

Year 9 Options Evening

2026

We are part of...

WENSUMTRUST 

F O R C H I L D R E N , F A M I L I E S A N D C O M M U N I T I E S

Key Stage 4 Core subjects (not optional)

- **English** – Two GCSEs in English Language and English Literature
- **Maths**
- **Core Science**
- **Core Physical Education**
- **Character and Culture** (PSHE, Citizenship and RE)

Choosing your options

- Choosing your KS4 Options is the first time you will have some control over what you learn - make sure you make an informed decision.
- The options process is designed to give you as much information as possible to help you make the right decisions for your needs and interests.




GCSE Reforms (grading system)

There has been a change to the grading in all GCSE subjects; the previous A* – G grading system has been replaced with a new 9 point scale, 1 being the lowest and 9 being the highest.

If a student does not score highly enough to pass a GCSE they will receive a U.

The chart to the right compares the old grading system with the new grading system.



New grades	Old grades
9	A*
8	A
7	
6	B
5	C
4	
3	D
2	E
1	F
	G
U	U

GCSE Reforms (other changes)

- For most subjects, you will sit the same exam papers, whatever your ability.
- For Mathematics, Science and Languages there is the possibility of being assessed on either the **Foundation** or **Higher** tier depending on an individual's suitability.
- If you sit the Foundation tier paper for any of these subjects the highest grade awardable is a grade 5 (strong pass).
- There are no more modules to split up a subject. You will take all of your exams in the summer, at the end of your courses. There are some exceptions to this with Level 1/2 qualifications.
- Almost all subjects will be assessed by exam. There are a few exceptions for certain subject skills which cannot be assessed in an exam.

Key Stage 4 Pathways:

