

# Subject Preferences 2024 - 2026



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# Introduction

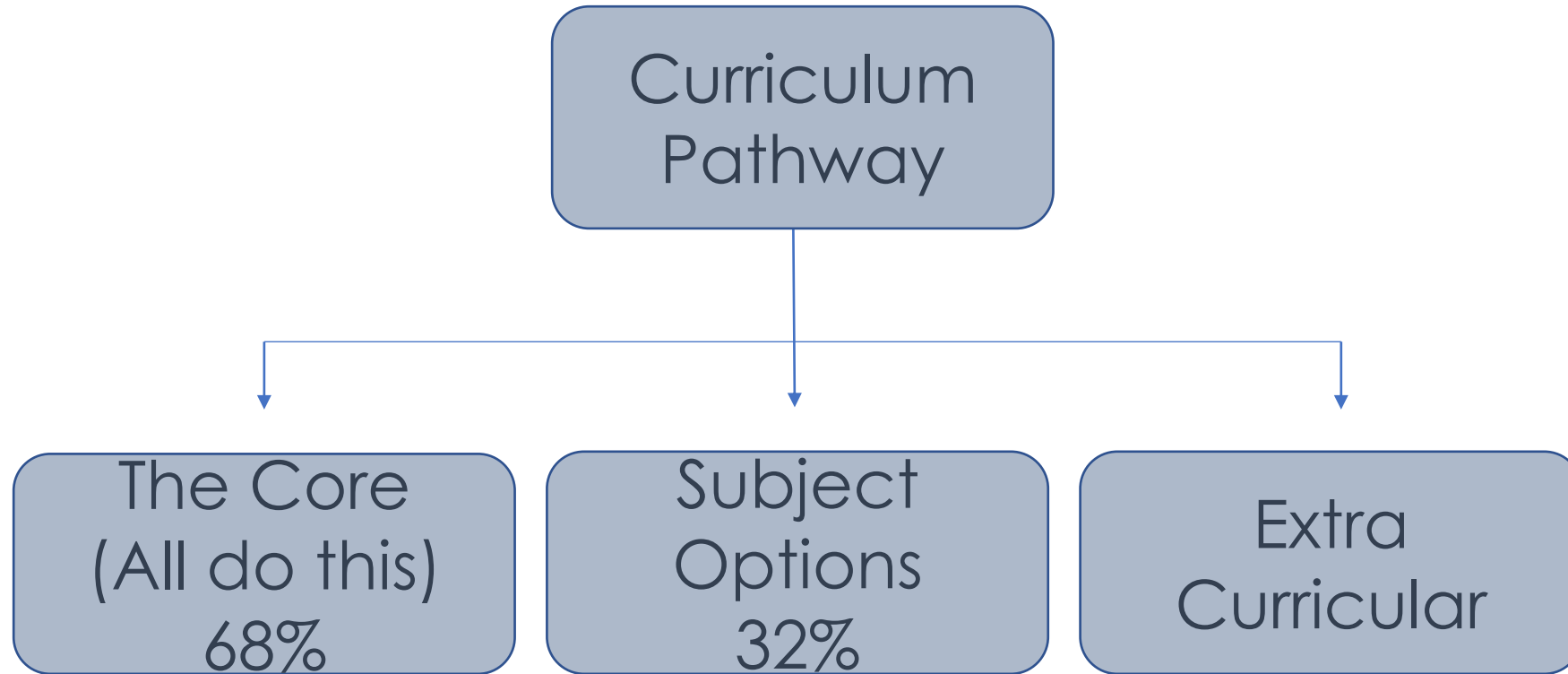
- The importance of, and responsibility for, selecting your child's educational path & getting the right balance
- Changes from previous years
- Our desire to get it right – information and guidance (Parents seminar; report; PCE)
- The online preferences process
- A chance to ask some questions
- A chance to speak to the subject leaders about the courses



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# The full picture of the curriculum



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# The Core Subjects

- **English** (4 hours per week)  
= 2 GCSEs; Language and Literature
- **Maths** (4 hours per week) = 1 GCSE
- **Double Award Science** (5 hours per week) = 2 GCSEs
- **PE** (2 hours per week)
- **PSHE** (1.25 hours per week)



# Your preferences

You will get to choose 4 other subjects to study as well as the Core.

