

Art

Geography Music

English

French IT Accounting  
Literacy

History

Drama

Maths

Lo

Science isiXhosa

Afrikaans

Economics

Biology

# Subject Choice Presentation

## August 2017

### Outline

- Getting started
- Life Orientation's input with the boys
- University expectations
- Subject selection

# Listen to a range of voices

- Talk to teachers, tutors and even older boys who do the subject. More intricate questions can also be posed to the HOD.
- An aptitude test gives an indication of a sphere of interest and ability, guiding subject choice.
- Do some research of university requirements.  
(but remember these may change before he is in matric)
- A planned career doesn't start next year and may change many times.

**Parents and boys need to talk**

# Who am I?

- Do something for which you have a passion.
  - Wildlife photography
  - Formula 1 mechanic
- By the time they are 30, there will be careers available that don't even exist today - they need to be **educated** to access these.
- Knowledge changes so quickly these days that the most important thing they learn at school is **how to learn**.



# Bad reasons for choosing a subject

- Trying to be in class with your friends.
- Copying my parent's career.
- Trying to be with your favourite teacher.
  - You may not have the same teacher you have now all the way to matric.
- Too focused on a specific career.
  - What if it changes?

# Good reasons for choosing a subject

- Keep a good balance.
- What do I love doing?
- What subjects am I good at?
- Can I handle the hours working on practical work?



**LIFE ORIENTATION INVOLVEMENT**

# How we help their quest

- A catalyst for thought and self-examination
- An inspiration to aim as high as possible
- Manage the tension between dreams and reality
- A resource base
- A support wherever applicable and appropriate



# LO processes

- Interactive web site: PACE Career Centre
- A basic interest/aptitude questionnaire
- Information on careers related to these fields
- Values, personality traits, aptitudes, subjects recommended
- Direct links to universities
- Individual help to make some preliminary choices
- Grades 10-12: Interviews, job shadowing, open days, talks by tertiary institutions, career library, intranet webpage, Career Forum Society

# What we can't do

- Guarantee admission to the institution of choice
- Warn every boy of every change in every course in every institution on every continent  
😊
- Build a young man's CV
- Take responsibility for his tertiary application
- Make a career choice for him

# **UNIVERSITY EXPECTATIONS**

# “Bachelor’s Pass”

- Pass matric (NSC)
- Four subjects above 50%
- In the last 6 years, 19 of 864 boys haven’t achieved a Bachelor’s pass
  
- Competitive nature of university acceptance means that these minimum requirements are mostly irrelevant.
- Each university has its own entrance requirements

# -- Stellenbosch University --

## Recommended subjects

- Medicine -- Maths, Physical Sciences & Life Sciences.
- Arts (BA) -- Maths or Maths Literacy
- Sciences (BSc) -- Maths and Physical Sciences. Life Sciences if you wish to study Biological Sciences.
- BComm -- Maths and English
- Education -- Maths or Maths Literacy
- Engineering -- Maths and Physical Sciences
- Law -- Maths or Maths Literacy

# Advice

- A broad foundation gives you options and a range of competencies
- A passion for learning; self-discipline; learning competencies are most important
- Very few subjects are actually required
- Check admission requirements (“points”) for universities of interest
- NBT assessments

# **SUBJECT SELECTION**

# Bishops subjects

- English
- Afrikaans
- isiXhosa
- French
- Mathematics
- Mathematical Literacy
- Physical Sciences
- Life Sciences
- History
- Geography
- Economics
- Accounting
- Information Technology (IT)
- Music
- Dramatic Arts
- Visual Arts



# Core subjects

- English (at home language level)
- Afrikaans (at first additional language level)
  - or French for those with FAL exemption (at second additional language level)
- Life Orientation
- Choose *Mathematics* or *Mathematical Literacy*
- **Choose 3 more subjects**
  - **All subjects offered by Bishops are “designated subjects”**

# Mathematics

- Testing learned procedures compared to integration of ideas and solving non-routine problems.
- Extra lessons may help learning procedures but the boys develop mathematical reasoning by being active participants in challenging themselves with questions at the edge of their understanding.
- You should be achieving above 60% for grade 9 Maths to comfortably take Physical Sciences; IT or Accounting
- We will give every boy a chance at Maths.
- .... and **AP Maths** (by invitation)

# Mathematical Literacy

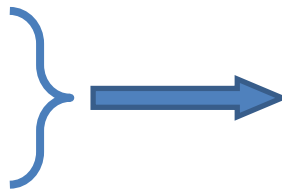
- Pursuing Maths when it becomes soul-destroying is not useful.
- We usually start grade 10 giving all boys a chance at Maths, and end matric with about 20 boys doing Maths Literacy.
- Maths Literacy is driven by life-related applications and contexts so that scholars can
  - understand information presented in mathematical ways;
  - engage critically with mathematically-based arguments in daily life.

# Mathematical Literacy

- Advantages of Maths Literacy
  - Feeling of relief
  - Other subjects improve as more time is available
  - Boys learn ideas required in other subjects
- Please check the impact of Maths Literacy on university requirements. Check more than one university.