Progress 8 Pathway

English Baccalaureate Pathway

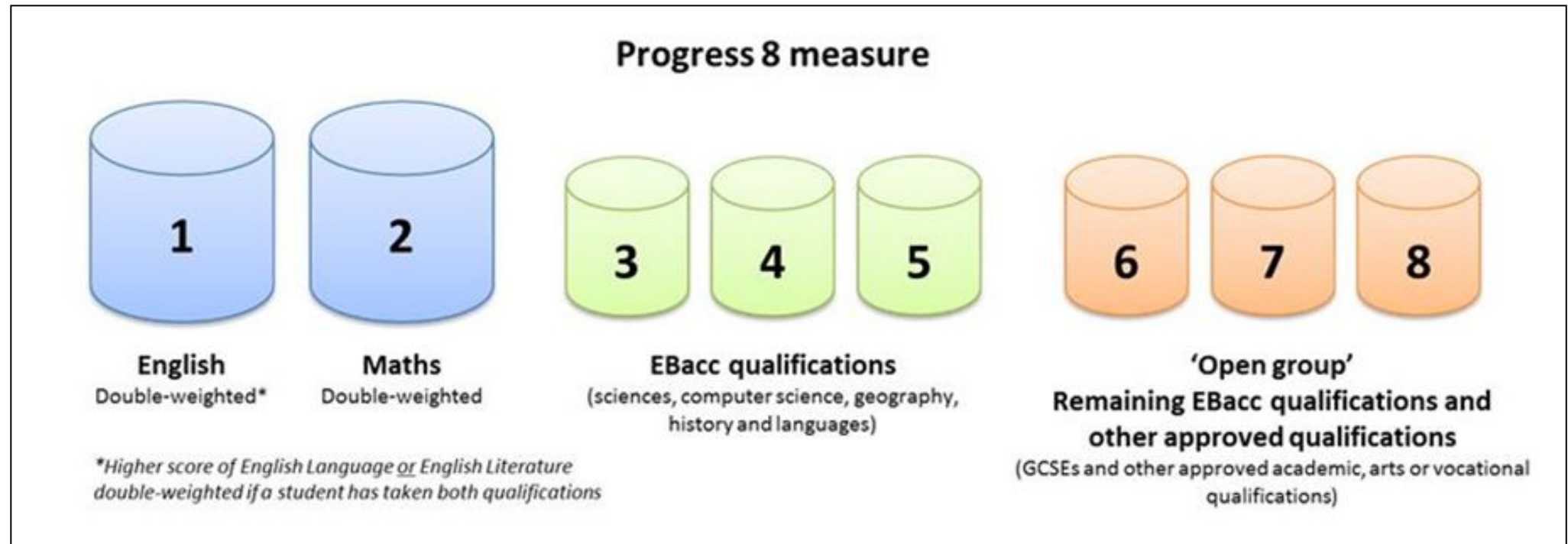
Progress 8

- A means by which the government measures and compares school's performance nationally. It compares how pupils have performed across a selection of 8 subjects in relation to their key stage 2 SATs performance.
- Is designed to encourage all students to study a broad and balanced curriculum.

Progress8


Progress 8 Pillars

For each student the 8 subjects must be the correct combination from the diagram below.



Are some subjects more important than others?

- Some subjects are grouped together for the progress 8 measuring system. For example, science and history are in a different group to art and music.
- This does not mean that these subjects are more important, but it does affect how a student's progress 8 score is calculated.

English Baccalaureate

- The English Baccalaureate (EBacc) is a national performance measure and Internationally recognised qualification. It allows people to see how many students get a **Grade 5 or above** in the core academic subjects at key stage 4 in any government-funded school.
- The EBacc qualification is not compulsory, however students **must study at least one of the optional EBacc Subjects**.

EBacc subjects

The EBacc is made up of:

- English
- Mathematics
- History or Geography
- The Sciences
- A Language



EBacc – English pass

To pass the English element of the EBacc, students need to do 1 of the following:

- Get a (9-5) in English language or English literature GCSE

EBacc – Science pass

- To pass the science element of the EBacc, students need to do 1 of the following:
- Get 9-5 in GCSE Science double award (in science double award, students take 2 GCSE exams that cover the 3 main sciences: biology, chemistry and physics)
- Take 3 Separate Sciences at GCSE and get a 9-5 in at least 2 of them (the separate sciences are Biology, Chemistry, Physics).

EBacc Pathway – Russell Group

- *The English Baccalaureate includes academic subjects highly valued by the Russell Group but it is not required for entry to any Russell Group university. With the exception of English and Maths, and in a few cases a Modern Foreign Language, most universities have no universal entry requirements in terms of specific GCSE subjects. Subject choice is ultimately much more important at the post-16 or A-level stage.*
- *However, entrance requirements do vary between universities and courses (for example Medicine courses sometimes require certain subjects and grades at GCSE). Therefore, we strongly encourage students to check universities' websites for further information published by individual institutions.*

Running computational models from the Year 9 survey data

83% Student Satisfaction
 133 Students with fully assigned choices
 27 Students with unassigned choices
 160 Total Students

96% Student Choice Assignment
 593 Assigned Student Choices
 27 Unassigned Student Choices
 620 Total Student Choices

Automated Routines	Block 9A	Block 9B	Block 9C	Block 9D
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allocate Classes to Blocks This process allocates all classes to the blocks Remove Classes from Blocks This process removes all classes from the blocks Assign Students to Classes This process assigns choices to classes for all students Assign Choices (with Reserves) This process assigns choices to classes for all students, using reserves where necessary Remove Class Assignments This process removes class memberships for all students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9A/Ar1 Art GCSE Full Course 15 9A/Cs1 Computer Science GCSE Full Course 12 9A/De1 German GCSE Full Course 15 9A/Fr1 French GCSE Full Course 24 9A/Gg2 Geography GCSE Full Course 31 9A/Hs1 Health & S BTEC Tech Award Level 1/2 31 9A/Rs1 Religious Studies GCSE Full Course 20 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9B/Ar2 Art GCSE Full Course 21 9B/Co2 Construction GCSE Full Course 16 9B/Gg1 Geography GCSE Full Course 29 9B/Hi1 History GCSE Full Course 29 9B/Ho1 Hospitality & Catering GCSE Full Course 21 9B/Mf1 Further Maths GCSE 9-1 Full Course 15 9B/Mu1 Music GCSE Full Course 12 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9C/BI1 Biology GCSE Full Course 40 9C/Co1 Construction GCSE Full Course 14 9C/Da1 Drama GCSE Full Course 14 9C/Gg3 Geography GCSE Full Course 26 9C/Ho2 Hospitality & Catering GCSE Full Course 17 9C/Pd1 Product Design GCSE Full Course 15 9C/Tt1 Travel & Tourism BTEC Award Level 1 & 2 23 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9D/Gg4 Geography GCSE Full Course 24 9D/Hi2 History GCSE Full Course 24 9D/Ho3 Hospitality & Catering GCSE Full Course 16 9D/Pd2 Product Design GCSE Full Course 16 9D/Ss1 Sports Studies GCSE Full Course 24 9D/Ss2 Sports Studies GCSE Full Course 24 9D/Tx1 Textiles GCSE Full Course 25
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% Class Allocation 28 Allocated Classes 0 Unallocated Classes 28 Total Classes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 83% Student Satisfaction 133 Students with fully assigned choices 27 Students with unassigned choices 160 Total Students 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 96% Student Choice Assignment 593 Assigned Student Choices 27 Unassigned Student Choices 620 Total Student Choices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 96% Student Choice Assignment 593 Assigned Student Choices 27 Unassigned Student Choices 620 Total Student Choices 			

