



Think Denbigh

Year 8 Curriculum Choices
2024



DENBIGH SCHOOL

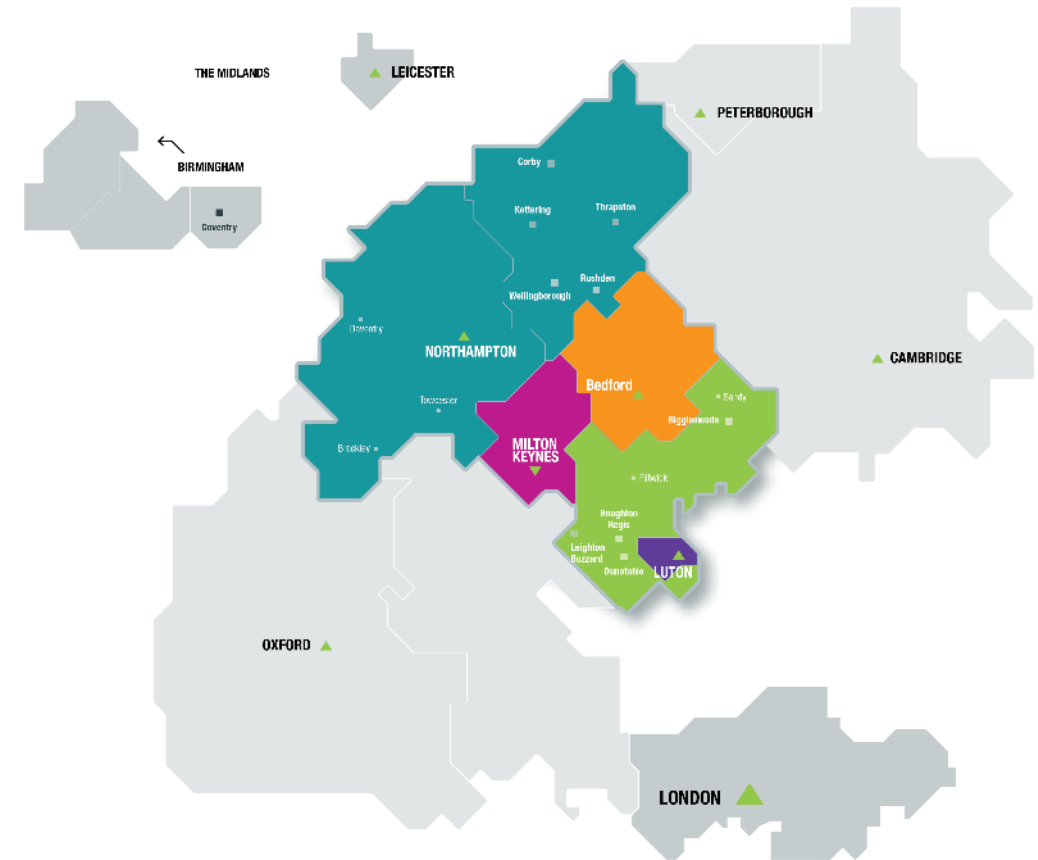
South East Midlands The Labour Market



Introduction

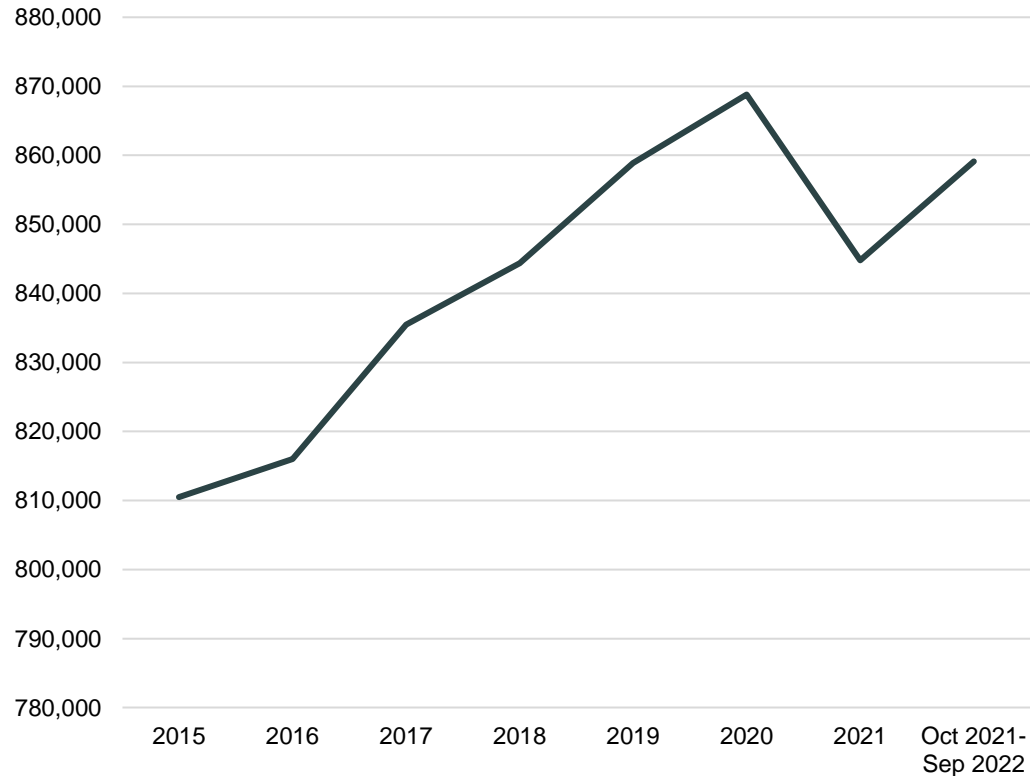
South East Midlands comprises:

