



THE MOUNTBATTEN SCHOOL



Year 8 Mini-Options 2025 - 2026



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KEY DATES

Thursday 27 February 2025	Mini-Options Evening for Year 8 Parents, Carers & Students, 6pm – 7pm
Friday 28 February 2025	Mini-Options Assembly for Year 8 Students
Friday 28 February 2025	Year 8 students will receive an email into their school inbox with a link and web-code to use to log into their mini options account
Friday 28 February 2025	Parents will receive an email with a link to the Year 8 Mini Options webpage displaying subject information and the mini options booklet which gives details on how to complete the process
Monday 24 March 2025	Deadline for competition of Year 8 Mini-Options - Closes end of day
	Within 2 weeks of mini options closing parents will be emailed a link to confirm they have seen and approve their child's options choices

Please note we are no longer using SIMS Options that we have used in the past, we are now using **Edval Education**.

Year 8 Mini-Options 2025 -2026

What are your choices?

Compulsory Subjects:

English, Mathematics, Science, PE and Mandarin - if selected as a language in Year 7

Option Subjects:

Student will be asked to select five subjects in total from the following blocks:

Ebacc Subjects	All Subjects Block
French (if studied in Year 8)	Art
Geography	Computing
History	Drama
Mandarin (if studied in Year 8)	Food Technology
Spanish (if studied in Year 8)	Graphics (DT)
	Music
	Religious Studies
	Resistant Materials (DT)
	Textiles (DT)

Students may only select one DT (Design and Technology) subject.

Students' pathways will determine how many 'Ebacc subjects' and how many 'All Subjects' they will need to select from once they have logged on.

Restricted Subject Combinations

Students may **NOT**:

- Study **French, Mandarin or Spanish** if they have **NOT** studied it in **Year 8**
- Choose more than **one** language - **Students MUST have studied the matching language in Year 8 to be able to choose this on the language pathway**
- Choose more than **one** subject from the DT pathway, which include: Graphics, Resistant Materials and Textiles

Student Guidance to Completing the Options Process

1. All students will receive an email with an individual code that allows them access to the site.

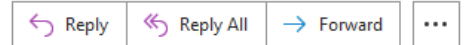
Log onto your school Google email account and look for an email from 'The Mountbatten School' with the subject of 'Y8 Mini Options'.

Y8 Mini Options



Options
To: Options

Retention Policy 7 Year Email Retention



Fri 21/02/2025 11:26

Expires on 20/02/2032

Welcome to The Mountbatten School Y8 Mini Options process. For subject information and further support in completing the process, please visit <https://mountbatten.school/year8minioptions>.

STEP 1: Click <https://my.edval.education/login>

STEP 2: Enter the following WebCode: *****

STEP 3: Select subjects you want, in order of your **preference** (Important).

STEP 4: Click **Submit**.

For any queries please refer to the options booklet or speak to your Tutor.

Kind regards

Ms Jarvis

2. When you click on the link in Step 1 it will take you to a login page where you need to enter your unique webcode.

tes Timetable Daily
Powered by edval

Sign in to your account

Enter WebCode

Stay signed in for 30 days ⚠️ [Forgot WebCode?](#)

Sign in

- Once signed in please check you name is correct in the top right-hand corner before clicking on Y8 Mini Options 2025

Y8 MINI OPTIONS 2025

Open for submission

- Select your band and your 5 option choices by clicking on each drop down. Please also ensure you add 2 reserve subjects. The 'Notes' and 'Rules' to the right-hand side explain the 'Restricted Subject Combinations'. When you have finished selecting your choices, please click the green Submit button at the bottom.

Y8 Mini Options - 9X2

Main Units	Subject	Units	
Band	<input type="text" value="No selection"/>	0	
Ebaac Subjects	<input type="text" value="No selection"/>	0	
Ebaac Subjects	<input type="text" value="No selection"/>	0	
All Subjects	<input type="text" value="No selection"/>	0	
All Subjects	<input type="text" value="No selection"/>	0	
All Subjects	<input type="text" value="No selection"/>	0	
Total		0	

Reserve Units	Subject
Reserve 1	<input type="text" value="No selection"/>
Reserve 2	<input type="text" value="No selection"/>
Ti	

5. You will then be presented with the following confirmation screen.

Choice Peter Pan (Test student Yr9) ▾

Y8 Mini Options - 9X2

Student name: Peter Pan (Test student Yr9) (DUMMY!9)
Notes: Your choices are registered.
Submitted date: Fri 21 Feb 2025 11:18:54

Main units

Main Units	Subject	Units
XF	X Band	3
Ge	Geography	1
Fr	French	1
Ar	Art	1
Fd	Food	1
Mu	Music	1

Total units: 8

Reserve units

Reserve Units	Subject	Units
Co	Computing	1
Hi	History	1

It is very important students select five option choices, along with two reserve choices. The system will not allow the choices to be submitted without these choices being made.

We request that the students choose their option choices themselves; parents/carers should not select them on behalf of students. Once submitted students will receive an email confirming their five option choices and their two reserve choices, please keep this safe as parents/carers will be sent an email, after the closing date, asking them to confirm they have seen and approved the option choices for their child.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Why have a Mini-Options process in Year 8?

