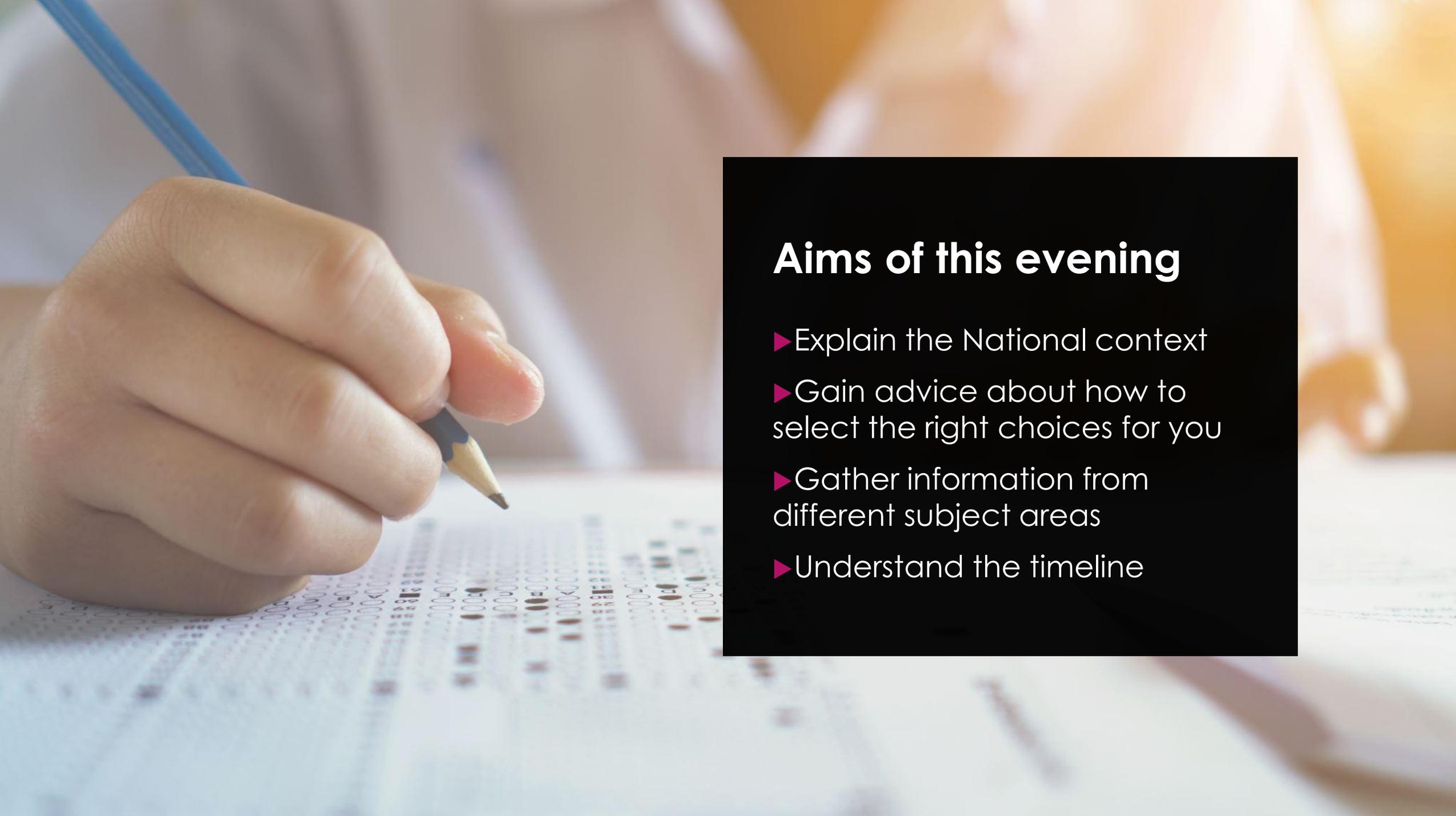




Pathways 2026 – 2028

A close-up photograph of a hand holding a blue pencil, poised to write on a document. The document features a grid of small circles, likely for a form or survey. The background is softly blurred, showing another person's hand and a glass of water, suggesting a collaborative or educational setting.

Aims of this evening

- ▶ Explain the National context
- ▶ Gain advice about how to select the right choices for you
- ▶ Gather information from different subject areas
- ▶ Understand the timeline

- ▶ Schools are measured using a system called **Progress 8**, which tracks the progress students make from the end of primary school across **eight GCSE subjects**
- ▶ **English and Mathematics count twice**, reflecting their importance
- ▶ The remaining subjects come from a range of areas, including sciences, humanities and languages
- ▶ Some of these subjects are often referred to as **EBacc subjects** (English, Maths, Science, History/Geography, Languages)
- ▶ **Key message:**
- ▶ While EBacc is no longer a headline measure, **a broad and balanced curriculum remains important**
- ▶ Studying a mix of subjects helps to **keep future options open** for A levels, apprenticeships and careers
- ▶ Our aim is to support students in choosing a pathway that is **right for them as individuals**

The Key Stage 4 programme will be made up of a mixture of “Core” subjects and “Option” subjects.

The Core Curriculum Pathway

Pathway	Subject	Qualification
Core	Religious Education	GCSE
	English Language	GCSE
	English Literature	GCSE
	Mathematics	GCSE
	Combined Science Trilogy (Dual Award)	2 GCSEs
	Physical Education	Not examined

***Plus RSE and Literacy**

Option 1 and 2

Option 1

Please select either geography or history.