- Bedfordshire
- Luton
- Milton Keynes
- Northamptonshire



Employment

South East Midlands Employment - aged 16+



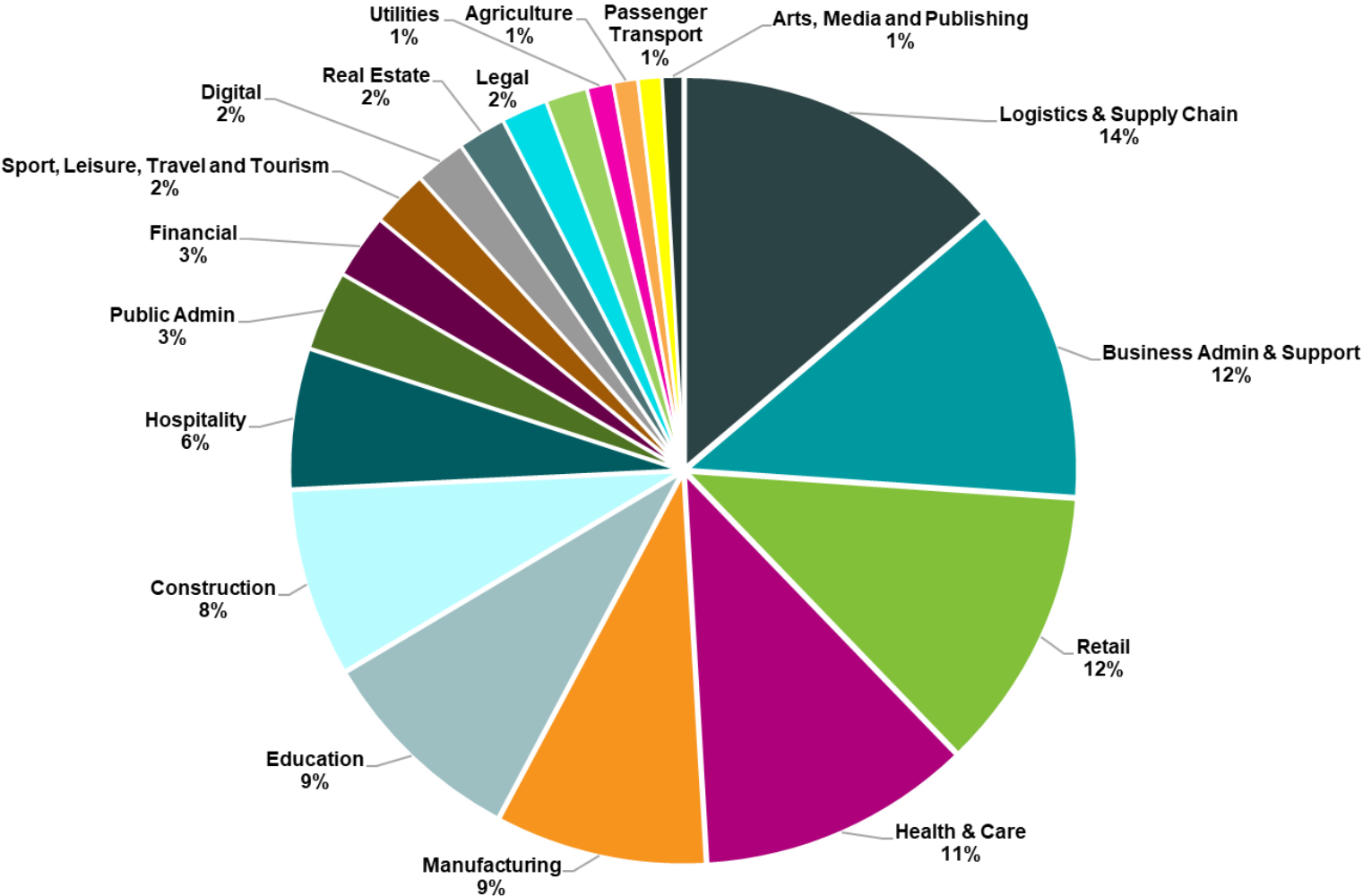
Facts

**Higher employment rate than the national average
(people of working age who are working)**

