



Making the right choices

Year 9 parents' information evening

30th January 2020



- Significant reform of KS4 qualifications
- Content, assessment methods and the way they are graded have all changed
- This applies for every subject your child will take



Grading new GSCEs from 2017

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

Making the right choices



The core curriculum

All pupils will all take:

- Maths
- English Literature
- English Language
- Science (either **double** or **triple**)

All choose:

- Geography
- History

Most:

Will continue with your
Modern Foreign
Language

The options curriculum

- Most will have two further choices of subjects
- We ask these are made in order of preference – **this is really important!**
- You also have to choose two reserve subjects also in order of preference – **this is really important too!**
- All subjects lead to a GCSE qualification apart from those in red
- These are called vocational qualifications but are the equivalent of a GCSE
- To take computer science you must be in maths set 1-3

- History
- Geography
- P&R
- French
- German
- Spanish
- Design technology
- Food preparation and nutrition
- **Child Development**
- Art, craft and design
- Art textiles
- Photography
- PE/**Sports studies**
- **Performing Arts**
- Drama
- Music
- Sociology
- Business studies
- Computer science

What are vocational qualifications?

- They are a **level 2** qualification i.e. the equivalent of a GCSE
- They are assessed less through exams and more through internally set pieces of work
- The curriculum covered has a more practical application than GCSEs
- They are **NOT** an easy option
- They are graded differently

Child development

Performing Arts

Sports Studies

GCSE grading	Vocational grading
9	Level 2 Distinction *
8	Level 2 Distinction
7	
6	Level 2 Merit
5 STRONG PASS	Level 2 Pass
4 STANDARD PASS	
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3	Level 1 Distinction
2	Level 1 Merit
1	Level 1 Pass
U	

Well being curriculum

- Core PE twice per week
- Spiritual, Moral, Social Cultural (SMSC) lessons once per fortnight
- Daily tutor time

Extra curricular programme

- Sport
- Drama
- Music
- Art
- Community projects
- Charity work

Making the best choices

- Think about what subjects you are good at and what subjects you enjoy
- Find out about subjects you are considering by attending the information sessions & speaking to teachers
- Talk to your tutor and ask their advice
- Talk it through with your parents/carers



Subject information sessions

Mon 3/2		Tues 4/2		Weds 5/2		Thurs 6/2	
Food preparation and nutrition	E Price DT8	Art and design	J Lewis AR1	Product design	S Leonard DT3	Philosophy and Religion Mrs Spiers	<u>MCR</u>
Sociology	Ms Browne <u>SFT</u>	Art and textiles	S Walton DT9	PE	K Bergh & N Rae <u>SFT</u>	Performing Arts Mrs Lewis	<u>SFT</u>
Drama	E Merry Dance Studio	Photography	C Ray AR6	Child development	K Lewis DT7	Computing Mr Conkie	MA9
Music	V Cooper MU2	Business Studies	BS2 & BS3 D East & Z Sharper				

- What will we be learning?
- How will you be assessed?
- What type of pupil enjoys this course?
- In other options subjects, pupils will have this information during their normal lesson time



Will the subjects I pick influence the career plans I have?





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The Complete Destinations Platform

- Track careers progress, activities and interactions throughout school.
- Find information on subjects and careers that will help to make KS4 and KS5 options choices
- Find and apply for the best post-18 courses and apprenticeships.

www.unifrog.org



Exploring pathways

Careers library

Subjects library

Know-how library

MOOC

Searching for opportunities

UK universities

US universities

European universities

Oxbridge

Apprenticeships

College/ Sixth Form

Canadian universities

Recording what you've done

Activities

Competencies

Interactions

Create an account

Sign up

Drafting application materials

Personal Statement

CV / Resumé

Teacher References

Common App Essay

Making applications

Post 16/18

Locker

Applications list

First time signup www.unifrog.org/code

Signup page

To create your own account, please fill in the following form.