We are part of...

Acle Academy



Running computational models from the Year 9 survey data

99% Student Satisfaction
 158 Students with fully assigned choices
 2 Students with unassigned choices
 160 Total Students

99% Student Choice Assignment
 618 Assigned Student Choices
 2 Unassigned Student Choices
 620 Total Student Choices

Automated Routines

- Allocate Classes to Blocks**
This process allocates all classes to the blocks
- Remove Classes from Blocks**
This process removes all classes from the blocks
- Assign Students to Classes**
This process assigns choices to classes for all students
- Assign Choices (with Reserves)**
This process assigns choices to classes for all students, using reserves where necessary
- Remove Class Assignments**
This process removes class memberships for all students

Block 9A	Block 9B	Block 9C	Block 9D
9A/Ar1 Art GCSE Full Course 17	9B/Ar2 Art GCSE Full Course 23	9C/BI1 Biology GCSE Full Course 42	9D/Gg4 Geography GCSE Full Course 26
9A/Cs1 Computer Science GCSE Full Course 12	9B/Co2 Construction GCSE Full Course 16	9C/Co1 Construction GCSE Full Course 15	9D/Hi2 History GCSE Full Course 23
9A/De1 German GCSE Full Course 17	9B/Gg1 Geography GCSE Full Course 32	9C/Da1 Drama GCSE Full Course 15	9D/Ho3 Hospitality & Catering GCSE Full Course 14
9A/Fr1 French GCSE Full Course 24	9B/Hi1 History GCSE Full Course 31	9C/Gg3 Geography GCSE Full Course 25	9D/Pd2 Product Design GCSE Full Course 16
9A/Gg2 Geography GCSE Full Course 33	9B/Ho1 Hospitality & Catering GCSE Full Course 25	9C/Ho2 Hospitality & Catering GCSE Full Course 16	9D/Ss1 Sports Studies GCSE Full Course 25
9A/Hs1 Health & 5 BTEC Tech Award Level 1/2 31	9B/Mf1 Further Maths GCSE 9 - 1 Full Course 16	9C/Pd1 Product Design GCSE Full Course 16	9D/Ss2 Sports Studies GCSE Full Course 25
9A/Rs1 Religious Studies GCSE Full Course 20	9B/Mu1 Music GCSE Full Course 12	9C/Tt1 Travel & Tourism BTEC Award Level 1 & 2 25	9D/Tx1 Textiles GCSE Full Course 26

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Option Blocks for 2026

Block A	Block B	Block C	Block D
Art	Art	Construction	DT – Product Design
Computer Science	Construction	Drama	DT - Textiles
German	Geography	DT – Product Design	Geography
French	History	Geography	History
Geography	Hospitality and Catering	Hospitality and Catering	Hospitality and Catering
Health and Social Care	Further Maths	Separate Science	Sport Studies
Religious Studies	Music	Travel and Tourism	

You will need to select a 1st and 2nd choice subject from each block.

