

FAQs Pathways Process

After History/Geography, why does my son/daughter have to choose 3 subjects if he/she will only do 2 of them?

Although students will study 2 subjects from the choices available, we ask students to pick 3 (in rank order) to enable us to make sure they get the subjects they want. Most students will study the top two choices they pick. Occasionally, we cannot offer students both of their first choices. This might be because a subject is over subscribed or not enough students choose it so it cannot run. If this happens and we cannot offer your son/daughter both of their first two choices, we will give them priority for their third choice.

What happens if a subject is oversubscribed?

If more students choose a subject in their first two choices than we have places for we will give priority to students who picked it as first choice. For the remaining places available we will randomly select students who chose it as second choice. For any students who didn't get selected, they will be given priority for their third choice.

My son/daughter has been invited to the ICT Pathway but wants to take a language.

The pathways are set up so that if a student is on the ICT Pathway, they can take either their KS3 language or German from scratch as one of their pathway choices.

My son/daughter has been invited to the ICT Pathway but wants to take a language and does not want to study ICT. Can he/she change pathway?

The pathway recommendations were based on lots of different factors, including aptitude and previous WAD data. Languages can be challenging and college entry requirements now consider all grades. If your son/daughter is interested and passionate in a language this is great. If they wish to study other subjects that are not including ICT we would need to move them to the MFL pathway. To do this, we need to have a written request (letter or email) that they wish to move from the ICT pathway to the MFL with the reasons for this included.

My son/daughter has been invited to the MFL pathway but he/she finds languages very difficult.

Your son/daughter has been recommended to follow the MFL pathway based on their aptitude and previous WAD data. Learning a language can be challenging but there is lots of support available and the course is set up to support students of all abilities and learning needs.

Language learning promotes resilience, independence and an ability to problem solve; all skills that are widely recognised and sought after by top colleges and universities. A GCSE in a language opens doors by showcasing academic perseverance and educational diligence, helps students to understand their own language with more depth and to build an intrinsic motivation to explore and respect other cultures and people.

My son/daughter has been invited to the MFL Pathway but wants to take ICT.

The pathways are set up so that if a student is on the MFL Pathway, they can take either ICT or Computer Science as one of their pathway choices.

My son/daughter has been invited to the MFL Pathway but wants to take ICT and 2 other subjects.

The pathway recommendations were based on lots of different factors, including aptitude and previous WAD data. Language learning promotes resilience, independence and an ability to problem solve; all skills that are widely recognised and sought after by top colleges and universities and we want as many opportunities to be open to your son/daughter after they leave Wildern. By not taking a language, they may be disadvantaged in the future and the opportunities available to them may be restricted.

If after considering all the courses on offer and the strong reasons for learning a language, your son/daughter wishes to study other subjects that are not including MFL we would need to move them to the ICT pathway. To do this, we need to have a written request (letter or email) that they wish to move from the MFL pathway to the ICT with the reasons for this included.

Can my son/daughter take Dance and Drama?

Yes. We encourage students to have a broad and balanced suite of subjects and our core curriculum provides this so students can choose to study the subjects that really interest them, and this includes choosing two arts subjects (Dance, Drama, Music, Art).

Can my son/daughter take Art and Technology?

Yes. We encourage students to have a broad and balanced suite of subjects and our core curriculum provides this so students can choose to study the subjects that really interest them including Art and Design and Technology.

Can my son/daughter take Art and Photography?

No. These are actually specialisms of the same GCSE course so students can only study one of these as part of their broad and balanced suite of subjects. They can rank them both in their choices, but they will only be given one of these.

Can my son/daughter take Design Technology: Textiles and Design Technology: Woods, Metals, Plastics?

No. These are actually specialisms of the same GCSE course so students can only study one of these as part of their broad and balanced suite of subjects. They can rank them both in their choices, but they will only be given one of these.

Can my son/daughter take Food and Nutrition and Design Technology (either specialism)?

No. Due to the high Non Examination Assessment requirements of both these courses in Year 11, students can only study one of these as part of their broad and balanced suite of subjects. They can rank them both in their choices, but they will only be given one of these.