



ST. AIDAN'S  
CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

# Year 9

## GCSE Option Choices and Careers Research

# The Careers Department



- Careers Information, Advice and Guidance
- Work Experience
- Help with choosing GCSE options

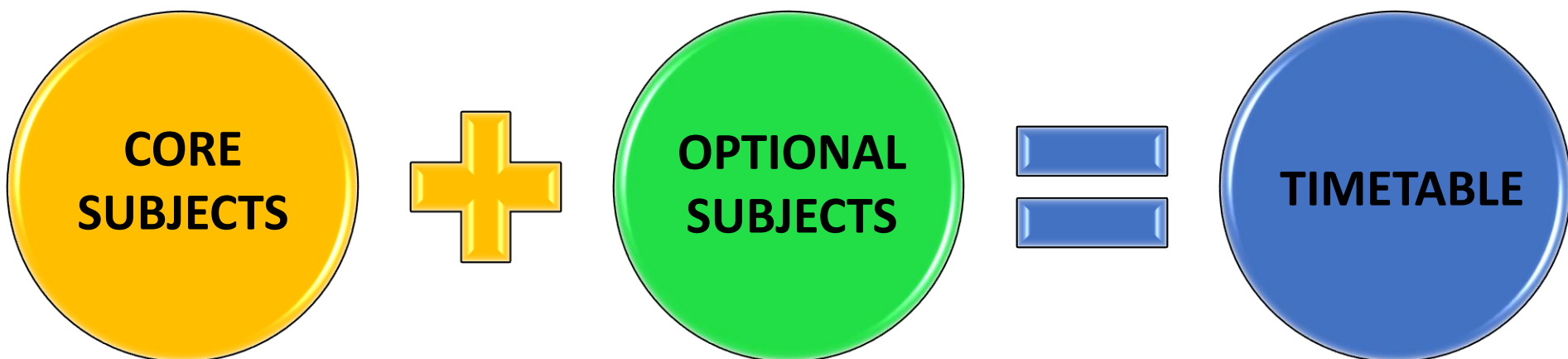


# Learning Objectives



- To begin to think about what factors you should consider when choosing your GCSE options
- To understand which individuals can help you with your choices
- To understand that different careers resources can also help you
- To introduce Indigo Careers and how you can use this digital resource to explore different careers and entry requirements

# Choosing GCSE subjects



**You!**  
decide ●

# Core Courses

- English
  - Language and Literature
- Mathematics
- Religious Studies
  - Christianity, Ethics and Philosophy *or*
  - Christianity, Ethics and St Mark's Gospel
- Science – Biology, Chemistry and Physics
  - Separate – 3 GCSEs
  - Combined – 2 GCSEs
  - BTEC Applied Science – 1 GCSE
- Modern Foreign Languages
  - French, German, Spanish *or* Core Skills



# Optional Courses



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**GRAPHIC  
COMMUNICATION**

**HISTORY**

*Dance*

**MUSIC**

**TEXTILES**

**Core Skills**

**ENGINEERING  
MANUFACTURE**

**Drama**

**COMPUTER  
SCIENCE**

**ict \* imedia**

**ASDAN**

**BUSINESS**

**DESIGN &  
TECHNOLOGY**

**FRENCH**

**Geography**

**FINE  
ART**

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

**Media  
Studies**

**Food &  
Nutrition**

# Positive reasons to choose a course

- You enjoy it
- You are good at it
- You like the method of teaching and assessment
- It combines well with other subjects
- It will be useful for a future career