# Bishops subjects

- English
- Afrikaans
- isiXhosa
- French
- Mathematics
- Mathematical Literacy
- **Physical Sciences**
- **Life Sciences**
- History
- Geography



All boys are expected to study at least one science

# Bishops subjects

- English
- Afrikaans
- isiXhosa
- **French** 
- Mathematics
- Mathematical Literacy
- Physical Sciences
- Life Sciences
- History
- Geography

- French is offered at the level of second additional language.
- Believing that it is important for the boys to learn two languages we encourage boys with immigrant status to take Afrikaans or French.
- French may also be taken as one of the three choice subjects.

# Bishops subjects

- English
- Afrikaans
- isiXhosa
- French
- Mathematics
- Mathematical Literacy
- **Physical Sciences**
- Life Sciences
- History
- Geography
- Economics
- **Accounting**
- **Information Technology (IT)**
- Music
- Dramatic Arts
- Visual Arts

**Require you take  
Mathematics**

# Bishops subjects

- English
- Afrikaans
- isiXhosa
- French
- Mathematics
- Mathematical Literacy
- Physical Sciences
- Life Sciences
- History
- Geography
- **Economics**
- Accounting
- **Information Technology (IT)**
- Music
- Dramatic Arts
- Visual Arts

**Require an aptitude test once subject selection has been submitted.**



# Subject Choice for Grade 10 in 2018

(one from each column)

				French
Maths				
Maths Lit	Phys Sci			
	Life Sci	Life Sci	Life Sci	
		Geography	Geography	
		History	History	
		Accounting	Accounting	
		Economics	Economics	
		IT	IT	
		Music	Music	
		Art	Art	
		Drama	Drama	
				isiXhosa

We may have to restrict boys to just one (at most) from:  
French, Art, Music, Drama, Xhosa  
..... but start by saying what you want

# Example 1

## Subject Choice for Grade 10 in 2018

(one from each column)

			French
Maths			
Maths Lit	Phys Sci		
	Life Sci	Life Sci	Life Sci
		Geography	Geography
		History	History
		Accounting	Accounting
		Economics	Economics
		IT	IT
		Music	Music
		Art	Art
		Drama	Drama
			isiXhosa

# Example 2

## Subject Choice for Grade 10 in 2018

(one from each column)

			French
Maths			
Maths Lit	Phys Sci		
	Life Sci	Life Sci	Life Sci
		Geography	Geography
		History	History
		Accounting	Accounting
		Economics	Economics
		IT	IT
		Music	Music
		Art	Art
		Drama	Drama
			isiXhosa

# Example 3

## Subject Choice for Grade 10 in 2018

(one from each column)

			French
Maths			
Maths Lit	Phys Sci		
	Life Sci	Life Sci	Life Sci
		Geography	Geography
		History	History
		Accounting	Accounting
		Economics	Economics
		IT	IT
		Music	Music
		Art	Art
		Drama	Drama
			isiXhosa

# Changing subjects later?

- Possible until mid-year grade 11
- Less than ideal. Work has to be caught up.
- Some subjects cannot be chosen later (e.g. IT or Art)
- Changing Maths to Maths Literacy is feasible.

# Doing an extra subject?

- Our timetable is premised on 6 subjects and LO
- They are encouraged to make an arrangement, often with one of our teachers. This is dependent on the good-will of the teacher, and involves a cost to parents.
- Marks are included on the report card
- Evaluate motives for doing the extra subject
- Apart from that, the school takes no responsibility for the provision of those lessons or their sustainability.

# Minimum promotion (or NSC) requirements

To gain the NSC you need:

40%	English
40%	two other subjects
30%	three other subjects

} This involves 6 subjects,  
but all candidates take at least 7

## EXAMPLES:

	40%	30%		40%	30%		40%	30%		40%	30%		40%	30%		40%	30%	
English	45	✓	✓	45	✓	✓	45	✓	✓	35		✓	40	✓	✓	40	✓	✓
Add Language	60	✓	✓	21			60	✓	✓	60	✓	✓	38		✓	40	✓	✓
Life Orientation	39		✓	39		✓	39		✓	39		✓	40	✓	✓	40	✓	✓
Maths / M Lit	54	✓	✓	54	✓	✓	15			54	✓	✓	36		✓	30		✓
Choice 1	35		✓	35		✓	35		✓	35		✓	30		✓	30		✓
Choice 2	67	✓	✓	45	✓	✓	45	✓	✓	45	✓	✓	30		✓	28		
Choice 3	60	✓	✓	60	✓	✓	60	✓	✓	60	✓	✓	38		✓	22		
Requirements met?	yes			yes			yes			NO			NO			NO		
										English too low			Only one > 40%			Two below 30%		

# What can we do as parents

- Encourage independence, responsibility
  - Requiring self-discipline
  - Meeting of deadlines
  - Work before play
- Introduce them to the real world of work
  - Talk about work related issues
  - Ask their opinion
  - Read the newspaper
- Reflect on our own thinking
  - Face our own unreasonable expectations and limiting beliefs
  - Never re-live our lives through our children; honour their individuality
  - Assist (not do) their research, double-check the details – i.e. “project manage”





# Useful guidance

- **Teachers' advice**
- **Grade 9 June exam results**
  - Do what I'm good at.
- **Aptitude test outcomes**
  - What are my interests?
- **Tertiary options**

Subject choice form DUE:  
**11 September**