



**THE CASTLE ROCK
SCHOOL**

Lionheart Educational Trust

KS4 OPTIONS 2024



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CASTLE ROCK WEBSITE



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OFFICE 365

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YEAR 10 OPTION

Options 2024

YOUR FUTURE STARTS HERE

SIXTH FORM APPLICATIONS OPEN

Castle Rock Sixth Form offers an inspiring and comprehensive curriculum. Find out more in our prospectus.

[SIXTH FORM PROSPECTUS](#)

PUPIL CENTRED, POSITIVE AND PROFESSIONAL

OPTIONS 2024

Welcome to the Options page for Year 9.



Our Options evening for parents/carers and students is Thursday 11th January 2024. If you have not received the letter, there is a link below. The letter includes a link to the ticketsource website where you will need to reserve seats for the appropriate presentation.

Our Options booklet contains all of the information you will need about our curriculum and the subjects that we offer.

The students complete their options using our online portal. There are also step by step instructions on how to complete the online form.

If you are logging onto the options page for the first time, students must access their school email first and follow the link they have been sent. Following this, just click on the link below:

<https://www.sims-options.co.uk/>

The deadline for the option form to be completed is Friday 26th January. Until this date, the form can be changed as often as you like. At the end of Friday 26th January, the entries will be locked and the process of allocating places to students will begin. Please note that if the deadline is not met, it is likely that your child will not be able to receive their first-choice subjects. Additionally, completing the form early does not guarantee choices as it is not first come first served. It is preferable that students take time and consider their choices before entering their subjects. Once the course has started in September, we will try to accommodate changes until Friday 27th September, class size allowing. As a significant amount of core knowledge is delivered at the start of Year 10, transfers after this date will not be possible.

2024 Options Booklet

Options Invite Letter

How To Log Into Options Online For The First Time

OUR CURRICULUM



Core Curriculum

All students will follow the core curriculum

Accredited

English (Language and Literature)

Mathematics

Science (Combined or Separate)

5 or 6 GCSEs

Non-Accredited

Physical Education

Religious Education

Careers

Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE)

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)



OUR CURRICULUM



There are six 50-minute lessons in a school day, with five days a week totalling 30 lessons per week. The table below shows how the 30 lessons are divided across the subjects.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
English					Maths					Science						PE	RE	History or Geography			Option subject			Option subject			Object subject		
5 lessons per week Two double lessons and one single					5 lessons per week One double lesson and three singles					3 double lessons per week Combined Science -2 GCSEs Triple Science – 3 GCSEs Biology Chemistry Physics								3 lessons per week One double and one single			3 lessons per week One double and one single			3 lessons per week One double and one single			3 lessons per week One double and one single		
Two GCSEs English Language English Literature																													

