



# Bower Park Academy



Our vision is to **strive for excellence** to transform the life chances for all.

Through **determination and resilience**, every child will excel to obtain **outstanding outcomes** across a breadth of **experiences**.

Students will develop into **well rounded valued citizens**, ready and equipped for a future world, and embracing a love of life.





# The Options Process

**Aspire to Achieve, Enjoy and Excel**



# Core Curriculum - compulsory subjects



English Language GCSE

English Literature GCSE

Mathematics GCSE



Double Award Science x 2 GCSEs

French (all but intervention group)

Core Physical Education (non examined)



History OR Geography



## 2 FREE choices – TOP TIPS



Choose courses that you enjoy

Choose courses you are interested or talented in – where you have a good chance of attaining your aspirational target grade

Choose a broad and balanced range of subjects

Consider aspirational choices

Consider the type of course

Consider any GCSEs essential for your career choice but remember plans can change!

Ask questions so you can make informed choices





# Timetable for the Process

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March** – Options Booklet distributed

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April** – Options Online to be completed

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June** – Options confirmed.



**PLEASE NOTE that you may not automatically get the subjects you choose!**



**Some subjects can accept only a limited number of students and if too few students choose a subject it will not run.**

**You must select two reserve choices which you would be happy to study!**



**N.B. There should be minimal option changes after this point.**



# The English Baccalaureate

## Why study the EBacc subjects?



## An indication of Academic ability



*The EBacc subjects are known as facilitating subjects. These are the subjects most commonly required or preferred by universities to get on to a range of degree courses.*



To achieve the EBacc students must opt for:

- French
- History or Geography





# Why Languages matter



You'll be competing against people who have an additional language

Improve your skills and grades in Mathematics and English at GCSE

Skills like problem solving and dealing with abstract concepts are increased

Expand your world view and make foreign travel easier

Be better at multitasking (make fewer errors when driving!)

You'll be more employable

Add between 10-15% to your salary

Have all University options open to you

Enhance your opportunities in a range of careers e.g. business, medicine, law, technology, military, marketing, etc.





# The Options Form



History	Geography	French
Religious Education	Drama	Dance
Performing Arts	Health and Social Care	Computer Science
Physical Education	Design and Technology	Food and Nutrition
Construction	Art	Music



# Selecting your options – part 1 of 2



Go to <https://office.com>

Sign in with your school email address and your school password

Click on Outlook to open your email

Find the email from [noreply@sims.co.uk](mailto:noreply@sims.co.uk) and click on “click this link”

Sign in with Office 365 using your school email address and password

You **may** be asked to confirm your date of birth





# Selecting your options – part 2 of 2



A screen should appear showing your name, signed in with and your Invitation code

Click on Register

Your account will then activate

Once activated go to [www.sims-online.co.uk](http://www.sims-online.co.uk) and log in using either Microsoft or Office. **DO NOT USE SIMS ID** as that is for school staff only



Once you have clicked on 4 subjects select your 2 reserve choices by clicking on the reserve button beside the subject you wish to choose. Make sure you click **Save** when you have finished

Email [howardk@bowerpark.co.uk](mailto:howardk@bowerpark.co.uk) if you have any problems





## Bronze Award

The bronze award lasts for 6 months and gives you opportunities to gain quality skills through work and personal goals.



The award is split into 4 sections to be completed:

**Volunteering 25%**

**Physical 25%**

**Skill 25%**

**Expedition 25%**

- ▶ The DofE is the world's leading youth achievement award.
- ▶ Gives you the opportunity to be the very best you can be.
- ▶ The award has been shown to make people stand out from the crowd when it comes to job and university applications.
- ▶ Develops leaderships and teamwork skills.





# Own your learning; own your future

You are hardworking, highly motivated and contribute fully to learning.

You are enthusiastic and co-operative with staff and collaborate very effectively.

You take full responsibility for your own learning, show perseverance, meet all deadlines and complete work to the very best of your ability.

You respond to all feedback given to improve your work.

You complete research, preparation and home learning thoroughly and are fully equipped for lessons.