These are your Preferences

Art

Business Studies

Computer Science

Dance

Drama

Product Design

Food Technology

French

Geography

Health & Social Care

History

iMedia

Music

Sport Science

Psychology

Religious Education

Spanish

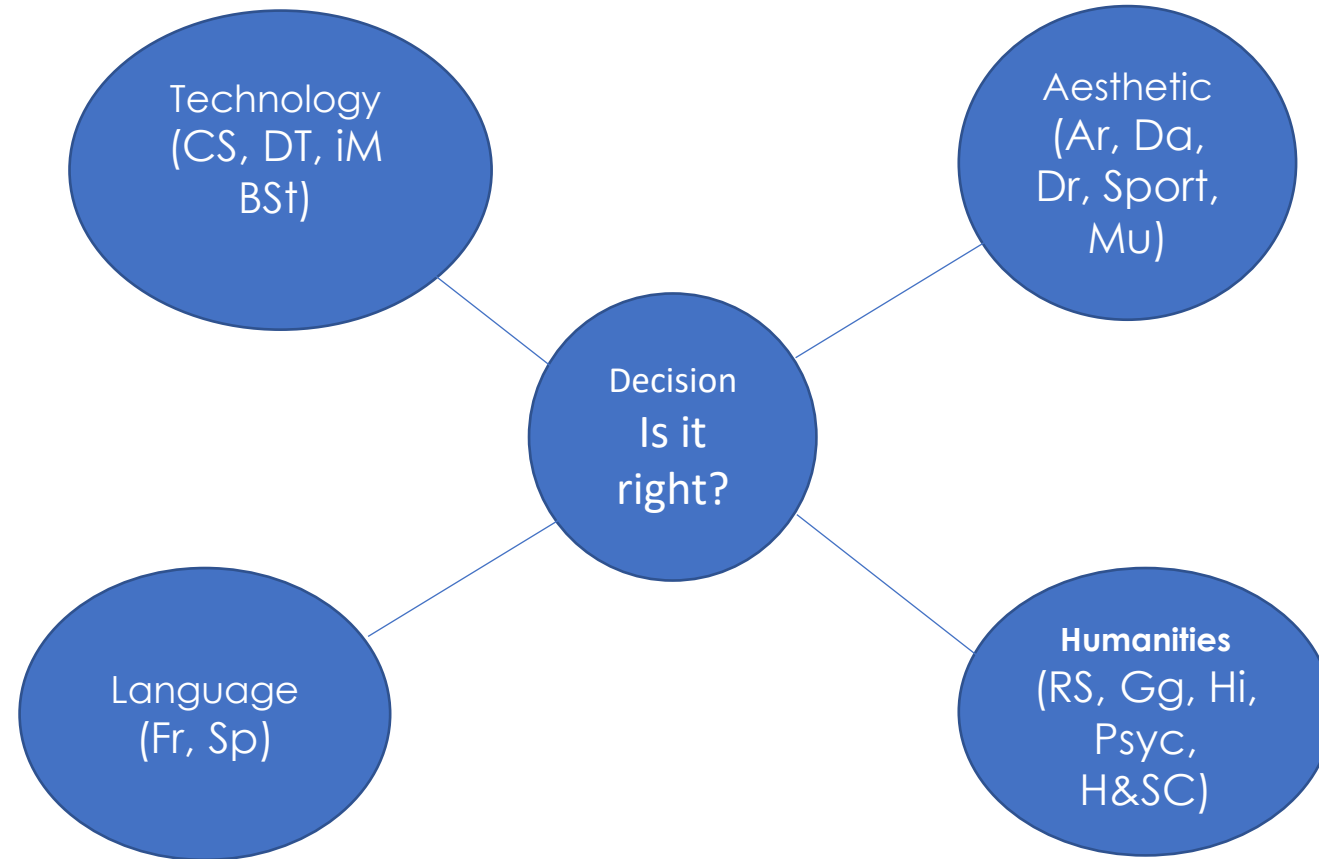
Triple Science



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# Key Decisions: Is it balanced?