South East Midlands	63%
England	61%
Milton Keynes	67%
West Northants	67%
Central Bedfordshire	65%
Bedford	63%

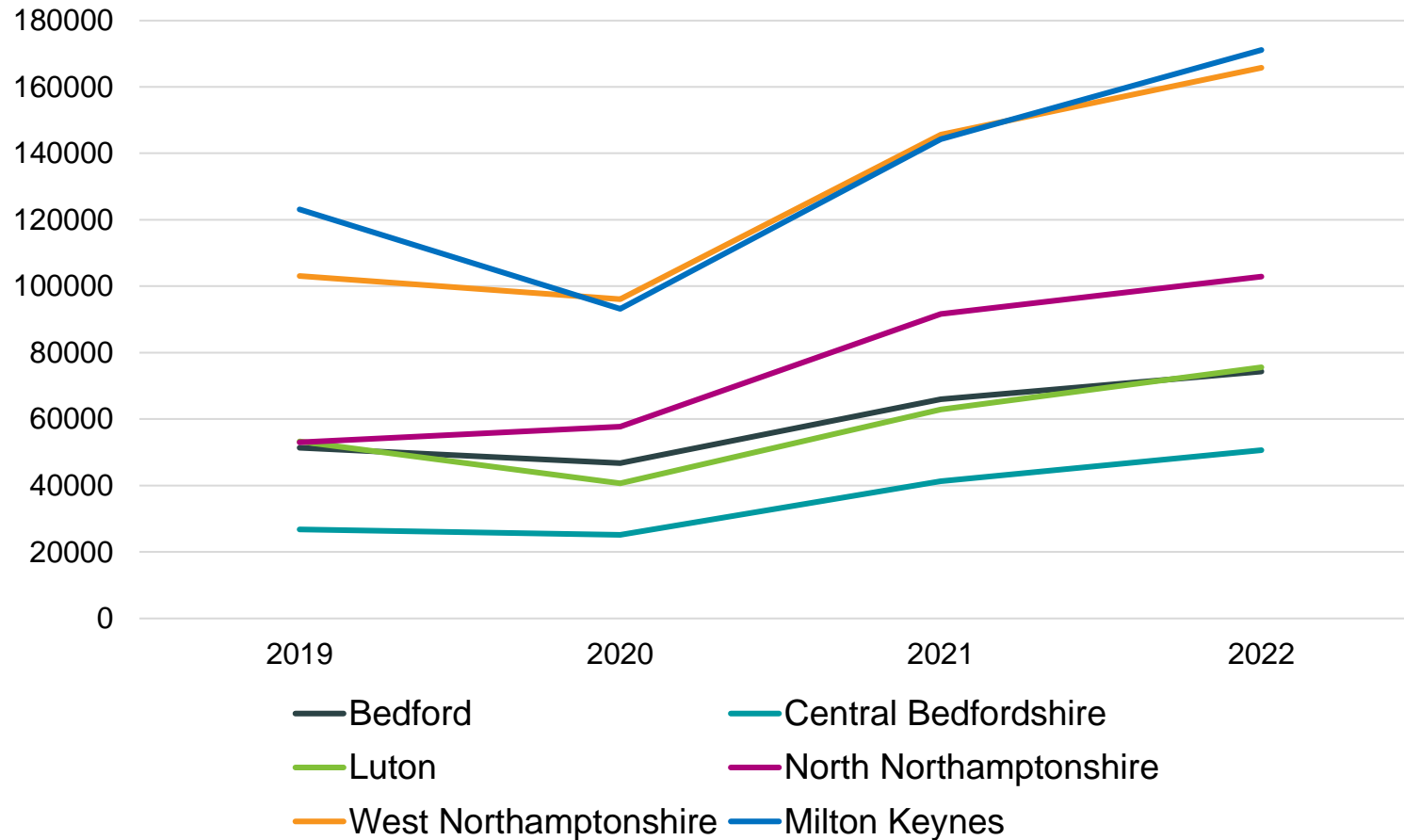
**More jobs than working age population in
Milton Keynes and Northampton**