We allow our students to opt for a reduced number of subjects to allocate more curriculum time for subjects they choose. Mini-options should not be seen as making final GCSE selections, rather a chance to focus on subjects of particular interest. All students continue to follow a broad and balanced curriculum.

2. What is the EBACC?

The EBacc is a combination of subjects that the government has suggested can support students who wish to progress on an academic route such as A-levels and then university. In order for students to have achieved the EBacc they **must** have studied English, Mathematics, two sciences (double or two individuals, including Computer Science), History or Geography (**NOT Religious Studies**), and a language. Any subject that can contribute towards this combination is defined as an EBacc subject, hence the EBacc block. Taking the EBacc provides students with a good basis for a broad and balanced curriculum that supports many students to be prepared for any future study. You should be aware that some universities, particularly Russell Group universities, have a requirement for some EBacc subjects at GCSE in order to be accepted on certain courses. If in doubt you should check with the universities themselves.

3. How many GCSE's are students likely to do? How many Options are there in Year 9?

The majority of students will study 9 or 10 GCSEs. All students will study English Language, English Literature and Mathematics. The most-able Scientists will do Triple Science (Chemistry, Physics and Biology) and the remainder will study Double Science (the three sciences in two GCSEs). This will leave students with four option subjects, which they must select from a list. We also try to offer some after school options that students may take in addition. We find that this is a good balance in terms of enough subjects to keep their education broad whilst not over committing them. In Year 9 students start by selecting five option subjects.

4. Is it possible to take a subject at GCSE if you have not opted for it in Year 9?

The intention of the mini-options process is for students to spend more time in Year 9 working on the subjects they are most likely to take at GCSE. What we are really asking is 'what are the subjects you do NOT want to take at GCSE' and drop those; you will then be left with those you can select from for GCSE. Students will not be able to pick up subjects in Year 10 that they did not choose for Year 9.

5. Are reserve choices important?

Reserves are extremely important. We do all we can to meet all requests – but we cannot always accommodate all first choices. For example: there will be restrictions on Design Technology and Food Technology due to rooming, staffing and capacity – if oversubscribed all students will be considered equally when making allocations.

6. How does the comments box at the end of the Options form work?

The comments box should be used for non-urgent information. Please do not rely on the comments box to explain why forms are incomplete. Please email or telephone the school about all issues that result in incomplete forms, **before the deadline**, otherwise the form will be considered as incomplete and dealt with as such.

7. Do I get first choice if I get my options form in early?

No. There is no priority given to students who complete the options form earlier than others do. All options **MUST** be completed by end of day **Monday 24 March 2025**.

8. I cannot take the combination of subjects I want to take, what can I do?

In some cases, combinations of subjects have been made available to some students and not to others. This is because, as discussed at the Mini-Options Evening, we have reviewed each student's progress and students have a personalised offer to support their individual needs. Our experience tells us that this combination is the best one to support you to fulfil your potential in the future. If you would like any further support then please see your tutor in the first instance.

9. Do students stay in the same band (X or Y)?

At the end of Year 8 we take the opportunity to review the bands students are in. This enables us to make decisions to both support student progress and to enable us to offer as many students as possible their preferred options. There will therefore be changes to bands.

10. How do I find out more about the GCSE subjects?

Full details of the subjects at GCSE are available by clicking on the links at the top of each option block. You may also wish to discuss specific option subjects with subject teachers.

11. Which subjects in the Year 8 Mini-Options support which Year 9 GCSE Options?

The table below provides information about the Year 9 GCSE Options subjects and which Year 8 mini-options subject should be taken in order to support taking a GCSE in that subject. In addition, you will see that some subjects are not dependent on the Year 8 Mini-Options.

Year 9 GCSE Option Subject	Year 8 Mini-Option Subject that MUST be Selected
Art – Fine Art	Art must be selected as a mini-option
Art – Textiles/3D Design	Art must be selected as a mini-option
Art - Photography	Art must be selected as a mini-option
Computing	Computing
Drama	Drama
DT: Fibres & Textiles	DT: Fibres & Textiles
DT: Paper & Boards (Graphics)	DT: Paper & Boards (Graphics)
DT: Timbers (Resistant Materials)	DT: Timbers (Resistant Materials)
Food & Nutrition/Food & Cookery	Food
French	French
Geography	Geography
History	History
Mandarin taken from Year 7	Mandarin taken from Year 7
Music GCSE/BTEC Music	Music
Religious Studies	Religious Studies
Spanish	Spanish
Business Studies	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> <p>These subjects can be chosen for GCSE regardless of the Year 8 Mini-Options chosen</p> </div>
Economics	
Media Studies	
PE GCSE/Sports Studies	
Statistics	

The Mountbatten School Key Contacts

Nature of query	Contact
General queries about options	Your child's tutor in the first instance, marking it for their attention at: info@mountbatten.school
General queries requiring further support on the option process	Ms Elaine Jarvis options@mountbatten.school
Subject specific questions	Subject Teachers/Leaders info@mountbatten.school
Careers advice, guidance and interviews	Mrs Sindy Shakya sindy.shakya@mountbatten.school
Head of Year 8 (option queries only)	Mr Purdy options@mountbatten.school
Overseeing the options process/Assistant Headteacher	Mr Ian Dunn options@mountbatten.school
Any IT queries	IT Services on itservices@mountbatten.school