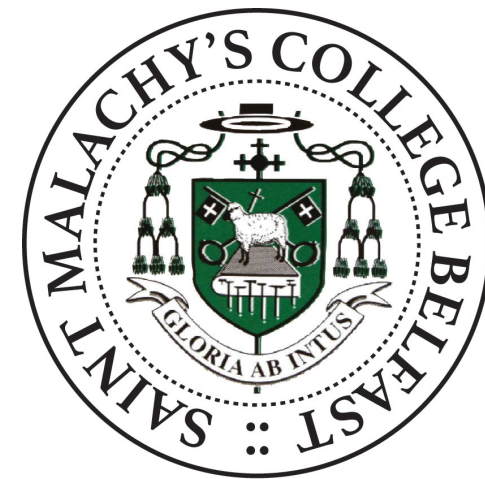




Year 10 GCSE Subject Choices

Parent Information Session

4th March 2024





Year 10 GCSE Subject Choice Process

- Year 10 students will choose the subjects they wish to study on top of the compulsory subjects at GCSE
- This will be a choice of 1, 2 or 3 additional subjects
- The number of subjects chosen by each student will be impacted upon by their study of Triple, Double or Single Award Science
- There are other contributing factors, which Mrs Graham will outline later in the presentation





Why is Careers Important?

- Prompts you to begin important thought processes
- Informs the choices you are making
- Introduces you to options that you may not otherwise have known you had
- Directs you to crucial information
- Helps to potentially eradicate wrong choices **before you make them**





Things to Consider

- Career aspirations
- Current labour market
- Student's interests/passions
- Current areas of success
- Skills development
- Maintaining a broad range of subjects

- NI Skills Barometer - <https://www.economy-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/economy/Skills-Barometer-2021-Summary-Report.pdf>



S.T.E.M

S = Science (e.g. Biomedical Scientist)

T = Technology (e.g. Computer Network Architect)

E = Engineering (e.g. Mechanical Engineer)

M = Mathematics (e.g. Accountant)