OUR CURRICULUM



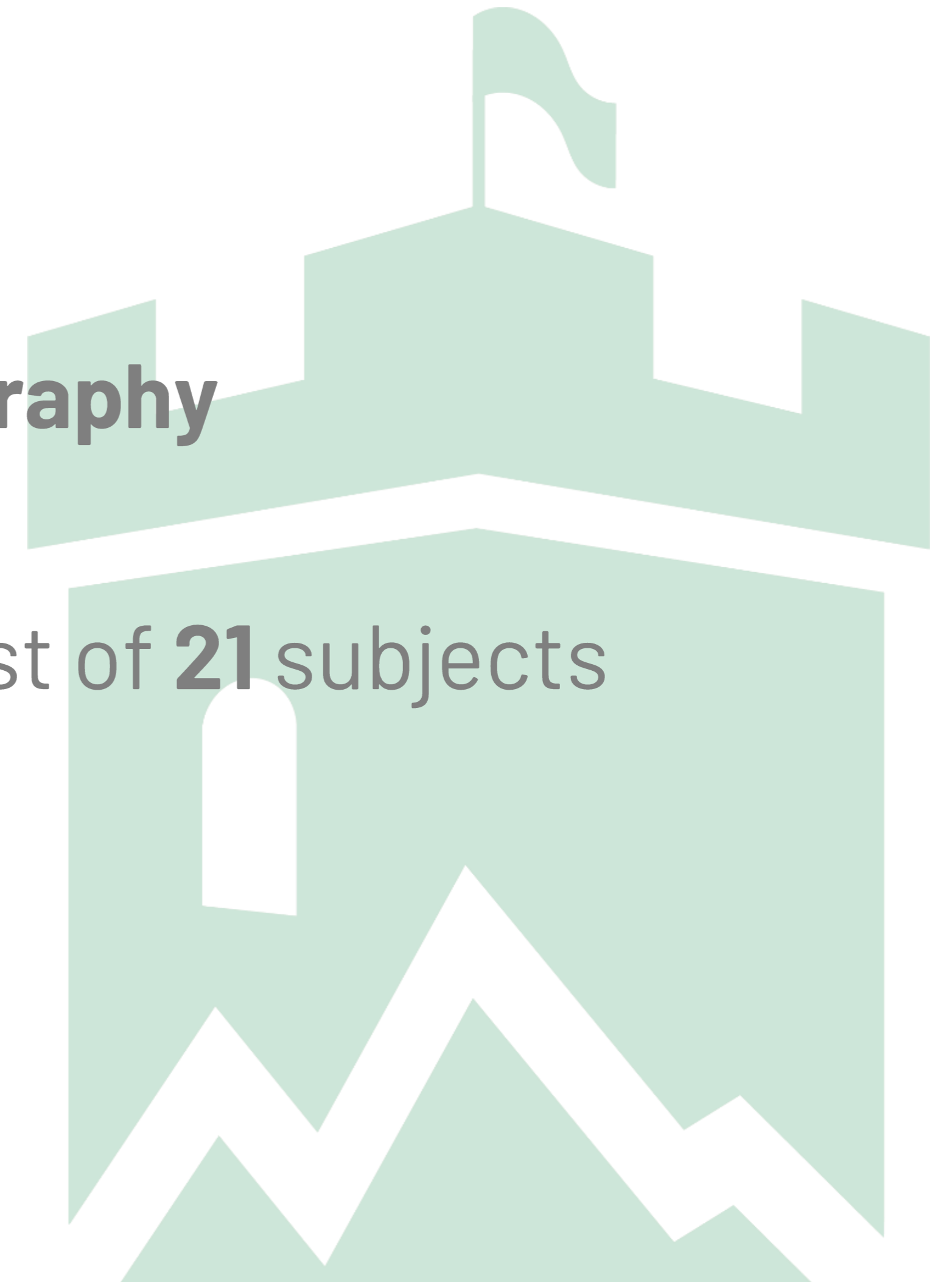
- Castle Rock is able to offer a wide range of subjects for students to choose from. There are twenty-one subjects, with three types of qualification available:
- GCSEs – Seen by many as the traditional approach to learning. Students are assessed by an exam or series of exams at the end of the course. Grades are 1 to 9.
- Cambridge Nationals (CNAT) – Increasingly popular vocational qualifications that are usually made up of a series of units alongside a terminal exam. Grades are Pass, Merit or Distinction at Level 1 or 2.
- BTEC Technical Awards – Similar to CNAT qualifications, BTEC Technical Awards are a new suite of qualifications that offer more practical learning opportunities. They are also assessed by a series of units alongside a terminal exam. Grades are Pass, Merit or Distinction at Level 1 or 2.
- All options courses are equivalent to one GCSE.



Options

All students will choose four subjects to study

- One choice must be between **History** and **Geography**
- The three other choices will be picked from a list of **21** subjects



THE SUBJECTS ARE:



BTEC Digital Information Technology

BTEC Technical Award in Music Practice

City and Guilds Level 2 Tech Award in Hair and Beauty Studies

CNAT Creative iMedia

CNAT Health and Social Care

CNAT Sports Studies

GCSE Art and Design (Fine Art)

GCSE Art and Design (Textiles)

GCSE Business

GCSE Dance

GCSE Design and Technology

GCSE Drama

GCSE French

GCSE Geography

GCSE History

GCSE Media Studies

GCSE Psychology

GCSE Religious Studies

GCSE Sociology

GCSE Statistics

Vocational Award in Hospitality and Catering

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GCSE Religious Studies

GCSE Sociology

GCSE Statistics

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Two GCSEs English Language English Literature																													



Block A

In each block, make a Priority choice (this is the student's first choice) and a reserve choice (coloured orange once selected)

You have chosen 0 of 1 courses from this list

Geography GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

i This course is also available in other lists.

History GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

i This course is also available in Block B

Creative iMedia Cambridge Nationals Certificate Level 1 & 2

i This course is also available in Block D

Sport and Fitness Cambridge Nationals Certificate Level 1 & 2

i This course is also available in Block C

Hairdressing & Beauty Level 1/2 Certificate

Health and Social Care Cambridge Nationals Certificate Level 1 & 2

i This course is also available in Block D

Digital Information Tech BTEC Tech Award Level 1/2

OPTIONS 2024



Block B

As before, students must make a priority choice and a reserve choice. They will receive one of these choices. Do not choose a subject that you have already picked in another block.

There should be one subject in blue (priority choice) and one subject in orange (reserve choice) when you have completed this block.

You have chosen courses and reserves from this list

Art GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Design Technology GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve
<i>i</i> This course is also available in Block C		<i>i</i> This course is also available in Block C	
French GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Geography GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve
		<i>i</i> This course is also available in other lists.	
Hospitality and Catering Level 1/2 Certificate	Reserve	History GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve
<i>i</i> This course is also available in Block C		<i>i</i> This course is also available in Block A	

OPTIONS 2024



Block C

As before, students must make a priority choice and a reserve choice. They will receive one of these choices. Do not choose a subject that you have already picked in another block.

There should be one subject in blue (priority choice) and one subject in orange (reserve choice) when you have completed this block.

You have chosen courses and reserves from this list

Art GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Business Studies GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve
<i>i</i> This course is also available in Block B		<i>i</i> This course is also available in Block D	
Dance GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Design Technology GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve
		<i>i</i> This course is also available in Block B	
Hospitality and Catering Level 1/2 Certificate	Reserve	Psychology GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve
<i>i</i> This course is also available in Block B		<i>i</i> This course is also available in Block D	
Religious Education GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Sport and Fitness Cambridge Nationals Certificate Level 1 & 2	Reserve
		<i>i</i> This course is also available in Block A	
Statistics GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve	Textiles GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve

OPTIONS 2024



Block D

As before, students must make a priority choice and a reserve choice. They will receive one of these choices. Do not choose a subject that you have already picked in another block.

There should be one subject in blue (priority choice) and one subject in orange (reserve choice) when you have completed this block.

You have chosen courses and reserves from this list

Business Studies GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

Reserve

i This course is also available in Block C

Geography GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

Reserve

i This course is also available in other lists.

Creative iMedia

Cambridge Nationals Certificate Level 1 & 2

Reserve

i This course is also available in Block A

Music Technology BTEC Tech Award Level 1/2

Reserve

Sociology GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

Reserve

Drama GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

Reserve

Health and Social Care

Cambridge Nationals Certificate Level 1 & 2

Reserve

i This course is also available in Block A

Media Studies GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

Reserve

Psychology GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

Reserve

i This course is also available in Block C

OPTIONS 2024



Block A

In each block, make a Priority choice (this is the student's first choice) and a reserve choice (coloured orange once selected)

You have chosen 1 of 1 courses and 1 of 1 reserves from this list

Geography GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course CP

i This course is also available in other lists.

History GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

i This course is also available in Block B

Creative iMedia Cambridge Nationals Certificate Level 1 & 2

i This course is also available in Block D

Sport and Fitness Cambridge Nationals Certificate Level 1 & 2

i This course is also available in Block C

Hairdressing & Beauty Level 1/2 Certificate

Health and Social Care Cambridge Nationals Certificate Level 1 & 2

i This course is also available in Block D

Digital Information Tech BTEC Tech Award Level 1/2

OPTIONS 2024



My Choices in Order of Preference (Total Choices: 4)

To change your order of preference select a choice and click the position in the list you would like to move it to.

- 1 Geography**
GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course Block A
- 2 French**
GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course Block B
- 3 Hospitality and Catering**
Level 1/2 Certificate Block C
- 4 Creative iMedia**
Cambridge Nationals Certificate Level 1 & 2 Block D

My Reserves in Order of Preference (Total Reserves: 4)