# Subject Preferences

Although the process is generally a 'free choice' process with students choosing the subjects they wish to study there is one caveat

To meet the guidance from the Department for Education to ensure a 'broad and balanced' curriculum, students will need to choose at least one of the following subjects:

**Computer Science, French, Geography, History, Spanish or Triple Science**



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# Additional Limitations

The only other limits we place are linked to the facilities in school for specialist subjects.

It is not possible to choose both Drama and Dance, it is one or the other. This is due to the need to use the studio spaces for these subjects.

It is also not possible to choose both DT Food and Product Design, it is one or the other. This is due to these requiring specialist practical rooms.



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# Science

5 hours per week covering the key science subjects of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. This is worth 2 GCSEs and is called Double Science (Trilogy Paper).

If your child wishes to study Science at University then they might use one of their options choices to follow **Triple Science**, which will give them an extra five hours per fortnight and will result in them achieving a GCSE in each of the three science subjects (3 GCSEs in total).



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# Science

- Most students will study double science (Trilogy paper) which is worth 2 GCSEs. Issued as a double award e.g. 6-6
- Some students could take Triple Science (Single Science Paper) – worth 3 separate GCSEs
- 2 or 3 exam papers in each of the 3 separate subjects



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# Languages and reasons...

- We are 'Coubertin School' with the explicit aim of encouraging international cooperation
- Languages look great on a CV and can help get to a **top University**
- Languages can help make people more employable and open opportunities



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# Languages and reasons...

Whilst studying a Modern Foreign Language is not compulsory for students, we still encourage students to opt for one of these subjects

Firstly, because any student wishing to go to university will need to follow a broad and balanced academic pathway, of which a language is an important part

Secondly, our languages department is brilliant!



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# Modified Curriculum and Alternative Pathways

There is a pathway for some of our students who may need additional support to follow a modified curriculum. They will still choose 4 preferences, but modifications may be made moving forward. These students will be guided by our SENDCO (Ms Bennett) and our Teaching Support Team.

At the moment we do not have an Alternative Program, such as Construction, as we have had in the past. We are continuing to explore possibilities for this and will consider such modifications or specific learning plans on an individual basis once year 10 has started. This is not an option at this moment.



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# What is the role of the student?

- To take the process seriously
- To make good choices by understanding what decisions can be made
- To appreciate that some Options may not be possible due to numbers etc.
- To use data from Reports, Parents Evenings and own experience
- To make the best decisions and not just go along with friends



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# Things to consider

- The majority of exams will be terminal (at the end of 2 years of study)
- Only BTEC/CNAT subjects will use controlled assessments
- Ensure that you have a balanced approach to your options choices
- For those aspiring to university, seriously consider choosing a humanities and a language as part of your program (not just about qualification, but wider education)



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# Timescales

- **Tuesday January 16th, 2024**

Launch Assembly for Y9 students

Y9 Options Launch for parents and carers

- **Wednesday January 24th, 2024**

Follow up Assembly for Y9 students

- **Friday January 26th, 2024**

Details of the online form sent out, key information on the website

- **Thursday February 29th, 2024**

Parents Consultation Evening



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# Deadline

**Monday March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

Final DEADLINE for receipt of Preferences  
online form.



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# Next Steps

- **You will be able to access information about the different courses on the school website**
- **You can start to look at these and discuss with your child what their initial thoughts are**
- **Today your child will have an assembly that fully explains the process**
- **You can then use the reports issued in to help your discussions and the information from the Parent Consultation Evening next month.**



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# How the process works

The next slides will go over how the process is organised and what you do next with the online form.



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# Tools

This year we will be using a new website for collecting your preferences.