Employment Sectors



Job Vacancies Trends

Job Postings



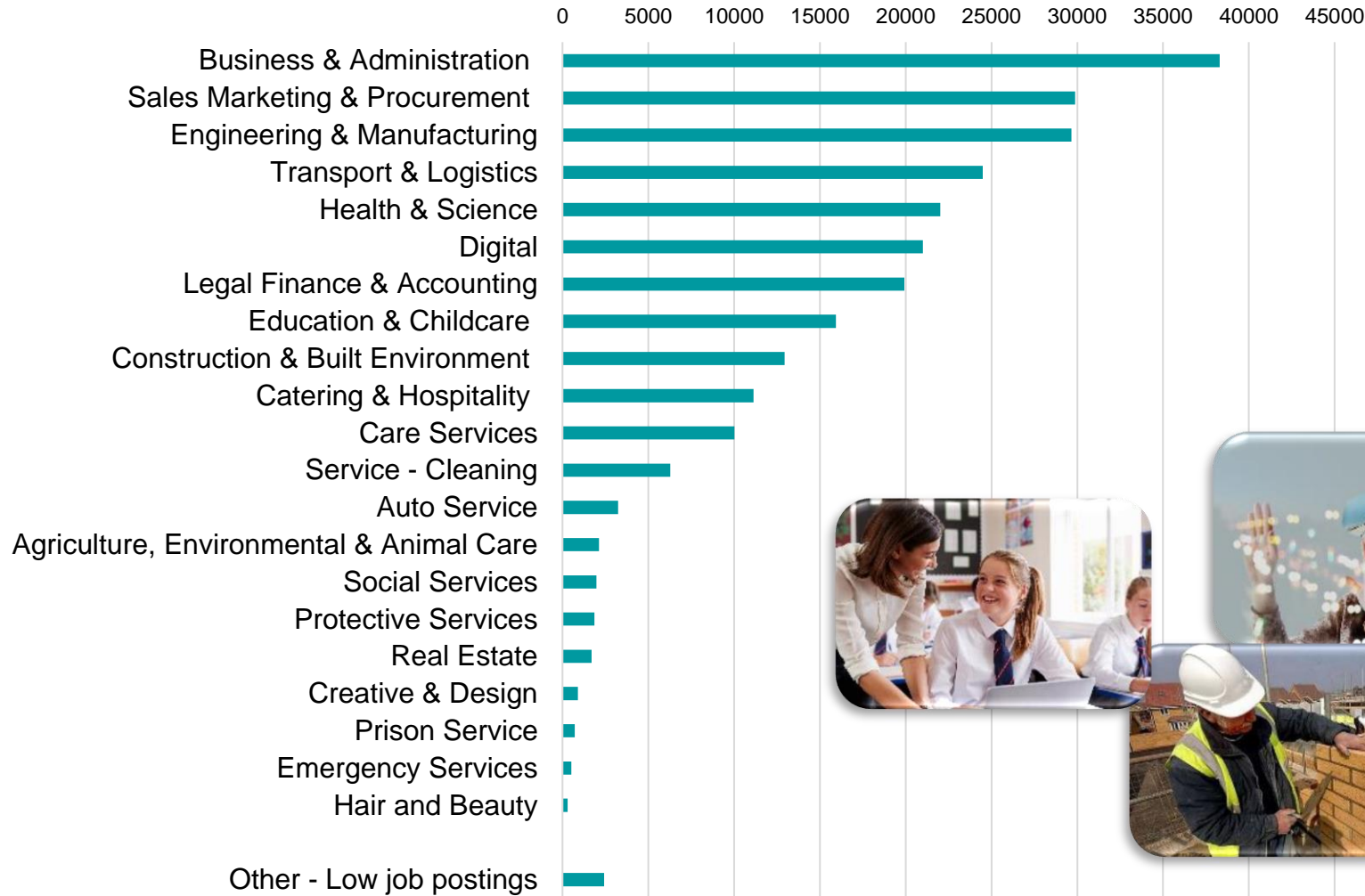
Facts

Job vacancies are the highest since the start of 2018

North Northamptonshire highest since 2015

Top occupational groups in demand now

Job Postings Last 12 Months - Occupational Routes and Pathways



“Employability Skills”

Facts

Main causes of having ‘hard to fill’ vacancies

1. Skills
2. Required attitude, motivation, personality
3. Qualifications
4. Work experience

Qualifications and Certification

Core Transferable Skills

- Communication
- Organisation
- Teamwork/Collaboration
- Digital literacy
- Planning
- Problem solving
- Creativity
- Leadership
- Time management
- Resilience