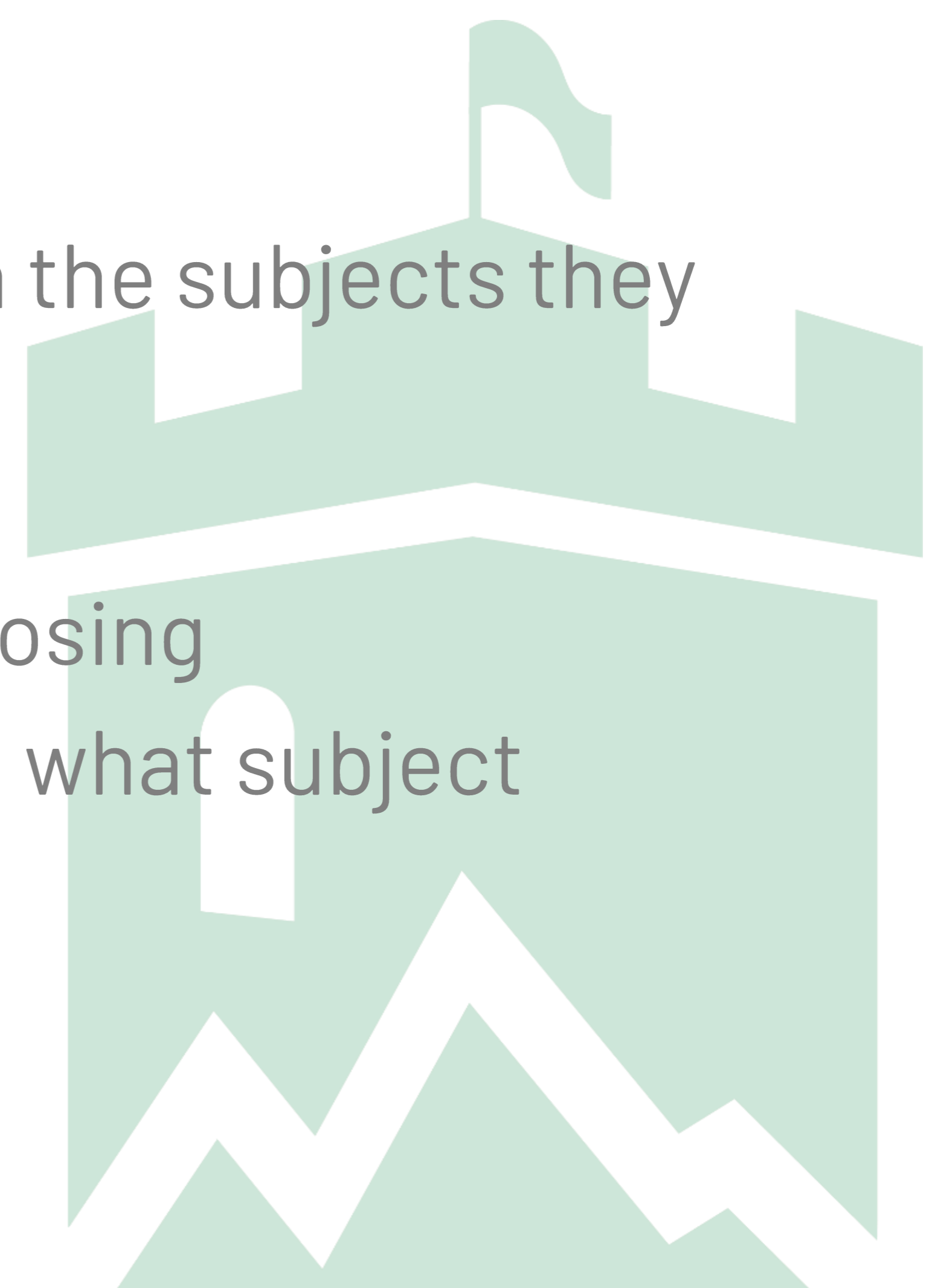
To change your order of preference select a reserve and click the position in the list you would like to move it to.

- 1 History**
GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course Block A
- 2 Design Technology**
GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course Block B
- 3 Psychology**
GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course Block C
- 4 Drama**
GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course Block D

KEY POINTS TO CONSIDER?