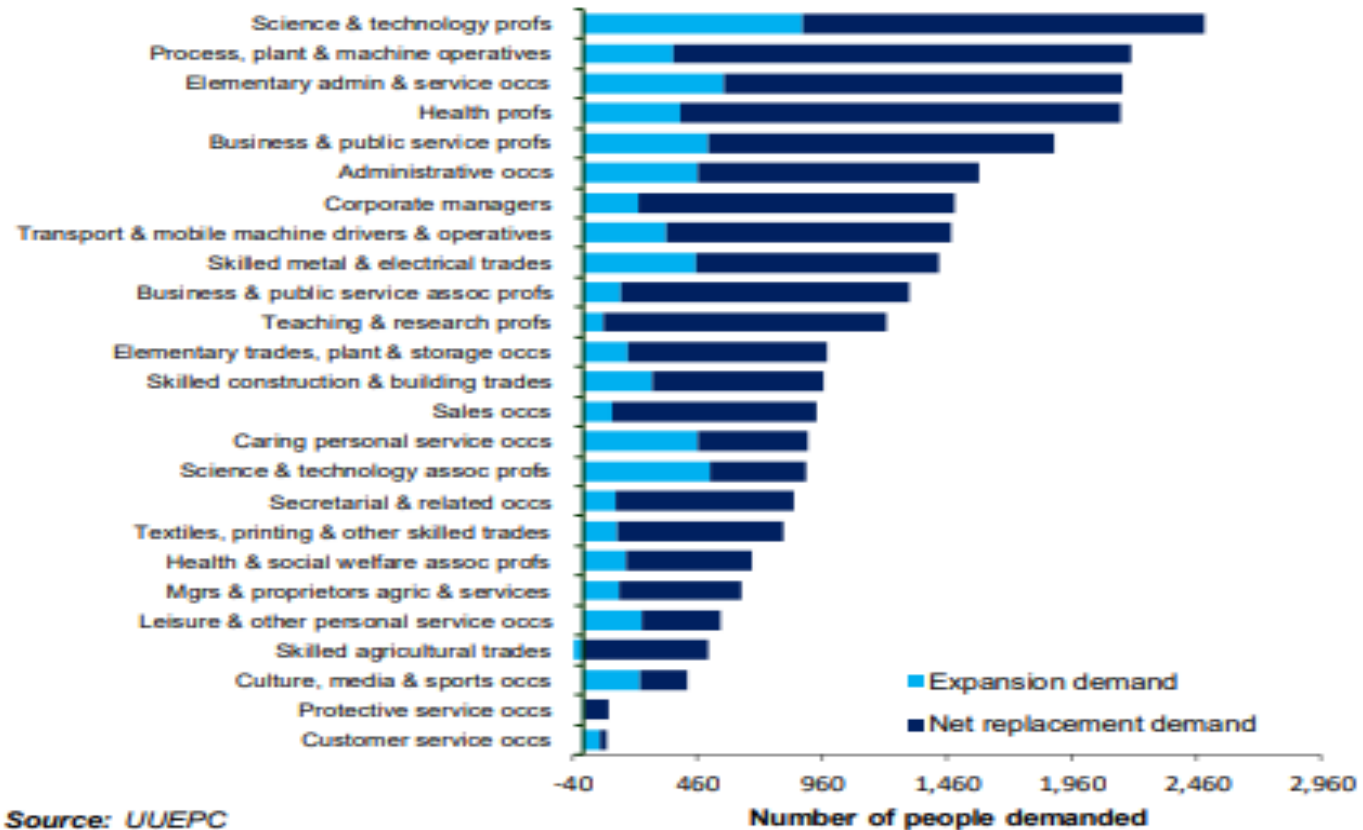
Traditional Subjects/Careers

- Traditional academic subjects like History, Geography, etc are still as relevant in 2024 as they ever have been
- Despite a huge emphasis on STEM, these subjects continue to be imperative in preparing students effectively for a competitive labour market (skills development)
- Replacement demand means continued employment prospects in the traditional sectors supplied by St Malachy's College students
 - E.g. Legal professions, teaching, architecture, dentistry, medicine etc
- Students shouldn't feel obliged to move into a STEM related field
- They should, however, be aware of the competitive job market in many of these sectors and prepare themselves by developing employable skills



Current Labour Market

Figure 3.3: Annual average net requirement by occupation (expansion and replacement demand), NI, 2020-2030