# Negative reasons to choose a course

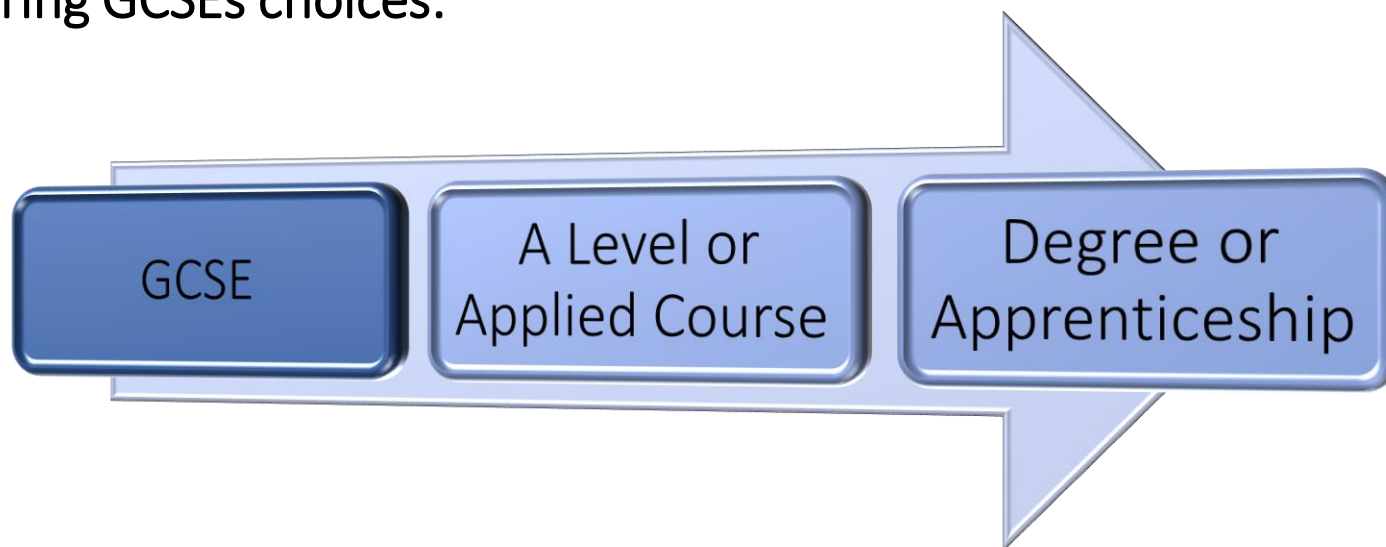
- Your friends are doing it
- You like the teacher
- You think it will be an easy option
- You can't think of anything else to choose





# Subjects and future careers

Some careers require specific subjects/courses, e.g., Architect, Engineer, Vet, so it may be a good idea to work backwards when considering GCSEs choices:



*Remember: Your core GCSE subjects will provide a good foundation for a multitude of different careers*

# Who can help?

- Subject teachers
- Form tutors
- Careers advisers – request a meeting
- Current GCSE and A Level students
- Careers websites
- Your family



# Useful websites

- [success at school - career zones](#)
- [success at school - parents ebook](#)
- [career pilot - job sectors](#)
- [eclips-online](#)
  - Contact [careersstaff@staidans.co.uk](mailto:careersstaff@staidans.co.uk) for the school password
- [Dream Bigger](#)



Open Monday – Friday  
9.00am - 4.30pm

Appointments  
Are  
Available  
*Book Now*

[careersstaff@staidans.co.uk](mailto:careersstaff@staidans.co.uk)

# Careers Research Task

# Careers Research Task



Using Indigo Careers website, in pairs, choose one of the following careers to research:

- Adult Nurse
- Costume Designer
- Cyber Security Expert

Answer questions for your chosen career on the following:

- Key features and responsibilities of the role
- Training and entry requirements for the role
- Typical working hours
- Location (e.g., indoor/outdoor/office/from home)
- Average Salary
- Job prospects – competition and demand
- Related careers

indigo

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## Career of the Month: Fitness Instructor



Minimum qualifications

a certificate of further education



Typical salary  
(with experience)

£15-20k



Competition for  
places

High



Demand for this role

High

Fitness instructors teach people how to exercise in a safe and effective manner, while also helping them work towards personal fitness targets. They could provide one-on-one services to clients, direct and choreograph group fitness activities and classes, or undertake a mixture of the two.

Related interests:

Medicine & Health

Education & Teaching

Sport, Exercise & Fitness

Useful skills and qualities:

Highly motivated

Inquisitive

A good problem solver

A good communicator

A team player

Full of initiative

Caring

A good negotiator

### Things to consider

#### Rewarding



You will play an active role in enhancing many people's lives by introducing them to exercise and ensuring they continue with it.