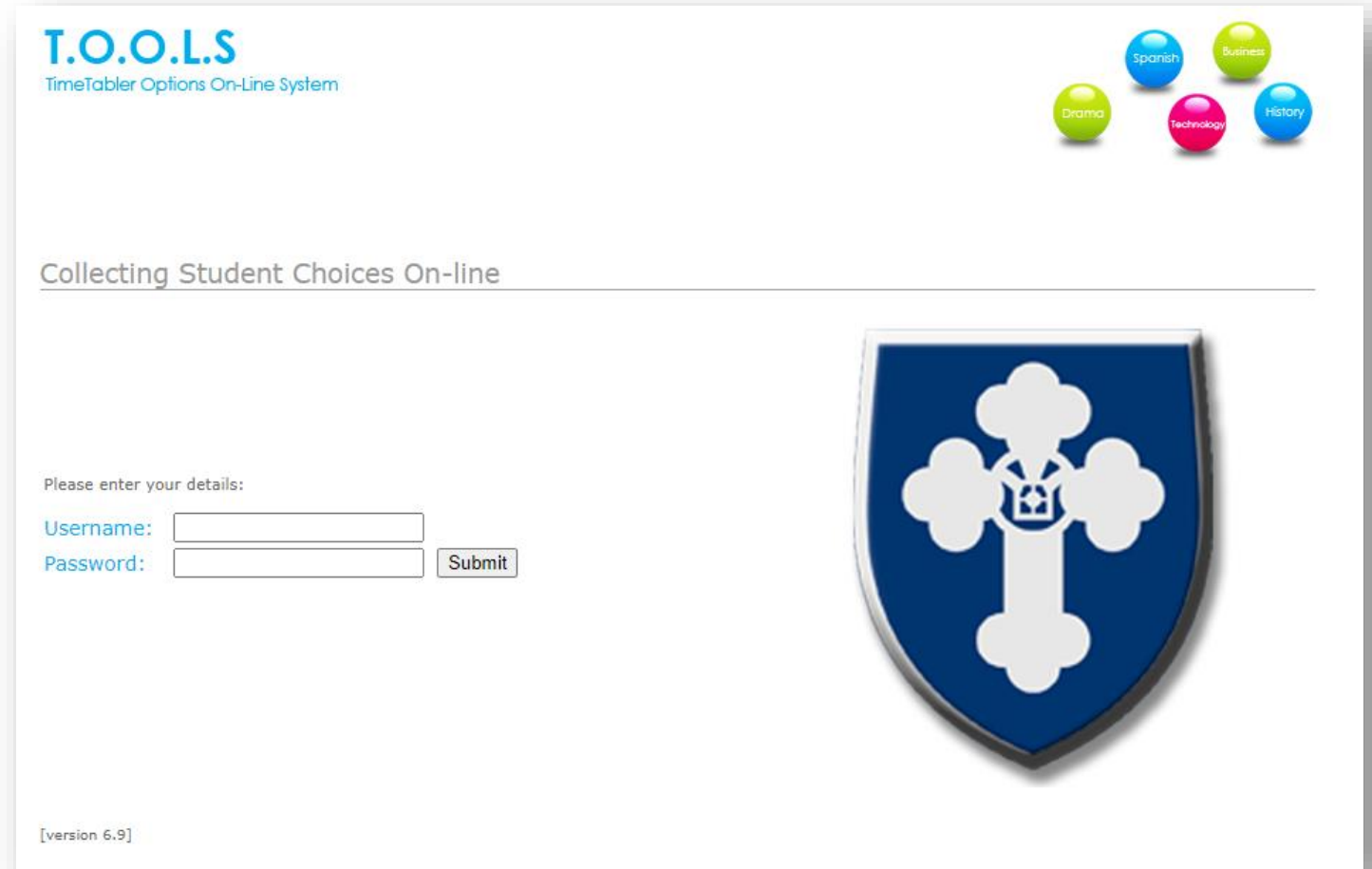
You will receive a copy of your username, password and the website address.

# Completing the online form

This is the website that you will need to use to complete the preferences process:

<https://www.studentoptions.co/wbs2024>

Type in your username and password in the appropriate boxes and then press submit.



