



OPTIONS BOOKLET AND PROCEDURES

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to our options booklet page. This is a really crucial time in our students' education; the first time that they have the opportunity to decide which subjects they wish to study. It is their opening steps in steering the course of their education towards their future career path. This is an exciting time, and I know parents are willing to work with us to the fullest extent to find the best outcomes for their children.

The information provided on this page will be thoroughly discussed with our students and their parents to help them fully prepare for the choices ahead.

Atlantic Hall is a dual curriculum school, and this comes with a lot of challenges, but it allows for flexibility in many areas to suit the needs of our students. We are very careful to help our students determine the relevant prerequisite subjects from the breadth of subjects available from the WASSCE and IGCSE curriculum, suitable for their various aspirations and destinations (Nigeria or overseas).

PROCEDURES FOR SUBJECT SELECTION

1. STUDENTS' INVOLVEMENT

Immediately after the Checkpoint examinations in Year 9 between May and July of every year, we hold sessions with the students to discuss their transition into the Senior School. We focus on the description of each of the available subjects, relevant combinations, subject requirements for specific career pathways in Nigerian and overseas schools, skill requirements for each subject and other helpful information.

During one of these sessions, each student is handed a questionnaire to guide their selection of subjects. They are required to choose subjects based on interest, aptitude, ability and the ones in which they are likely to get good grades.

2. PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

We hold scheduled meetings with individual parents between June and July to help them understand the process and to communicate the school's expectations to them. The discussion is usually data-driven to allow parents to take a more objective and realistic view of the whole process. Data from the Cognitive Ability Test (CAT4), previous attainments (from JSS1 – Checkpoint), and Pupils' Attitude to Self and School analysis (PASS) are presented to parents. Parents thereafter have the opportunity to discuss with the school.

3. COMPLETION OF ONLINE FORM

For parents who are unable to come to our Campus due to distance or their location and other reasons, we send a link to them to complete a form with specific instructions and guidance to ensure that objective decisions are taken. Once the form is submitted, we review the selections and give our professional feedback, which may require a fresh submission) They resubmit the form.

We expect such parents to consider the following:

- Allow for different pathways; for instance, students interested in science may want to add more options for diversification, should there be a change of mind in the future.
- If the child is not an avid reader, he/she is not expected to pick all very broad subjects; they are encouraged/advised to add practical-oriented subjects or those not so broad in content. We do not expect students to pick all very broad subjects; they may want to add other practical-oriented subjects or those with less broad content.
- Should there be any uncertainty in the choice of subjects or course of study, we strongly recommend reliance on previous academic performance from JSS1-JSS3.
- In case the child wants to do Physics without Chemistry, it is advisable that one of these subjects is picked as an additional option: Visual Art, Technical Drawing or ICT.
- If the parents' aspiration for the child is Nigeria, or there is uncertainty about a country of study after secondary school, we advise that Physics and Chemistry be picked; the option of choosing one without the other may not apply.
- We strongly advise total reliance on the child's interest, potential, and previous academic performance when making choices. Any selection hinged on the premise of challenging a child in subjects where there is little or no interest or ability will likely frustrate the child and negatively impact performance in other subjects.

4. PICKING AND DROPPING OF SUBJECTS

Students will be allowed to drop and pick a subject during the first half term of their Year 10, NOT mid-term break. Changes will be implemented immediately at the beginning of the 2nd half term of Year 10, and no further changes will be allowed until Year 12, when students will be given the option to drop the number of subjects from 10 to 9. Specifically, students will NOT be able to pick new subjects after the 1st Term in Year 10. Any intended change(s) must be communicated to the school via email within the stipulated time.

The option for a student to drop to 8 subjects, which is the minimum requirement for WASSCE, will be at the discretion of the school's Academic Board.

5. SUBJECT CATEGORIES

All students are expected to choose ten (10) subjects from Year 10. Six (6) subjects are compulsory (five of them, except Biology, are based on the WASSCE curriculum), and four are optional.

COMPULSORY SUBJECTS (for all students) COMPULSORY SUBJECTS (For all students)

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. English Language 2. General Mathematics 3. Citizenship and Heritage Studies (PSCHE) 4. Digital Technologies 5. One Trade Subject 6. Biology (Atlantic Hall) |
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TRADE SUBJECTS (Students should pick one from the following):

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fashion Design and Garment Making 2. Beauty and Cosmetology 3. Computer Hardware and GSM Repairs 4. Solar Photovoltaic Installation and Maintenance |
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Students should pick their remaining four subjects from the list of subjects below in any combination:

Category	SCIENCE	HUMANITIES	BUSINESS
Courses	Chemistry Physics Agriculture Further Mathematics Physical Education Food & Nutrition Geography Technical Drawing ICT	History Government Christian Religious Studies Islamic Religious Studies French English Literature One Nigerian Language (Igbo/Yoruba) Catering Craft Visual Art Music	Accounting Business Studies/Commerce Enterprise/Marketing Economics

Students planning to go abroad for further studies should consider including a science and/or a Humanities subject (you can pick subjects across the columns) in their combination to broaden their studies.