	Selection
Geography	
History	

*If you wish to be considered to study both geography and history, please indicate by selecting the box (below) and DO NOT select anything in Option 2.

	Selection
*Geography and History	

Option 2

Please select the language you are currently studying OR an alternative options choice (plus a reserve)

	Selection	Reserve
French		█
Spanish		
German		
Mandarin		
Animal Care (BTEC Award)		
Digital IT (BTEC Award)		
Sports Studies (Cambridge National)		
Hospitality & Catering (WJEC Vocational Award)		
Art, Craft & Design ** (see the guidance section of the booklet)		

The Optional Subjects

Option 3

Please select one subject and a reserve

	Selection	Reserve
Art, Craft & Design (3D Design)		
Art, Craft & Design (Fine Art)		
Art, Craft & Design (Textiles)		
Product Design		
Business		
Child Development (Cambridge National)		
Computer Science		
Drama		
Music		
History		
PE		
Enterprise (BTEC Award)		

Science

Science Pathway (please indicate a preference for Trilogy or Separate Science)

	Selection (tick)
Trilogy (Dual Award: 2 x GCSEs awarded in science)	
Separate Science (3 separate GCSEs in Chemistry, Physics and Biology)	

Both pathways allow progression to **A levels and university**
Grades are **equivalent across both routes**

Triple Science:

Leads to **three separate GCSEs**

More content and longer exams

Requires strong organisation and commitment

Combined Science:

Leads to **two GCSEs**

Covers the same core concepts in a more integrated way

Please note:

Important information

- Use the **guidance page in the Pathways Booklet** to help you to complete the form
- Year halves will be reorganised next year to help maximise subject combinations
- We aim for **as many students as possible to receive their first choices**
- Some subjects only run one group — these will be placed to reflect **majority preference**
- You will be asked to include **reserve choices** in case of clashes
- *Our priority is to create a timetable that works for as many students as possible*



**Please complete the on-line
form
by Friday 17th April.**

Presentation in the College Hall	6:00-6:30pm
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Presentations followed by Q&A	6:35-6:45pm		7:00- 7:10pm		7:25-7:35pm		7:50-8:00pm	
		Drama	F20	Drama	F20	Drama	F20	Drama
	GCSE PE	F1						
	PE National Cambridge	F2						
	History	College Hall						
	Geography	Conference 1&2						
	Computer Science / IT	F11						
	Business / Enterprise	F16						

Subject drop in for information / Q&A	6:35-8:00pm	
		3D Design / Product Design
	Textiles	D1
	Fine Art	D3
	German, Mandarin	C10
	French, Spanish	C13
	Animal Care	B10
	Child Development, Hospitality & Catering	F22
	Music	E1



TOP TIPS

Tips for choosing your options...

Making the right choices



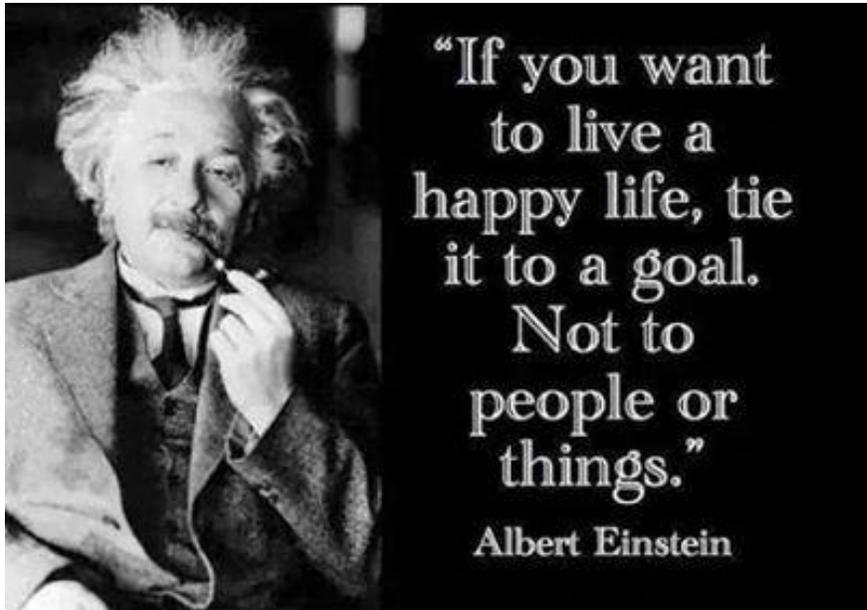
- Choose subjects you are **interested in and motivated by**
- Think about your **strengths** — where do you perform well?
- Consider your **future pathways**, but don't feel you need everything decided now
- Aim for a **balanced combination** of subjects
- Be realistic about **workload and challenge**

Mistakes to avoid



- ▶ Choosing a subject **just because of a teacher**
- ▶ Following friends rather than your own interests
- ▶ Picking something because it “sounds easy”
- ▶ Avoiding something you enjoy because it feels challenging
- ▶ 👉 *The best choices are personal, not influenced by others*

Do not follow your friends.



- ▶ It is easy to follow your friends and choose what they do, but ultimately, they will not be sitting the final exam, you will be.

How to make a confident decision



Talk to:

- Teachers
- Parents/carers
- Older students

Look at:

- Course content
- Assessment methods
- Career links

• Ask yourself:

- *Do I enjoy this subject?*
- *Am I willing to work hard at it?*

How to make a confident decision

“There is no single ‘perfect’ set of options — the right choices are the ones that help **you succeed and stay motivated over the next two years.**”