

# Option blocks for Y9 students (2025)

A block is a list of classes that are timetabled to take place at the same time during the week, for example all block Z lessons will take place Wed P1 and Friday P5/6

Students need to select one class from each block.

| W                              | X                              | Y                              | Z                              |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Business                       | Art                            | Art                            | Art                            |
| Business & marketing           | Child development              | Business                       | Business                       |
| Computer science               | Digital Skills                 | Geography                      | Computer science               |
| Drama                          | Food and Nutrition             | History                        | Food and Nutrition             |
| Fashion & Textiles             | Geography                      | History - Entry level          | History                        |
| Food and Nutrition             | Music                          | Health and Social              | Health and Social              |
| French                         | Physical Education (PE)        | Information technology         | Information technology         |
| Geography                      | Personal Development Programme | Manx                           | Personal Development Programme |
| History                        | Product design                 | Media                          | Product design                 |
| Personal Development Programme | Spanish                        | Personal Development Programme | Spanish                        |
| Skills for Work Engineering    | Sport                          | Product design                 | UCM Engineering (6 places)     |
| Spanish                        |                                | Skills for Work Engineering    | UCM Salon services (6 places)  |
|                                |                                |                                | UCM Hospitality (6 places)     |
|                                |                                |                                | UCM Construction (6 places)    |

Please note there are very limited places for the UCM courses.

Places on UCM courses will be allocated based on suitability and need in conjunction with UCM and may involve aptitude tests.

Post 16 pathways at UCM do not require students to have studied at UCM during KS4.

Year 10 UCM classes will take place in UCM classrooms on Friday afternoons. Students commence these subjects on the understanding that they are required to make their way to the correct UCM building during Friday lunchtime and on Wednesday mornings students begin school at the start of period 2.

## Course Summary

| Subject                        | Grades that can be achieved |         |             | Assessment |      |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------|-------------|------------|------|
|                                | Level 2                     | Level 1 | Entry level | Exam       | NEA  |
| Art                            | A*ABC                       | DEFG    |             | 40%        | 60%  |
| Business & Marketing           | L5 Pass                     |         |             | -          | 100% |
| Business Studies               | 987654                      | 321     |             | 100%       | -    |
| Child Development              | L2 Pass                     | L1 Pass |             | 40%        | 60%  |
| Computer Science               | 987654                      | 321     |             | 100%       | -    |
| Digital Skills                 |                             | L4 pass |             | -          | 100% |
| Drama                          | A*ABC                       | DEFG    |             | 40%        | 60%  |
| Fashion and Textiles           | A*ABC                       | DEFG    |             | 50%        | 50%  |
| Food and Nutrition             | A*ABC                       | DEFG    |             | 40%        | 60%  |
| French                         | A*ABC                       | DEFG    |             | 100%       | -    |
| Geography                      | A*ABC                       | DEFG    |             | 100%       | -    |
| Health & Social                | A*ABC                       | DEFG    |             | 40%        | 60%  |
| History                        | 987654                      | 321     |             | 100%       | -    |
| History-Entry Level            |                             |         | E1,E2,E3    | -          | 100% |
| Information Technology (ICT)   | L5 Pass                     |         |             | -          | 100% |
| Media                          | A*ABC                       | DEFG    |             | 60%        | 40%  |
| Music                          | A*ABC                       | DEFG    |             | 30%        | 70%  |
| Physical Education (PE)        | A*ABC                       | DEFG    |             | 50%        | 50%  |
| Personal Development Programme |                             |         | Pass        | -          | 100% |
| Product Design                 | A*ABC                       | DEFG    |             | 50%        | 50%  |
| Skills for work Engineering    | N5 pass                     |         |             | -          | 100% |
| Spanish                        | A*ABC                       | DEFG    |             | 100%       | -    |
| Sport                          | D*DMP                       | L1 Pass |             | 40%        | 60%  |
| UCM Engineering                | L2 pass                     |         |             | -          | 100% |
| UCM Salon Services             | L2 pass                     |         |             | -          | 100% |
| UCM Hospitality                |                             | L1 pass |             | -          | 100% |
| UCM Construction               |                             |         | Pass        | -          | 100% |

## Y9 Options - Criteria for Success

Studying at Key Stage 4 is much more demanding than at Key Stage 3. There is a significant amount of knowledge to memorise, concepts to understand and skills to develop. To be successful you need to:

- Attend regularly to prevent gaps in your knowledge.
- Positively participate in activities to build understanding and develop skills.
- Consistently complete independent learning (homework), to complete tasks, practice skills, develop understanding and revise content.

A good attendance record, a good behaviour record and a good homework record are therefore three criteria that all courses have. If one or more of these criteria is below what is expected, then it is likely that we would have to review your suitability for a particular course.

In addition:

Some courses have non examined assessments (coursework) that require students to perform at a certain standard/skill level prior to starting the course.

| Subject                 | Criteria for success   |
|-------------------------|--|
| Music                   | Play an instrument and/or sing to a good standard and preferably the ability to read music |
| Physical Education (PE) | Take part in organised sport to a high level in at least one sport                         |

Some courses have non examined assessments that take place during the course which are time critical and require students to work to tight deadlines.

| Subject           | Criteria for success   |
|-------------------|--|
| Child development | Excellent attendance (over 95%) and<br>A good independent learning (homework) record |
| Health and Social | Excellent attendance (over 95%) and<br>A good independent learning (homework) record |

Some courses require a certain level of prior academic achievement to make the content accessible.

| Subject          | Criteria for success   |
|------------------|--|
| Computer science | Mathematics forecast C or above                              |
| French           | Scores of 50% or higher in all skill areas in Y9 assessments |
| Media            | English forecast C or above                                  |
| Manx             | To have studied Manx throughout Ks3                          |
| Spanish          | Scores of 50% or higher in all skill areas in Y9 assessments |