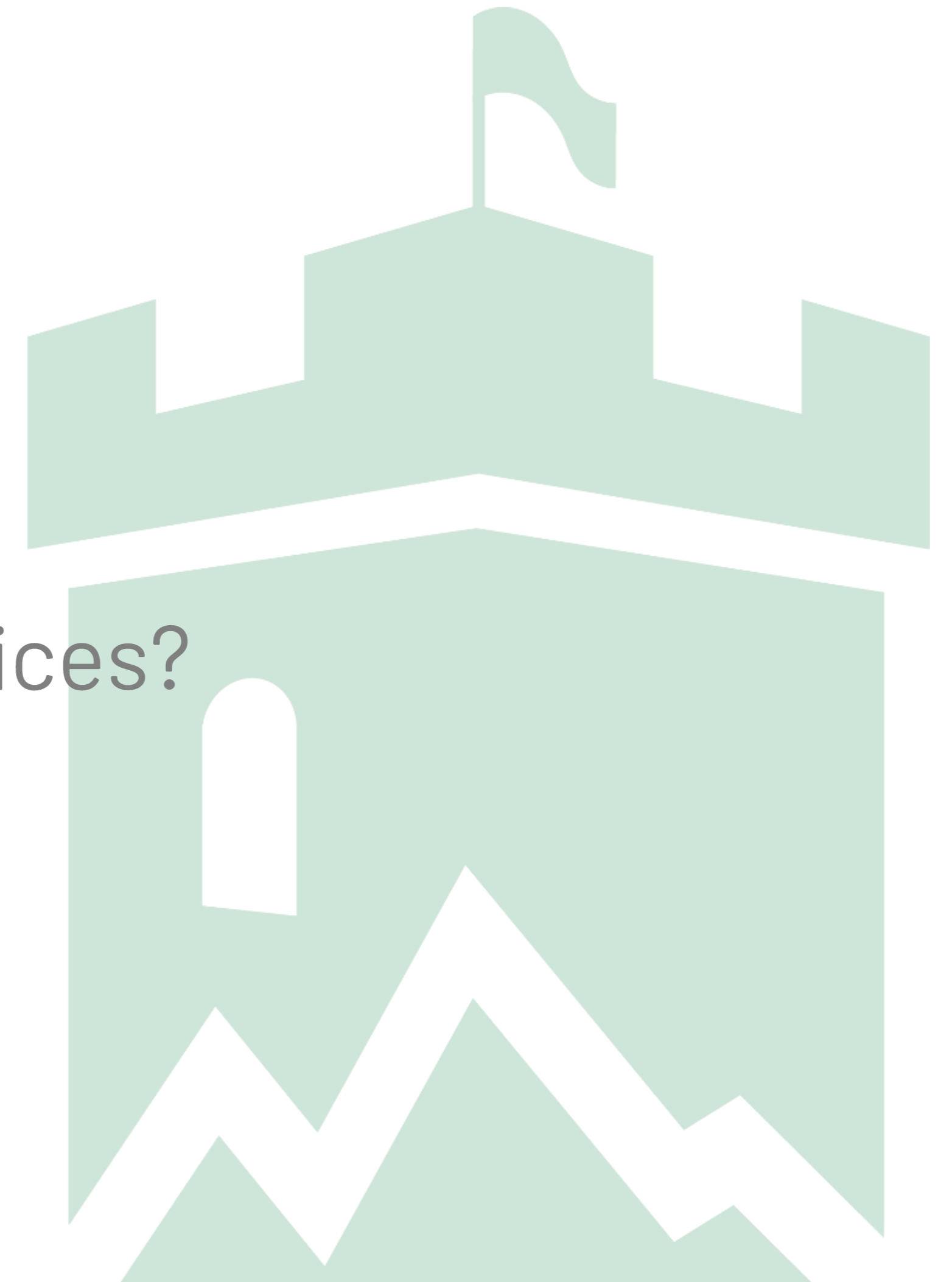
- Students tend to achieve better outcomes in the subjects they enjoy
- **Do not** think about what your friends are choosing
- **Do not** think about which teacher is teaching what subject



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



- Will I get all of my first choices?
- I want to do two subjects in one box?
- There are no subjects I want to do in a box!
- I want to do a subject that is not in the list
- What happens if I am late submitting my choices?
- What happens if I change my mind?
- How are the places allocated?



KEY DATES



- Wednesday 10 January Assembly for students to launch process
- Thursday 11 January Options Evening for parents and students
- **Friday 26 January** **Deadline for completing online Options form**
- Wednesday 22 May Confirmed Option Subject Letters
- Friday 7 June Appeal Deadline
- Friday 21 June Option Appeal Letters sent out
- Friday 27 September Final day for subject changes

QUESTIONS



Email: phil.cooling@castlerock.org.uk

