course is perfect for you if you...

- Love listening to and creating music, whether through improvisation or composition.
- Are eager to explore new techniques and tools in music technology.
- Want to expand your understanding of music and develop your talents further.
- Embrace challenges with an open-minded attitude and a willingness to take creative risks.

Musical Performance offers a supportive and inspiring environment where you can express yourself, grow as a musician, and share your passion for music with others. Let your musical journey begin!



Sports, Health and Exercise Science

This dynamic course combines practical activities with theoretical study, offering students a comprehensive introduction to the world of sports science. The course is divided into 40% theory and 60% practical, allowing students to gain hands-on experience while exploring key concepts.

Key Topics Covered:

- **Basic Anatomy & Physiology** – Understanding how the human body functions and adapts to exercise.
- **Health & Training** – Exploring the importance of physical activity for overall well-being and performance.
- **Fitness Components & Testing** – Learning about different fitness components and conducting assessments to evaluate physical capabilities.
- **Social Aspects of Sport** – Investigating the role of sport in society, including its impact on culture, community, and youth development.
- **Technology in Sport** – Examining how technology enhances performance and training, from wearables to advanced sports equipment.

This course provides students with a solid foundation in sports science, perfect for those interested in pursuing careers in sports, fitness, health, and exercise science.

The Practical Activities will be graded out of 20 marks each and will include the following:

Athletics / Cross Country	Football
Fitness	Basketball
Rounders	Badminton
Volleyball	Table tennis

Plus you will have the added option to provide your one of your own external sports as evidence for marking from the following:

Horse Riding	Golf
Skiing	Rugby
Snowboarding	Gymnastics
Tennis	Dance

Candidates who elect for this course must be committed to personal physical development in their activities in and outside school and be able to demonstrate good attitudes in both components of theory and practical.

Next Steps

What Should I do now?

I know which TWO electives I want to take:

If you know which electives you want to take, then submit the **electronic electives form**. Remember, you need to choose three electives in order or preference. (The third choice is in case we are not able to accommodate your first two choices.)

I am not sure which electives I want to take:

You can speak to the relevant Head of Department (see below) or Ms. Byrne if you want more help regarding which electives are right for you. Remember, you are not committing to any IGCSE choices at this time so if you are not sure, choose two subjects you would enjoy doing for the next year. If you are not sure if an elective is right for you, you can also speak to your class teachers

Once you have made your choices, then submit the **electronic electives form**.

The deadline for submitting the electronic form is **Tuesday, 17th March**, but we encourage early submissions once you're ready.

Here to help you

Ms Laura Byrne (laura.byrne@aloha-college.com) Head of Key Stage 3

Mr Craig Scott (craig.scott@aloha-college.com) - Head of Creative Arts

Ms Caroline Metcalf (caroline.metcalf@aloha-college.com) - Head of Computing and Technology

Mr Steve Toal (steve.toal@aloha-college.com) - Head of Physical Education

Ms Juliette Robinson (juliette.robinson@aloha-college.com) - Head of Individuals and Societies



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