#### Make a difference



You will see tangible results of your efforts and guidance as people become fitter during the course of your work with them.

#### Unsocial hours or on call



You may have to work unsocial hours.

#### Strong demand



As society has become increasingly aware of health and fitness issues, the demand for fitness instructors has grown.

#### Very competitive



In certain areas and in popular high street gyms, competition for jobs can be tough.

Learn about more careers at <https://indigo.careers/>



# Careers Research...

## Careers

Explore your potential future by investigating careers with our search, filter and compare functions. Take a step back and look at the professional world by industry sector - and keep an eye out for employer profiles.

Watch employees talking about their careers

[Browse Videos](#)



Click on  
explore  
careers



### Explore careers

Over 600 profiles to explore, compare and download.



### Explore industry sectors

A wider view of the world of work.



### Explore employers

Discover some of the country's biggest businesses.



### Graphic Designer

Take a look at our choice for this month!

# Careers Research...

indigo

Careers

Unis

Menu

Careers > Explore careers

0 pages saved this session

Use the filters below to browse our career profiles. You can also search by job title or keyword, or select careers for side-by-side comparison by clicking the scales symbol then using the 'Compare' button.

Adult Nurse

Go

Lucky dip

Filters:

Show: Liked

Qualifications:

Select one...

Skills & Traits:

Select multiple...

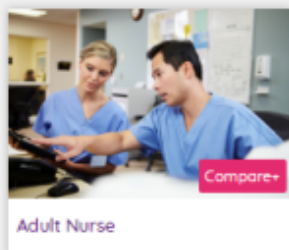
Interests:

Select multiple...

Industry:

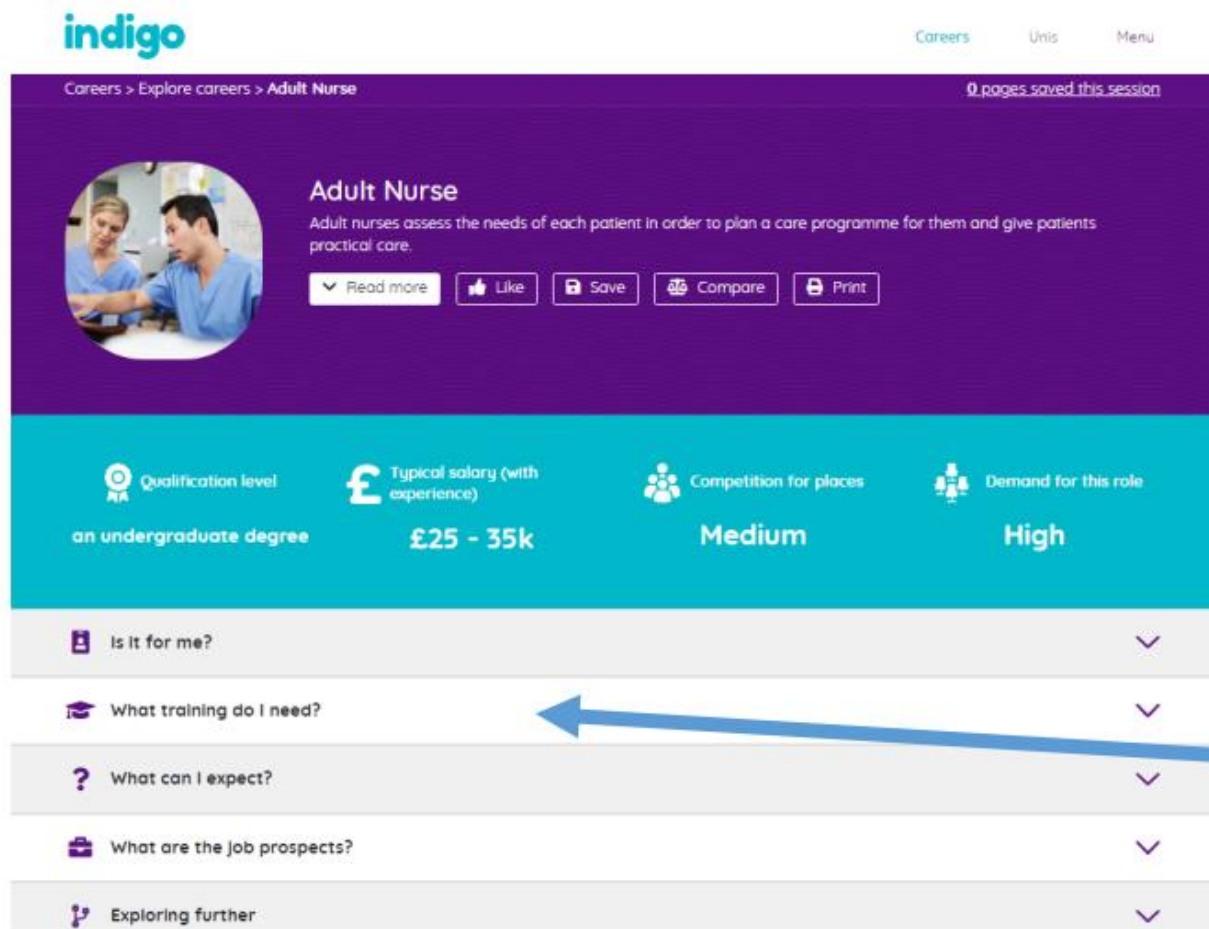
Select multiple...