Technical/Vocational Skills

- Job specific
- Business Management
- Leadership
- Business Operations
- Specialist digital skills
- Customer Relationships /Service/Sales

Basic Skills

Literacy Numeracy
Spoken English
Basic Digital

Attitudes & Behaviours

Detail Orientated Work ethic Flexibility/Adaptability
Curiosity Self-motivation/Initiative/Independence Honesty
Reliability Politeness Humility Empathy

Rank	Software	Increase in demand 2022 vs 2020
1	Microsoft Excel	89%
2	Microsoft Office	75%
3	Microsoft Outlook	91%
4	Microsoft PowerPoint	80%
5	Microsoft Teams	317%
6	Microsoft Word	46%
7	Microsoft SharePoint	109%

Future opportunities

- Digital
- Engineering
- Health & Care
- Education
- Business Operations
- Construction
- Logistics
- Financial

Artificial Intelligence



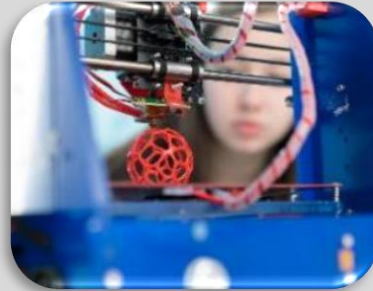
Logistics



Aerospace/Space



Manufacturing



Intelligent Mobility



Green Economy /Net Zero



Agri-tech



Modern Methods of construction

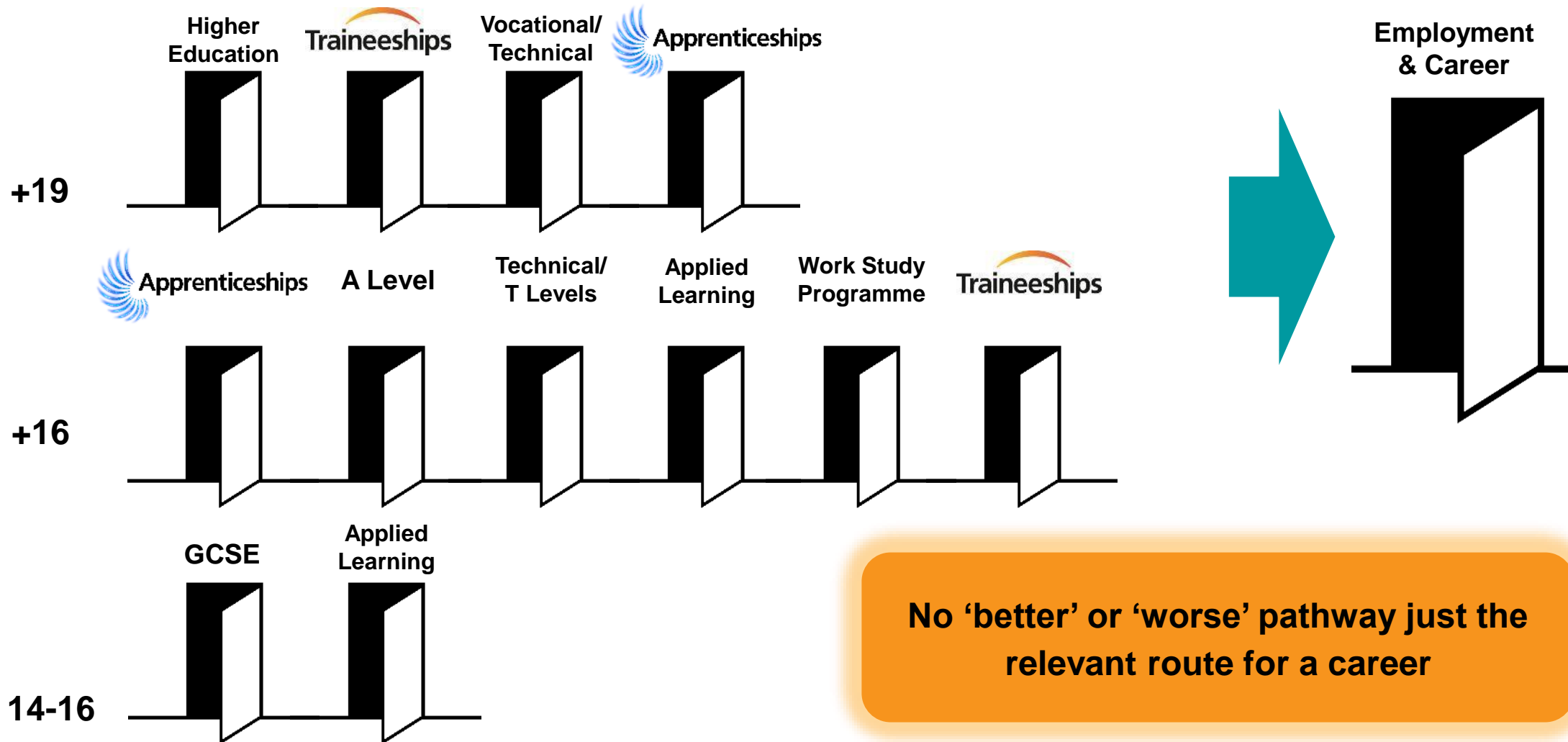


Health and Care



Non Carbon Fuelled Transport

Pathways – Routes to Work



Considerations

- If you have a burning desire and/or talent to do something or have a career in a certain occupation – do it
- Find something you love to do and get someone to pay you for doing it – it will never be ‘work’
- Plan your first step – see where it takes you

Other Sources of Information

- Explore your education and training choices at **Get the Jump** - <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/explore-your-education-and-training-choices>
- Explore careers at:
National Careers Service - <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/explore-careers>
Prospects – Information on jobs, work experience and pathways
<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/jobs-and-work-experience/job-sectors/>
- **Youth Employment Careers** and pathways into work
<https://www.youthemployment.org.uk/careers-hub/>
- **icould** – video and careers information - <https://icould.com/explore/categories/job-types/#jobtype>

Other Sources of Information

Explore occupational groups with need locally

- **Engineering** - This is Engineering - An introduction to the sector and the opportunities it offers <https://www.thisisengineering.org.uk/>
- **Construction** - GoConstruct, the construction industry guide to careers <https://www.goconstruct.org/>
- **Manufacturing** - Makeuk, what is it like to work in UK manufacturing - <https://www.makeuk.org/insights/blogs/what-is-it-like-to-work-in-uk-manufacturing>
- **Creative Industries** - Creative Industries Federation, discover creative careers <https://discovercreative.careers/#/>
- **Health** - NHS Find Your Career <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/FindYourCareer>, MK, Bedfordshire, Luton <https://work-learn-live-blmk.co.uk/jobs/>, Northamptonshire <https://www.nhft.nhs.uk/academy-getting-experience>
- **Care** - Think Care Careers, Skills for Care <https://www.skillsforcare.org.uk/Careers-in-care/Think-Care-Careers.aspx>, **Logistics and Supply Chain** - Transport & Logistics careers - <https://generationlogistics.org/>