**T.O.O.L.S.**  
TimeTabler Options On-Line System

Spanish Business  
Drama Technology History

Collecting Student Choices On-line

Please enter your details:

Username:

Password:

[version 6.9]



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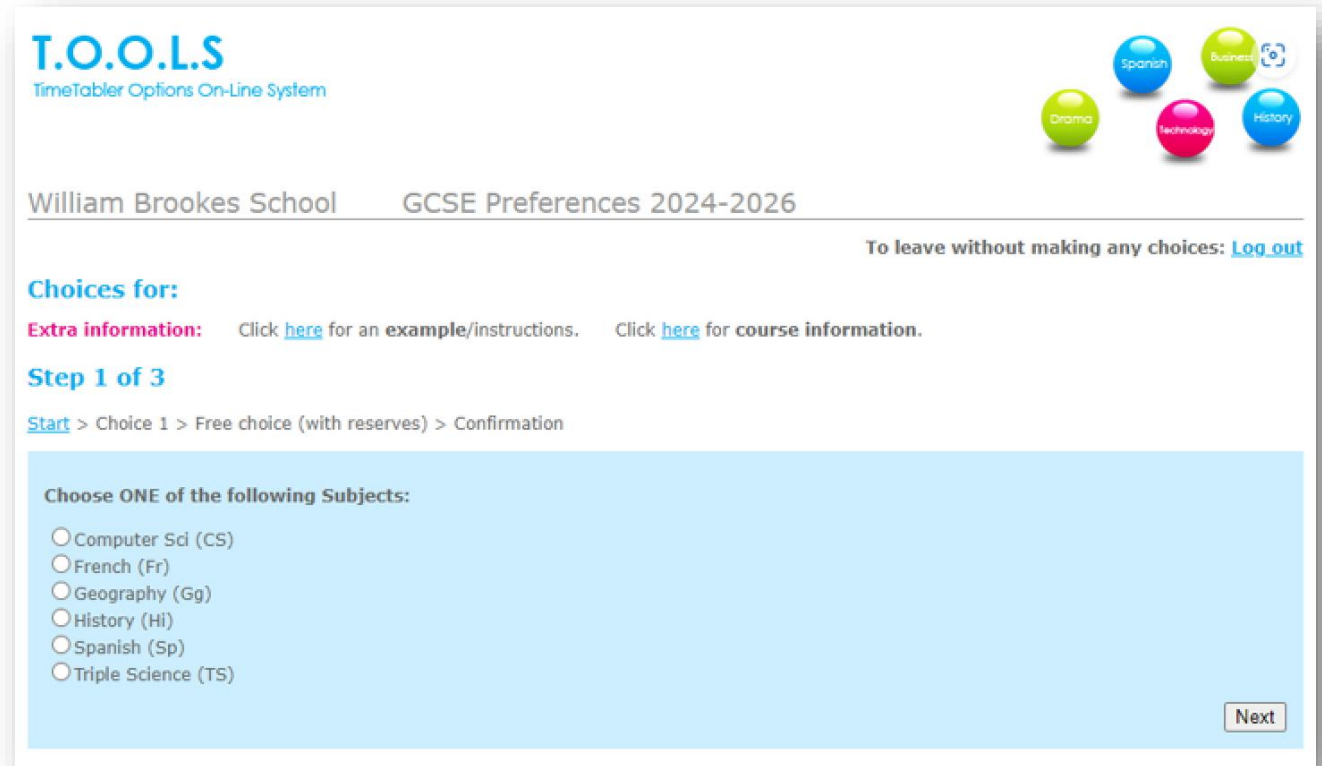
# Completing the online form

Once you have logged in to TOOLS, you should see the following screen, that contains our school name

Beneath that is your son/daughters name and their tutor group.

You then get to choose one of the compulsory subjects.

*Press Next*



**T.O.O.L.S.**  
TimeTabler Options On-Line System

Spanish Business  
Drama Technology History

William Brookes School GCSE Preferences 2024-2026

To leave without making any choices: [Log out](#)

**Choices for:**  
**Extra information:** Click [here](#) for an **example**/instructions. Click [here](#) for **course information**.

**Step 1 of 3**

[Start](#) > Choice 1 > Free choice (with reserves) > Confirmation

**Choose ONE of the following Subjects:**

- Computer Sci (CS)
- French (Fr)
- Geography (Gg)
- History (Hi)
- Spanish (Sp)
- Triple Science (TS)

Next

# Completing the online form

You can now select your 3 preferences, do this in your order of priority, so your next choice would be 2.

The subject you selected in Step 1 will Already be selected.

After you have selected preferences 2, 3 & 4 use R for your first reserve subject and S for your second reserve subject.