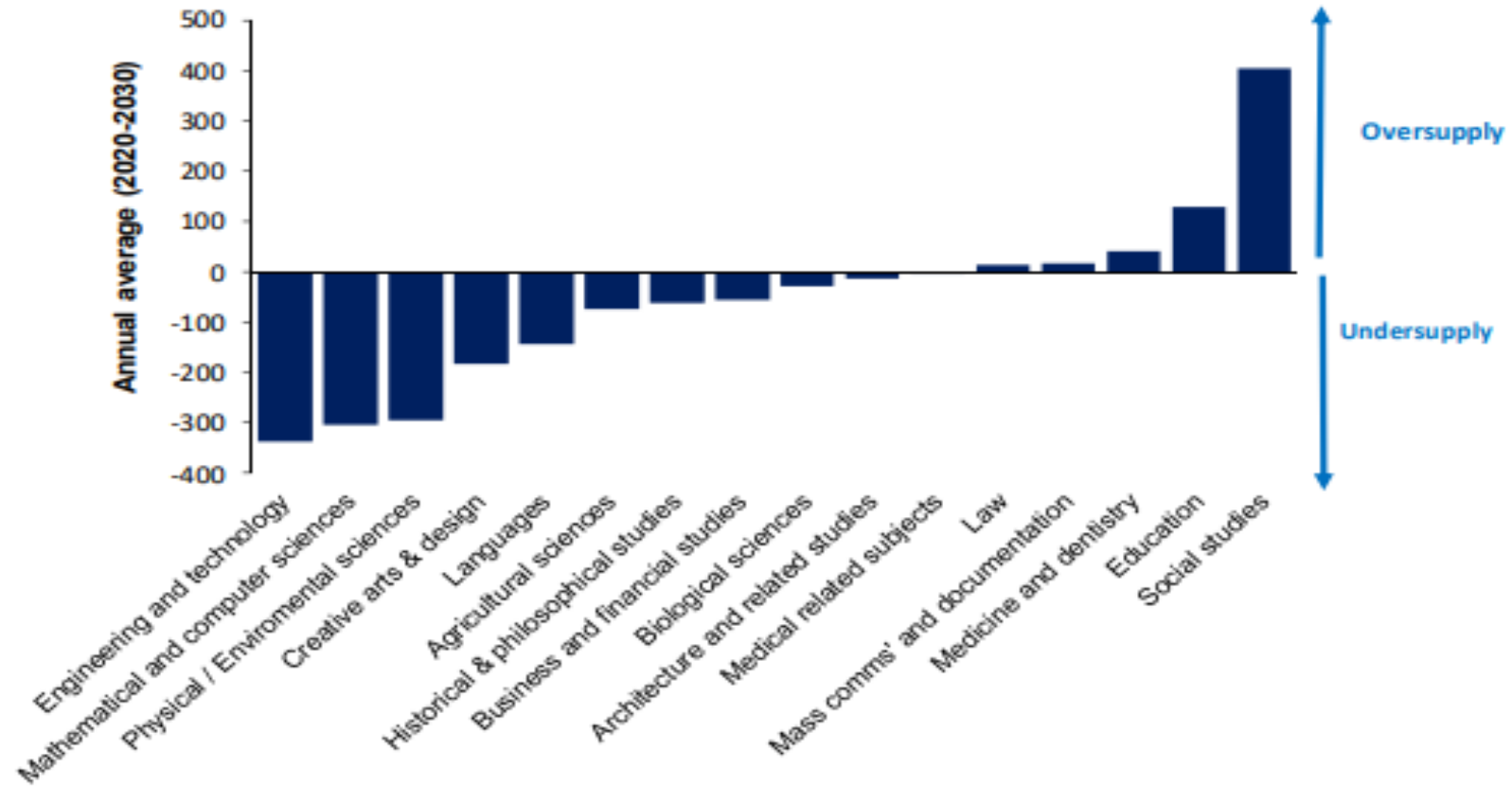


Source: UUEPC



Current Labour Market

Figure 6.2: Average annual labour market supply gap by NQF level 6+ subject (JACS 1-digit), 2020-2030



Source: HESA, UUEPC



Current Labour Market

SUBJECTS

IN DEMAND

STEM related subjects will be in most demand reflecting the anticipated growth in the ICT, professional services and advanced manufacturing sectors. STEM qualifications will also be demanded by a wider range of sectors across the economy.

More people needed with degrees in:

Engineering and
technology

Mathematical and
computer sciences

Physical /
environmental
sciences

Creative arts
and design

Languages

1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9



10



Agricultural
sciences

Historical and
philosophical studies

Business and
financial studies

Biological
sciences

Architecture and
related studies



Current Labour Market

The STEM related subjects are the most undersupplied, particularly Engineering & Technology, Mathematics & Computer Science and Physical/Environmental Sciences. This is consistent with the findings in previous NI Skills Barometer iterations. The trend reflects the growth in the ICT, professional services and advanced manufacturing sectors in the high growth scenario driving demand for qualifications in computer science and engineering subjects. This is also evident when analysing supply gaps using more granular subject classifications. The largest supply gaps are recorded in computer science, physics and chemistry.

An important point to note is that if a subject area is over-supplied, it does not necessarily mean that a young person should not study in that subject area, particularly if they have a strong interest or aptitude in the subject. However, it is important to communicate areas of over and under supply to young people **to ensure that informed decisions are made** relating to their chosen degree subject.



Interests/Passions

- Try to ensure that your interests and passions are reflected in your subject choices
- Don't restrict yourself solely to subjects linked to labour market trends
- Convey a sense of who you are in your subject choices
- Is there a subject/s that reflects your personal interests like Art, Business Studies, History, Travel and Tourism or PE?



Current Areas of Success

- You want to ensure that you are as successful as possible in your GCSE studies
- Therefore, try to select some subjects where you have a track record of success
- A subject where you have developed the skills required to ensure successful further study