- **Digital** - Digital World - <https://www.digitalworld.net/industries-and-jobs>
- **Hospitality** (Food and Accommodation) - <https://academy.grandecuisine.co.uk/learn/>

The GCSE Curriculum

- Broad and balanced
- Providing challenge
- Create lifelong learners
- Credibility with employers
- Clear progression routes

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Broad and balanced curriculum

- The core subjects that form the bulk of your curriculum will ensure that you are able to access a full range of A level choices and careers, regardless of whether or not you studied a subject at GCSE.

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Subject	Time Allocation
English	4 lessons
Maths	4 lessons
Science	4 lessons
Languages (French, German or Spanish)	3 lessons
Humanities (History or Geography)	3 lessons
PE	2 lessons
Citizenship	1 lesson
Option A	2 lessons
Option B	2 lessons

The English Baccalaureate

- A curriculum that best equips students for further study
- Valued by 6th Forms, Universities and employers
- English
- Mathematics
- History or Geography
- The Sciences
- a Modern Foreign Language

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The Year 9 Curriculum

- In Year 9, students will formally begin GCSEs in some subjects
- History/ Geography
- Option choices

Changes to our GCSE Options offer

- Smaller number of subjects on offer
- Greatest levels of teacher expertise
- Running multiple groups of subjects that have a track record of exam success.

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A	B
DT	DT
Computer Science	Computer Science
Art	Art
Business	Business
Sociology	Sociology
Media	Media
Sports Studies (Vocational)	Sports Studies (Vocational)
Music	Drama
Religious Studies (Philosophy)	History
Food	IT (Vocational)
Child Development (Vocational)	Sociology

Remember!!

This process is about you

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- Make careful choices
- Think about what you enjoy and where your strengths lie
- Look at the course content – is it what you expect?
- Look at how you will be assessed- does this suit the way you work?

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Careers advisor – activities studio

- Ms Agbame is available to discuss any questions
- related to careers and option decision making.

GCSE Options - The Process

13th March - Assembly for Yr 8 students

wb. 11th March – Taster Week

18th March – Yr 8 Curriculum Evening for Parents

Complete your choices by Monday 25th March 2024

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Making your choices

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- Be aware that your choices are final. Students are not allowed to make changes once the form has been submitted.
- When choosing options in each block, be aware that you may be allocated to any of the three choices
- Although we cannot guarantee to take preferences into account, it would help us to know your first preference

Option Choices – Part 1

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Geography or History?