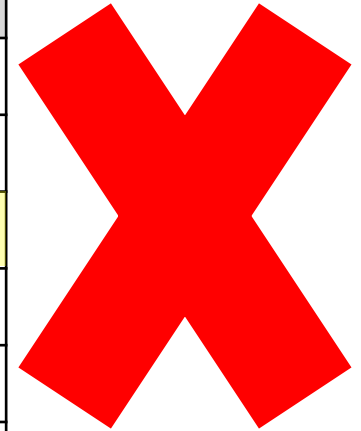
Option Blocks 2026

Block A	Block B	Block C	Block D
Art	Art	Construction	DT – Product Design
Computer Science	Construction	Drama	DT - Textiles
German	Geography	DT – Product Design	Geography
French	History	Geography	History
Geography	Hospitality and Catering	Hospitality and Catering	Hospitality and Catering
Health and Social Care	Further Maths	Separate Science	Sport Studies
Religious Studies	Music	Travel and Tourism	

Rule 1: You **must** select at least one of the following subjects as a 1st choice – French, German, Geography, History, Separate Science or Computer Science

Option Blocks 2026

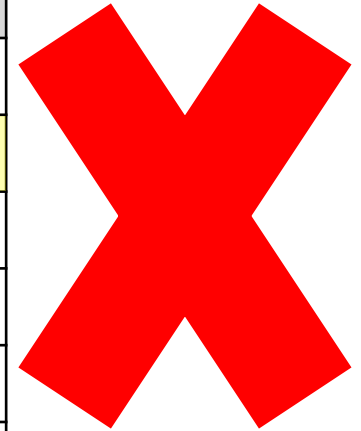
Block A	Block B	Block C	Block D
Art	Art	Construction	DT – Product Design
Computer Science	Construction	Drama	DT - Textiles
German	Geography	DT – Product Design	Geography
French	History	Geography	History
Geography	Hospitality and Catering	Hospitality and Catering	Hospitality and Catering
Health and Social Care	Further Maths	Separate Science	Sport Studies
Religious Studies	Music	Travel and Tourism	



Rule 2: You **cannot** select the same subject as your 1st choice in more than one block.

Option Blocks 2026

Block A	Block B	Block C	Block D
Art	Art	Construction	DT – Product Design
Computer Science	Construction	Drama	DT - Textiles
German	Geography	DT – Product Design	Geography
French	History	Geography	History
Geography	Hospitality and Catering	Hospitality and Catering	Hospitality and Catering
Health and Social Care	Further Maths	Separate Science	Sport Studies
Religious Studies	Music	Travel and Tourism	



Rule 3: You **cannot** select both DT – Product Design and DT – Textiles as first choice options. These subjects discount against each other (the courses are deemed to be too similar in content).

Option Blocks 2026

Block A	Block B	Block C	Block D
Art	Art	Construction	DT – Product Design
Computer Science	Construction	Drama	DT - Textiles
German	Geography	DT – Product Design	Geography
French	History	Geography	History
Geography	Hospitality and Catering	Hospitality and Catering	Hospitality and Catering
Health and Social Care	Further Maths	Separate Science	Sport Studies
Religious Studies	Music	Travel and Tourism	

Rule 4: To qualify for the EBacc (English Baccalaureate) you must select:

A language (French or German) and either Geography or History.

Option Blocks 2026

Block A	Block B	Block C	Block D
Art	Art	Construction	DT – Product Design
Computer Science	Construction	Drama	DT - Textiles
German	Geography	DT – Product Design	Geography
French	History	Geography	History
Geography	Hospitality and Catering	Hospitality and Catering	Hospitality and Catering
Health and Social Care	Further Maths	Separate Science	Sport Studies
Religious Studies	Music	Travel and Tourism	

A link to the options form (which is electronic) will be emailed to your school email account on Friday 6th February. You must select a 1st and 2nd choice subject from each block.