**Employability
skills which
employers will
require:**

Customer skills

Communication

Organisation

Commercial awareness

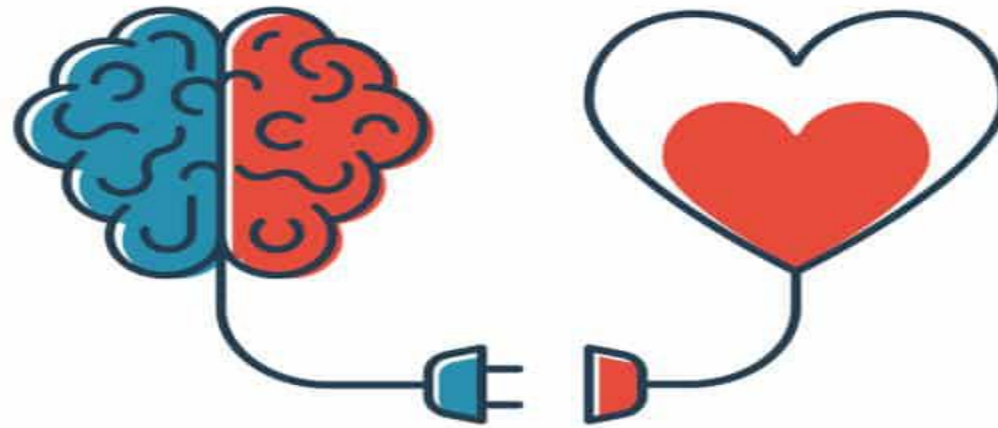


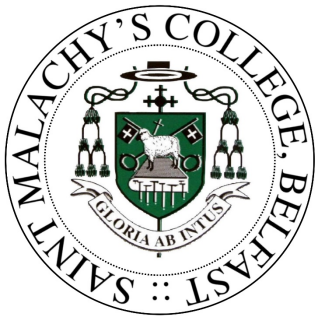
Broad Range of Subjects

- Try to show potential future employers that you have a broad range of skills when they look at your CV
- Can you demonstrate:
 - Success in a language?
 - Team work?
 - Problem solving?
 - Business knowledge?
 - Digital skills?
- Facilitating Subjects are quite popular selections to back up STEM subjects e.g. **History** is highlighted by the Russell Group of universities as a subject that facilitates successful university level study



Head and Heart Approach



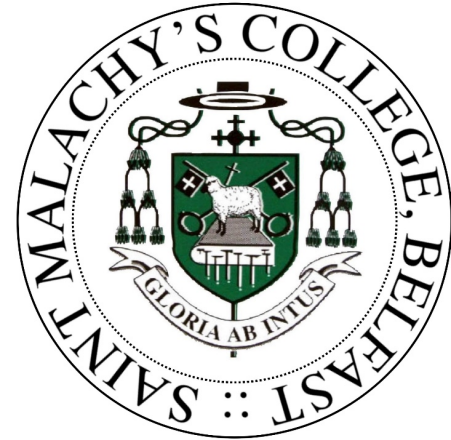


St. Malachy's College GCSE Choice Process 2024

Mrs L Graham
Vice Principal Curriculum

Compulsory subjects

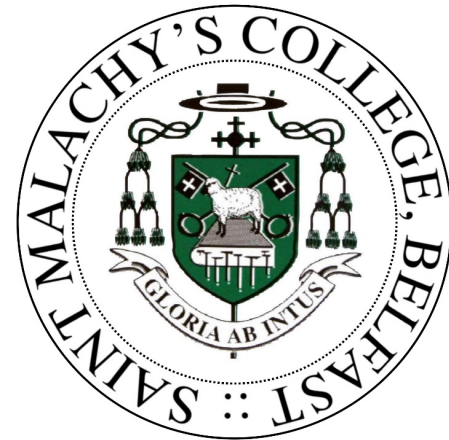
- **English language**
- **English literature**
- **Mathematics**
- **Religious Education**
- **Most Students take 9 GCSEs, however some study Further Maths - which is a 10th !**



Subject Choices

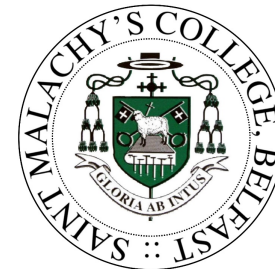
- to be submitted using a Google Form

- Decision 1
- Decision 2
- Decision 3



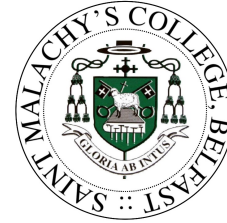
Decision 1- Science

- **Double Award (Most Students)**
- **Triple Award Science ****
- **Single Award Science ****
- **Communication from HODs/
teachers giving direction**



Decision 2- Languages

- **French**
- **Spanish**
- **Irish**
- **Gaeilge**



One or two ?

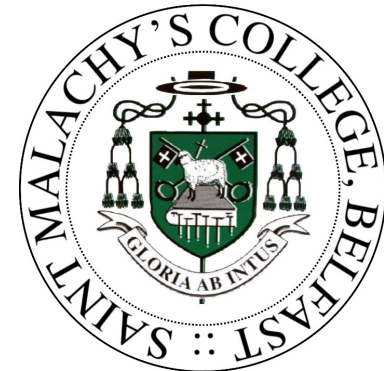
Guidance from HODs providing guidance in a small number of cases

Decision 3- Options

Triple science & language : one choice

Double award & language : two choices

Single science & language : three choices



Year 10 GCSE Subject Choice Guide 2024

Name: _____ Reg Group: _____

All students study the CORE Subjects: Religious Studies, English Language, English Literature and Mathematics (and Further Mathematics).