*Press Submit*

## Step 2 of 3

[Start](#) > [Choice: Computer Sci](#) > Free choice (with reserves) > Confirmation

Please enter your 3 choices by entering 2, 3, 4 in the box by your chosen subjects.

To mark your Reserve choice, put 'R' by that subject.

To mark your Second reserve choice, put 'S' by that subject.

Subject	Choice
Art (Ar)	<input type="text"/>
BusinessStudies (Busi)	<input type="text"/>
Computer Sci (CS)	Already selected
Dance (Da)	<input type="text"/>
Drama (Dr)	<input type="text"/>
Product Design (DT)	<input type="text"/>
Food Technology (Fd)	<input type="text"/>
French (Fr)	<input type="text"/>
Geography (Gg)	<input type="text"/>
Health & Social (H&S)	<input type="text"/>
History (Hi)	<input type="text"/>
iMedia (IM)	<input type="text"/>
Music (Mu)	<input type="text"/>
Physical Ed (PE)	<input type="text"/>
Psychology (Py)	<input type="text"/>
Religious Ed (RE)	<input type="text"/>
Spanish (Sp)	<input type="text"/>
Triple Science (TS)	<input type="text"/>

Submit

Reset this form

Clear this form



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# Completing the online form

Before your preferences are submitted you will be shown the choices you have made.

Check that these are correct and if so press 'Confirm Choices' if you wish to change any click on 'Go back and change choices'.

Please check your Subjects and if they are correct, click 'Confirm Choices'

Name:

Class:

Username:

Choice No.	Subject chosen
1	Computer Sci
2	Art
3	BusinessStudies
4	Dance
R	Drama
S	Product Design

Confirm Choices

Go back and change choices



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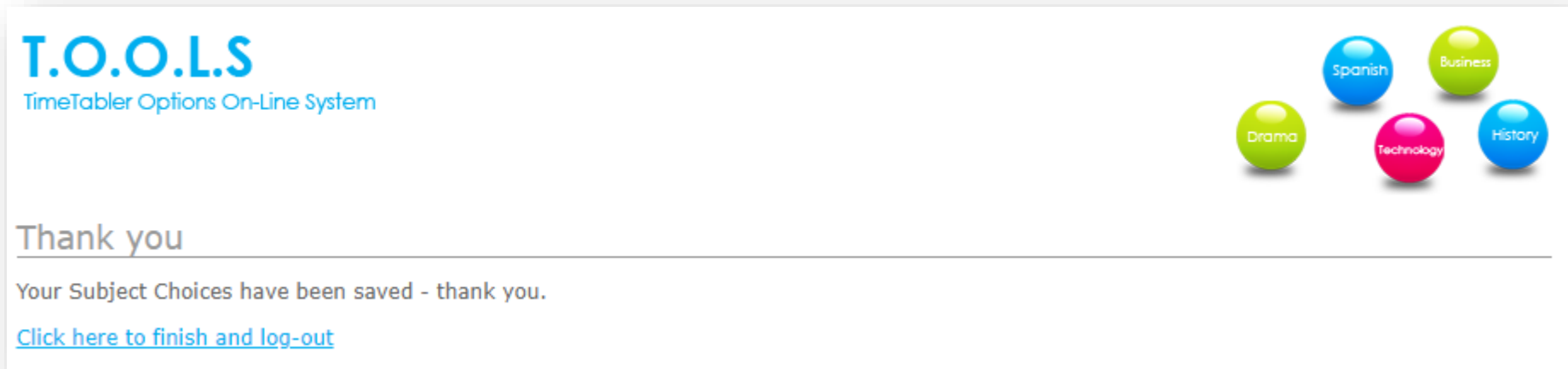
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# Completing the online form

You will then see these final screen, where you can click to log out.



**T.O.O.L.S**  
TimeTabler Options On-Line System

Thank you

Your Subject Choices have been saved - thank you.

[Click here to finish and log-out](#)

Spanish  
Business  
Drama  
Technology  
History



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# Any Questions

- This presentation will be put on the school website for you to access if required.
- Does anyone have any questions about the process?
- Subject leaders are in Studio 1 where they can answer any subject specific questions you may have.



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