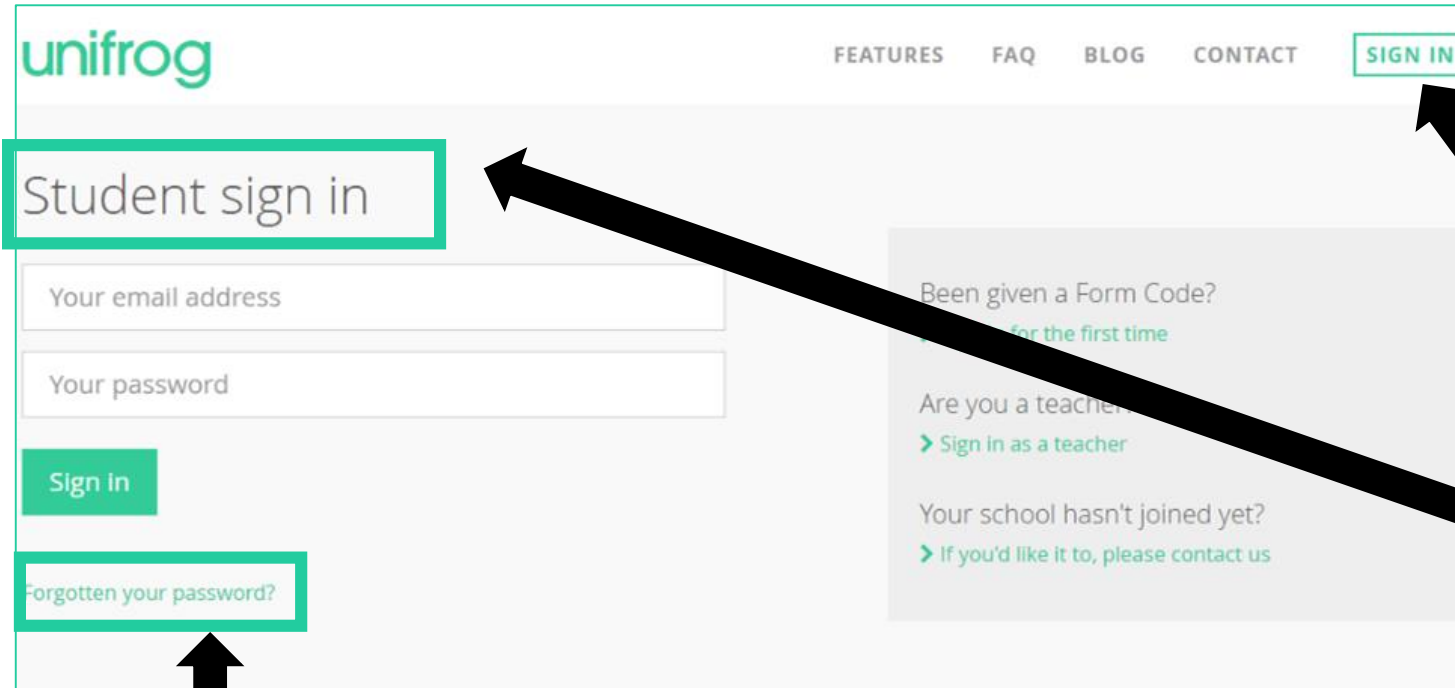
* Form code	<input type="text"/>
* Title	---- select your title ----
* First name	<input type="text"/>
* Surname	<input type="text"/>
* Email address	<input type="text"/>
* Postcode	<input type="text"/>
* Password	<input type="password"/>
* Retype password	<input type="password"/>

Completing the **Signup page** is simple.

Put the code:
backwellparents

Use an email address and your home postcode. Your email and password will be your login from now on

Access your account at www.unifrog.org



The screenshot shows the Unifrog website's login interface. At the top left is the 'unifrog' logo. To its right are navigation links: 'FEATURES', 'FAQ', 'BLOG', and 'CONTACT'. Further right is a 'SIGN IN' button. Below the navigation bar, on the left, is a section titled 'Student sign in'. Under this title are two input fields: 'Your email address' and 'Your password'. Below these fields is a green 'Sign in' button. At the bottom of this section is a link that says 'Forgotten your password?'. To the right of the input fields is a grey box containing three options: 'Been given a Form Code? for the first time', 'Are you a teacher? > Sign in as a teacher', and 'Your school hasn't joined yet? > If you'd like it to, please contact us'. A large black arrow points from the 'SIGN IN' button at the top right towards the 'Student sign in' section. Another black arrow points from the bottom of the page towards the 'Forgotten your password?' link.

Every time you login to Unifrog from now on, sign in here.

Ensure you are signing in as the correct individual (i.e. Parents sign in as students).

*N.B If you do forget your password, hit this link to reset.



BACKWELL SCHOOL

CAREERS FAIR 2020



THURS
27 FEB

6pm-
8pm

SLT

All Years
Welcome

40 employers,
organisations,
colleges and
universities.

Talks in the Sixth Form Theatre

6.15 & 7.15: Why Go to University

6.45 & 7.45: Apprenticeships

Successful students

- ✓ Are proactive in finding out about the subjects they are considering
- ✓ Talk through their ideas with tutors, teachers, parents & carers
- ✓ Pick subjects they enjoy
- ✓ Listen to advice



Potential pitfalls

- Choosing a subject based on your favourite teacher
- Choosing subjects just because your friends are doing them
- Choosing new subjects without finding out about them
- Not thinking carefully about your reserve subjects



Who can help you?

- Tutor
- Subject teachers
- Pastoral leaders
- Older pupils
- Parents/carers

What happens now?

- Read the options booklet carefully
- Subject information sessions 3rd-6th Feb & 10th-13th Feb
- Options forms will be handed out on **Friday 7th February**
- Deadline for forms is Monday 24th February (first day back after half term)
- They can of course be handed back before then

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