Compare Careers +



Type in  
you're the  
career you  
have  
chosen to  
research

# Careers Research...



The screenshot shows the 'indigo' careers website. The main header is purple with the 'indigo' logo in teal. Below the header, the breadcrumb trail reads 'Careers > Explore careers > Adult Nurse'. A circular image of two nurses is on the left. To its right, the title 'Adult Nurse' is followed by a description: 'Adult nurses assess the needs of each patient in order to plan a care programme for them and give patients practical care.' Below this are buttons for 'Read more', 'Like', 'Save', 'Compare', and 'Print'. A teal bar contains four key facts: 'Qualification level: an undergraduate degree', 'Typical salary (with experience): £25 - 35k', 'Competition for places: Medium', and 'Demand for this role: High'. At the bottom, a list of questions with expandable arrows is shown. A blue arrow points from the text 'Open the drop-down areas to find the answers to the questions' to the first question, 'What training do I need?'.

indigo

Careers > Explore careers > Adult Nurse

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**Adult Nurse**  
Adult nurses assess the needs of each patient in order to plan a care programme for them and give patients practical care.

Read more Like Save Compare Print

**Qualification level**  
an undergraduate degree

**Typical salary (with experience)**  
£25 - 35k

**Competition for places**  
Medium

**Demand for this role**  
High

Is it for me?

What training do I need?

What can I expect?

What are the job prospects?

Exploring further

Open the  
drop-  
down  
areas to  
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the  
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[Browse Videos](#)



If time allows you can do some of your own research.....



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Over 600 profiles to explore, compare and download.



### Explore industry sectors

A wider view of the world of work.



### Explore employers

Discover some of the country's biggest businesses.



### Graphic Designer

Take a look at our choice for this month!

Click 'Explore careers' to find out more about individual jobs



# Careers Research...

Filters:

Qualifications:


Interests:

Skills & Traits:

Industry:

Show: Liked

Compare Careers +



Author	Scriptwriter	Database Administrator	Payroll Manager
Bookseller	Comedian	Copywriter	Editorial Assistant
Newspaper/Magazine/Web	Online/Web Content Manager	Receptionist	Recruitment Consultant

Answer questions on your interests, skills and traits to explore different careers

# Careers Research...



Armed Forces



Business



Charity



Construction



Creative Arts



Education, Information &  
Culture



Energy & Water



Entertainment



Environment



Farming, Agriculture & Animals



Fashion



Financial Services

Click on an industry sector below to see more about each field of work.

Some jobs, like HR and finance positions, are available in almost every sector