Rule 1: You must select at least one of the following subjects as a 1st choice – French, German, Geography, History, Computer Science or Separate Science

Rule 2: You cannot select the same subject as your 1st choice in more than one block

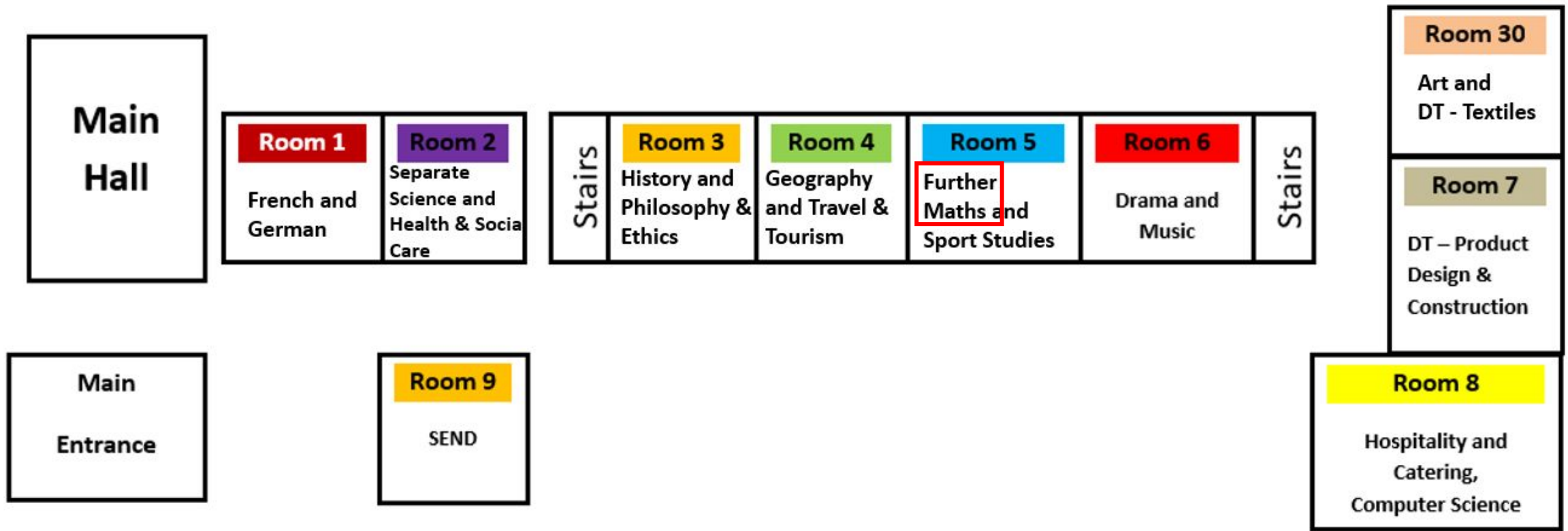
Rule 3: You cannot select both DT – Product Design and DT – Textiles as first choice options

Rule 4: To qualify for the EBacc (English Baccalaureate) you must select: A Language (French or German) and either Geography or History

DEADLINE for submitting electronic form – Monday 23rd February 2026

Map of School – Y9 Options evening

Downstairs



Information about Option Subjects

Art & Design

Computer Science

Construction

Design and Technology

Product Design

Textiles

Drama

Geography

History

Hospitality and Catering

Music

Modern Foreign Languages

French

German

Physical Education

Sports Studies

Separate Sciences

The following new option subjects were omitted from the contents page (page 12) of the options booklet:

Further Maths (Pg 20)

Health and Social Care (Pg 22)

Philosophy and Ethics (Pg 28)

Travel and Tourism (Pg 31)

The follow subject was included in error:

Physical Education

Further Questions

- Email: options2026@acle.norfolk.sch.uk

Thank you

options2026@acle.norfolk.sch.uk

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WENSUMTRUST 

How does the new grading system work?

General Recommendations

- Fonts: Use Montserrat for titles and Calibri for content
- Do not allow images/photos to overlap the logos or wave in this template. If necessary, use a blank slide (without template) to display media. For more info, see Slide #4
- Duplicate slides (right click on this slide in the slide menu on the left, and select Duplicate Slide) instead of creating new slides, in order to improve format consistency.
- Include full Wensum Trust strapline (*for children, families and communities*) in the first and last slide.