Core Subjects

Religious Studies	<input type="checkbox"/>	English Literature	<input type="checkbox"/>
English Language	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mathematics	<input type="checkbox"/>

Students should choose a Science from the box below:

Science Subjects**

Triple Award Science – Biology, Chemistry & Physics (counts as 3 GCSE choices)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Double Award Science – Combination of Biology, Chemistry and Physics (counts as 2 GCSE choices)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Single Award Science - Combination of Biology, Chemistry and Physics (counts as 1 GCSE choice)	<input type="checkbox"/>

Students should choose a language from the box below (2 can be chosen if preferred):

Languages**

French	<input type="checkbox"/>	Irish	<input type="checkbox"/>
Spanish	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gaeilge	<input type="checkbox"/>

Students should make their remaining choices from the box below. The total number of GCSE choices should not exceed 9.

Additional Choices – Please refer to the GCSE Options Booklet, carefully read the advice given regarding skills and abilities best suited to ensure success in certain GCSE subjects.

Art and Design		History	
Business and Communication Studies		Leisure, Travel and Tourism	
Business Studies		Learning for Life and Work	
Computer Science		● Motor Vehicle and Road User Studies	
● Digital Technology (Multimedia)		Moving Image Arts	
Drama		Music	
Food and Nutrition (HE)		Physical Education	
Geography		Technology and Design	
● Health and Social Care			

** Please seek further advice and direction from individual Science and Language teachers or Heads of Department.

BACs



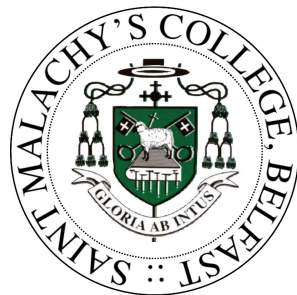
I.C.T.



New Subjects at GCSE

- **Business & Communication Systems (BACS)- Mrs Kerr, Miss Doherty**
- **Business Studies - Mrs Kerr**
- **Leisure & Tourism - Mr Douglas**
- **Learning for Life & Work (LLW) - Ms Marcus**
- **MIA - Art teachers**
- **Science - all science teachers**
- **Gaeilge - Irish teachers**
- **Digital Technology (ICT)- Mr Crozier, Mr McKillen, Mrs Riddell & Miss Doherty**
- **Computer Science - Mr McKillen/ Mrs Riddell**
- **Health & Social Care - HE Teachers / Mrs Irwin**
- **Motor Vehicle & Road User Studies - Options Booklet/ CCEA website**

Options Booklet & Tonight's Presentation



www.stmalachyscollege.com

**Also shared via Google Classroom and
Parent App.**



Section 1 of 14

St. Malachy's College : Year 10 2024 Subject Choice Form

This form must be used by all Year 10 students to communicate which subjects they wish to study at GCSE in September 2024. Choices must be made wisely, identifying areas of strength and subjects where success in 2026 is guaranteed.

As outlined in the Choices presentation by Mr Johnston and Mrs Graham, after the Compulsory Core Subjects are assigned (English Language, Literature, Mathematics and RE) each student has three more decisions to make.

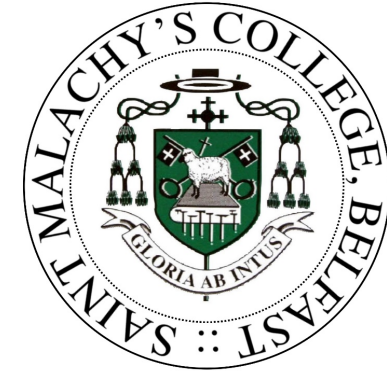
1. Science choice
2. Language Choice
3. Other Options

It must be highlighted, that these choices will be reviewed by the Heads of Department from each area, and further guidance will be given, if current attainment within a particular subject is poor.

Finally, depending on numbers, class sizes and staffing, some courses may not run or alternatively if courses are oversubscribed, a criteria based upon previous performance will be used to make sure that the class size is correct.

If further guidance is required, do not hesitate to contact Mrs Graham (VP) Igraham269@c2ken.net, or Mr Johnston (HOY & Careers) cjohnston320@c2ken.net.

Subject Choices - Google Form



Deadline
Friday 22 March 2024

Contact Details

Mr C Johnston
Careers & Head of Year 10

Cjohnston320@c2ken.net

Mrs L Graham
Vice Principal Curriculum
Choices/Timetable

lgraham269@c2ken.net