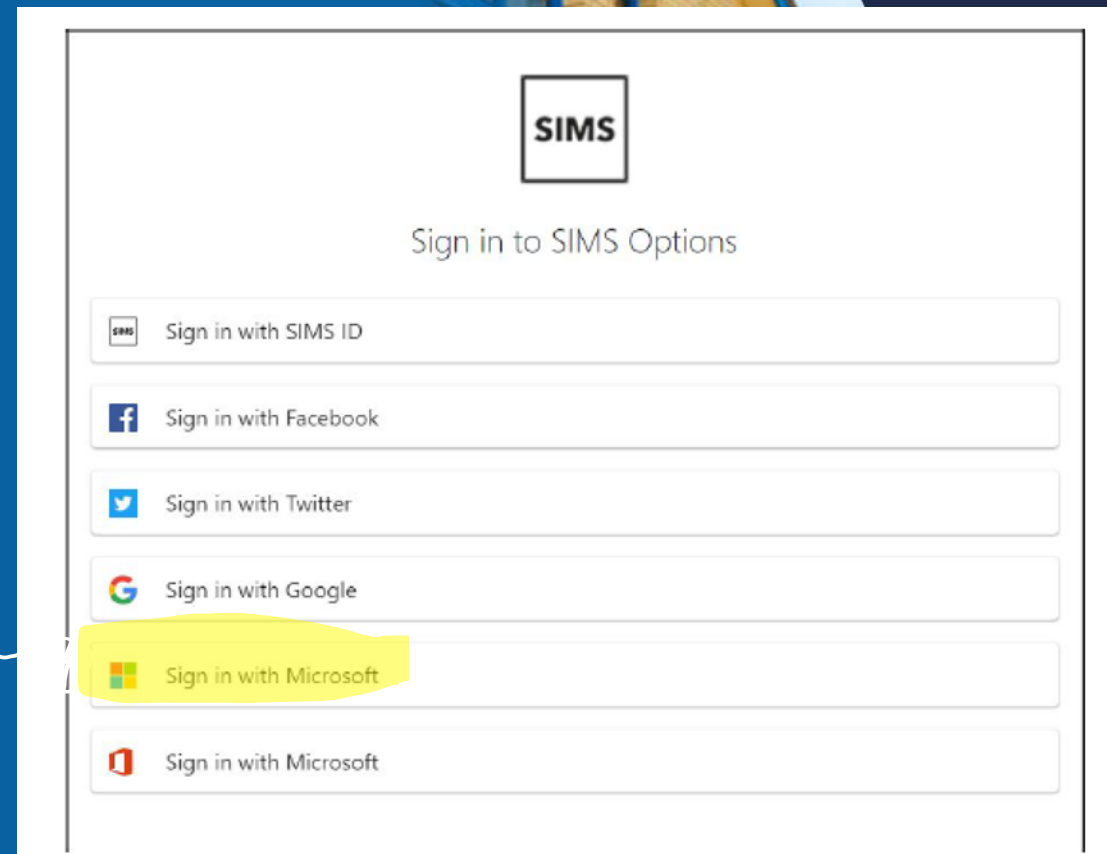
- Students will choose to study either Geography or History as part of the Core Curriculum
- If students wish to study both subjects, they should select Geography in the core curriculum and History in the 'open' option

Logging in – Go to:

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

Use your school
login/ Office 365



SIMS

Sign in to SIMS Options

- Sign in with SIMS ID
- Sign in with Facebook
- Sign in with Twitter
- Sign in with Google
- Sign in with Microsoft
- Sign in with Microsoft

Humanities Choice

Your first option choice is whether you would prefer to study History or Geography.

If you would like to study both subjects, put Geography in this section and History in the Option B section.

You have chosen 0 of 1 courses from this list

Geography GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

History GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

i This course is also available in Option B

▼ Pathway: A

Humanities Choice


Your first option choice is whether you would prefer to study History or Geography.

If you would like to study both subjects, put Geography in this section and History in the Option B section.

You have chosen 1 of 1  courses from this list

Geography GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course Choice

History GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course

 This course is also available in Option B

My Choices in Order of Preference (Total Choices: 1)

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

 **Geography**
GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course Humanities Choice

Option Choices – Part 2

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A	B
DT	DT
Computer Science	Computer Science
Art	Art
Business	Business
Sociology	Sociology
Media	Media
Sports Studies (Vocational)	Sports Studies (Vocational)
Music	Drama
Religious Studies (Philosophy)	History
Food	IT (Vocational)
Child Development (Vocational)	Sociology

Option Choices Part 2

- There will be a blocking pattern of subjects available
- Students will choose 3 subjects from each block and be allocated to 1 subject per block from the choice of 3 subjects that they have made.
- Students will not be allowed to select the same subject in both blocks
- Students will not be allocated to more than 1 vocational qualification

Click the subject box to indicate your first preference

Click the reserve box if you would like to make a subject one of your reserves.