5. BLOCK PATTERN DESIGN FOR YEAR 10

Students will choose one subject from each of the subject blocks as shown below:

BLOCK 1	BLOCK 2	BLOCK 3	BLOCK 4	BLOCK 5
PHYSICS	ICT	ECONOMICS	CHEMISTRY	BUSINESS STUDIES
BUSINESS STUDIES	FOOD & NUTRITION	GEOGRAPHY	FOOD & NUTRITION	ECONOMICS
ECONOMICS	HISTORY	DESIGN & TECH	PHYSICS	GEOGRAPHY
HISTORY	FINANCIAL ACCOUNT	ENGLISH LITERATURE	GOVERNMENT	PHYSICS
ADDITIONAL/FURTHER MATHS	FRENCH	CHEMISTRY	ECONOMICS	ICT
ART & DESIGN	DESIGN & TECH	ICT	IRK	CHEMISTRY
CRK	PHYSICS			MUSIC
	IGBO/YORUBA			

N.B: The above is a sample block pattern – it varies per session.

6. QUESTIONNAIRE FOR STUDENTS

Answer the following questions:

1. How would you categorise yourself? You can tick more than one, but a maximum of two:
 - a. Science –oriented
 - b. Arts-oriented
 - c. Music-oriented
 - d. Sports-oriented
 - e. People-oriented
 - f. business-oriented
 - g. computer-oriented

2. How would you describe yourself? You can tick more than one, but a maximum of two:
 - a. Bookworm
 - b. Activist
 - c. Calm
 - d. Event person
 - e. Playful
 - f. Organized
 - g. Always on time for events

3. What is your ideal job? You can tick a maximum of two
 - a. Medicine
 - b. Engineering
 - c. Scientist
 - d. Solicitor/Legal Practitioner
 - e. Educator
 - f. Criminologist
 - g. Human Resources
 - h. Architect
 - i. Business Developer
 - j. Event Organiser
 - k. Sports Coach/Analyst
 - l. Public Relations
 - m. Economist
 - n. Radio/TV Presenter
 - o. Others, name it.....

4. (a) In what Country do you plan to further your education after Atlantic Hall?
.....
- (b) What course do you want to study?.....

5. What subjects would you need to get admission into your course of interest?.....
6. Do you think you can offer these subjects leading to your course of interest? (a.) Yes, I have the ability (b.) I am not sure, but I want to try.
7. How many hours can YOU dedicate to studying in a day:
8. Prioritise in order of importance, by numbering, e.g. 1- for the most important to you, 2, 3, 4 and so on.

ASSIGNMENTS	
SPORTS	
DRAMA	
MUSIC	
MEETING TEACHERS FOR FURTHER LESSONS	
READING AT PREP	
READING AT OTHER TIMES	
BEING PUNCTUAL TO CLASS	
PAYING FULL ATTENTION IN CLASS	
GETTING GOOD MARKS	

SOME TIPS FOR MAKING GOOD CHOICES (FOR STUDENTS)

When considering their options/choices, students should try to balance the following factors:

- Interest and enjoyment
- Ability and progress
- Sensible combinations (those which are likely to ensure a broad education)

Do.....

- ✓ Remember that all subjects are of equal standard and value.
- ✓ Choose subjects **you** are interested in and which you are likely to enjoy.
- ✓ Think about the variety within your curriculum as you select your subjects and try to arrive at a balance which matches your talents.
- ✓ Choose subjects in which you are likely to achieve success.
- ✓ Choose subjects that fit with your future needs.

- ✓ Remember that the subjects last for two years – you will not be able to change your mind at the end of Year 10 for students intending to write IGCSE!
- ✓ Pay attention to the method of assessment and choose a subject where you know you can obtain a high level of marks.
- ✓ Find out more about careers you may be interested in. Which qualifications are needed for the different levels of entry? Sometimes, this research gives students a goal during the IGCSE years.
- ✓ Talk to your parents, your teachers and counsellors. Although they may not want to decide for you, they will each have an important perspective.
- ✓ Try to be realistic in your choices; commitments out of school, such as drama, music and sport, are also important and should complement your academic choices and studies.

Don't.....

- ✓ Choose subjects just because your friends are choosing them.
- ✓ Choose a subject just because you get on well with your teacher. You might well have a different teacher in Year 11.
- ✓ Choose a subject because you think it might be easy.
- ✓ Make your decision hastily.

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Next Review: May 2027