

Making Educated Choices



Are you feeling like any of the pictures on the previous slide?

- It is an important decision but.....
- The choices that the students make now are probably not life changing.
- There are very few doors that can be closed between KS3 and KS4
- Lots of our A Levels do not require the student to have done the GCSE. There are some that do, so please look this up.
- In some cases changes can be made if required (there is a deadline for this)

Summary

- Every GCSE subject has equal value – don't dismiss a subject because you think it's not as academic as another.
- Every GCSE subject has lots of transferrable skills.
- They absolutely can choose to do two arts, or two humanities or two languages and there are lots of benefits of doing so.

What does a typical Wally Girl look like?



- Silly question!
- There is no such thing as a typical Wallington Girl
- You do not need to follow a particular path as there is not a right or a wrong one.
- Our students go off to do all sorts of amazing things both professionally and personally.



Course	Number of Students	Course	Number of Students
Accounting/Finance	5	Geography	3
Actuarial Science	3	Global Health/Sustainable Development	4
Aeronautical/Automotive Engineering	2	History	2
Architecture/Architectural Engineering	3	International Management	1
Art Foundation	2	International Relations	2
Biochemistry	4	Law	10
Biomedical sciences/Bioengineering	16	Mathematics	6
Business	4	Material Science and Nuclear Engineering	1
Cardiac Physiology	1	Mechanical Engineering	2
Chemical Engineering	5	Medicine	29
Chemistry	3	Midwifery	1
Civil Engineering	4	Modern Languages	1
Classical Civilisation	3	Natural Sciences	3
Computer Science	8	Neurosciences	1
Criminology	3	Optometry	6
Cybersecurity	1	Pharmacy	12
Data Science	2	Philosophy	3
Dental Nursing	1	Physics	3
Dentistry	4	Physiotherapy	2
Design Engineering	2	Politics/Politics & International Relations	17
Diagnostic Radiology	2	Psychology	10
Drama	1	Radiotherapy & Oncology	1
Economics	11	Robotics & AI	2
Electrical and Electronics Engineering	2	Social Sciences	3
English Literature & Creative Writing	2	Sports Science	1
Film and Television/Media	3	Stage Management	1
Games Art	1		

	2019/20		2020/21		2021/22		2022/23		2023/24		2024/25	
	No of Students	%	No of Students	%	No of Students	%	No of Students	%	No of Students	%	No of Students	%
Oxbridge	4	2	8	3.6	17	6.8	11	4.0	13	6	7	3
Russell Group	110	48	121	55.5	148	59.2	137	52.0	149	64	141	60
Medicine	15	7	44	20.8	31	12.4	38	14.0	35	15	29	12
Other Universities	84	37	23	10.5	71	27.2	40	16.0	88	38	89	38
Apprenticeship	3	1	2	0.9	4	1.6	0	0	3	1	3	1

TRUE = Thumbs Up FALSE = Thumbs Down

If you want to work in the City in a financial role you must have a Maths or Finance degree

FALSE – in fact, the vast majority of “city” jobs do not require Maths, Economics or Finance – including training as an accountant!

TRUE = Thumbs Up FALSE = Thumbs Down

If you want to study medicine you
need to take Biology, Chemistry and
Maths A Level

FALSE – out of 42 UK medicine courses, 24 specify Chemistry
and only 14 specify both Chem & Bio.

TRUE = Thumbs Up FALSE = Thumbs Down

You need Maths A Level to study
Engineering

TRUE – a number of the ‘top’ universities also highly recommend Further Maths so taking this would keep lots of options open for you. Physics is also recommended.

TRUE = Thumbs Up FALSE = Thumbs Down

Arts subjects are only useful if you
want to work in the arts industry

FALSE – arts subjects are hugely valuable – even if you cannot see a career which directly relates to them, they will teach you a wealth of transferable skills. Drama has proven particularly useful for students wishing to get into medicine!

TRUE = Thumbs Up FALSE = Thumbs Down

Film Studies A Level is on the list of
“preferred A Levels” by UCL

TRUE – remember “facilitating subjects” is an
outdated concept and every subject at WHSG is
valuable

TRUE = Thumbs Up FALSE = Thumbs Down

You can get a degree if you do an
apprenticeship

TRUE – a Level 6 apprenticeship (Bachelor degree) means you study whilst also completing your training (and getting a wage!)

TRUE = Thumbs Up FALSE = Thumbs Down

Philosophy, Politics and Economics
are some of the most popular
degree choices for WHSG students

TRUE – this year this group of subjects is the
third most popular (behind Medicine and
Maths/Finance)

TRUE = HEADS

FALSE = TAILS

If you take a non-traditional degree subject such as archaeology you will be limited in career options

FALSE – with the exception of ‘vocational’ careers (medicine, engineer, etc.) the majority of jobs simply require a good degree (2:1 or 1st) from a good university – the subject you do is often less important

TRUE = Thumbs Up FALSE = Thumbs Down

You can become a lawyer without
doing a Law degree

TRUE – You can complete the SQE and 2 years of work experience. Most providers will want a law conversion course.

TRUE = Thumbs Up FALSE = Thumbs Down

Working in the retail sector means low wages

FALSE – a recent advert that ALDI put out for a store manager had a salary of over £58,000. With bonuses a Sainsbury's store manager can earn £90k. Compare that to a doctor completing their speciality training who would average £45,000 and you can see there are lots of jobs with good pay scales. Not every job in retail is about customer service – 'buyers' can earn approx £50,000

Careers Advice

The Careers Department's goal is to provide you with the necessary tools and knowledge to make informed and ambitious choices about your future careers.

Careers Team

Mr Parkinson
Head of Careers



Mrs Levene-Fearnside
Independent Careers Adviser



Mrs L Parkinson
Careers Coordinator



Further Information

We offer a range of services to help you achieve your career goals:

- All students have access to independent careers guidance from a qualified advisor, Mrs Levene-Fearnside. These sessions can take the form of one-to-one or small group meetings.
- Students can access Unifrog, a bespoke further education and careers software where they can research careers, complete self-evaluation tools, and record their current career experiences. www.unifrog.org
- Students can find information on over 1400 careers plus a wealth of advice and information on education and employment choices by visiting www.eclips-online.co.uk (P/W: xecho92)
- The WHSG Careers Noticeboard provides the latest careers opportunities. Here you will find apprenticeship and higher education guides, events and programmes, work experience and volunteering opportunities, careers events, workshops and courses. [WHSG Careers Noticeboard](#).



CAREER RESOURCES



Unifrog is the universal destinations platform and is designed to support learners in making the most informed decisions about their futures. You'll be able to research careers, attend webinars delivered by employers and universities to learn more about their opportunities, and compare pathways so you can support your child in making an informed decision about their next steps.

Visit: www.unifrog.org/code

Sign-up code: **WHSGPARENTS**



•eCLIPS makes careers exploration simple. It offers accurate, impartial information on over 1400 careers plus a wealth of advice and information on education and employment choices. Search for careers by job group, A-Z, school subject or use the Careers Wizard tool.

Visit: www.eclips-online.co.uk

Password: **coepsa90**

The UCAS website serves as a valuable resource for parents assisting their daughters in choosing GCSE options by providing comprehensive information on university entry requirements, career paths, and insightful guidance to make informed decisions for future academic and professional success.

Visit: www.ucas.com

The Informed Choices website developed by the Russell Group has been created to help pupils and parents find out more about how subjects taken post 16 can affect students' options at university and later on.

Visit: www.informedchoices.ac.uk