Click on the box twice or until it returns to its initial colour if you wish to make a change.

Option A

Choose 1 first choice and 2 reserves from this section. We cannot guarantee that you will be allocated to your first choices so it's important that you are prepared to study both of your reserve choices.

You may not opt for a subject in Option A if you have opted for it in Option B

You will not be allocated to more than 1 vocational course

You have chosen 1 of 1 courses and 2 of 2 reserves from this list

Art GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course <small>This course is also available in Option B</small>	Choice	Reserve	Bis Stud GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course <small>This course is also available in Option B</small>	Reserve
Child Development Cambridge Nationals Certificate Level 1 & 2		Reserve	Computer S GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve
Des Tech GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course <small>This course is also available in Option B</small>		Reserve	Food GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course <small>Reserve</small>	Reserve
Media GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course <small>This course is also available in Option B</small>	Reserve	Reserve	Music GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course	Reserve
Philosophy GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course		Reserve	Sports Studies Cambridge Nationals Certificate Level 1 & 2 <small>This course is also available in Option B</small>	Reserve
Sociology GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course <small>This course is also available in Option B</small>		Reserve		

Student comment section

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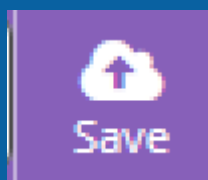
- If you select Music, please indicate whether you are involved with this subject as an extra-curricular activity and your current level of achievement.

▼ Student Comments

Add any comments here

Remember...

- Save your choices at the end:
- Do not choose the same subject in each block
- Be aware that you will only be allocated to up to 1 vocational course



Advice

- Tutor
- Subject Teachers
- Older students
- Heads of Year
- Parents

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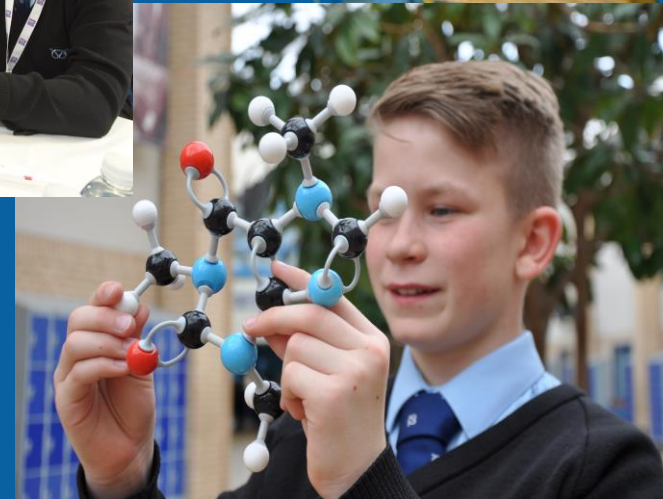
Creating option groups

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- Initially allocated by computer
- Allocations will be reviewed by Miss Dolling and myself considering:
- Number of places available in particular subjects
- Appropriateness of the courses allocated to student (e.g if a student has selected Music, are they skilled enough in playing a musical instrument to be successful on this course?)

Beyond the Classroom

- School Productions
- Duke of Edinburgh
- Sports Clubs
- Clubs and Societies
- Student Voice
- Trips
- Charity Events
- Subject Challenges
- Competitions



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Re-Banding into X and Y

- Students will be placed into two bands – X and Y
- Students will be set by ability in Mathematics, English and Science within the band

Teaching hours in Years 10 & 11

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- A typical timetable in Years 7-9 would include 25 x 1 hr lessons per week
- In Year 10 students will have 26 x 1hr lessons per week
- **School will finish at 4pm on a Tuesday for Year 10 students**
- In Year 11 students will have 27 x 1hr lessons per week
- **School will finish at 4pm on a Tuesday and a Thursday for Year 11 students**

Subjects

- Business and Computing – E7
- Social Sciences – E8
- Humanities and Media Studies – E6
- Creative Arts – MU3
- Careers advisor, DT, Food, PE department – Activities Studio

Thank you for listening to the 2024 GCSE Curriculum Presentation

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Please look at the Options booklets or contact the subject teachers to find out more information about the subjects offered

For general queries, please contact Mrs Helen Brown— Assistant Headteacher
brownh@denbigh.net