

# GRADE 10 SUBJECT CHOICE, THE FET PHASE .... AND BEYOND

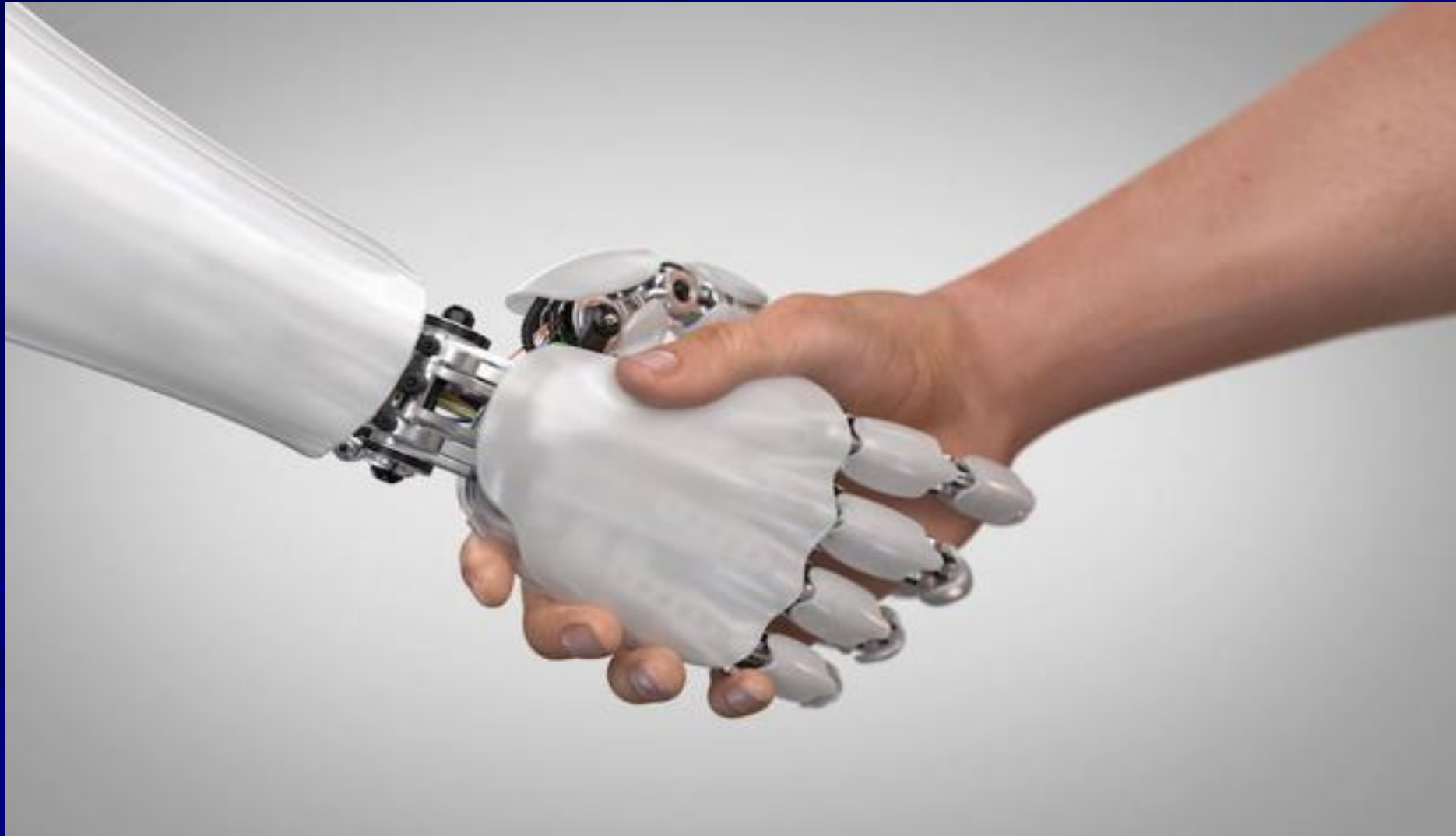
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# STRUCTURE OF THE EVENING:

- Setting the scene ...
- Higher Education expectations
- Spotlight on the boys
- Subject Choice
- How parents can assist
- The way ahead

# How do I navigate THIS reality?



# In an AI-enabled world of work, the people who will be valued will be....

1. Adding value beyond what automated systems and intelligent machines can achieve.
2. Operating effectively with people in a digital environment.
3. Continuously adapting to new ways of working and emerging occupations.

*McKinsey "Defining the skills citizens will need in the future world of work"*



# Cognitive and interpersonal skills

- ❑ critical thinking, planning, communication, and adaptability.
- ❑ Understanding AI applications
- ❑ Self- leadership
- ❑ Building and maintaining relationships
- ❑ Working in a green and aware manner
- ❑ Life-long learning



# Self-leadership and digital skills

- ❑ Setting and achieving goals,
- ❑ demonstrating drive, discipline, and follow-through.
- ❑ cybersecurity,
- ❑ data, and programming literacy are more important than ever.



## Cognitive

### Critical thinking

- Structured problem solving
- Logical reasoning
- Understanding biases
- Seeking relevant information

### Planning and ways of working

- Work-plan development
- Time management and prioritization
- Agile thinking

### Communication

- Storytelling and public speaking
- Asking the right questions
- Synthesizing messages
- Active listening

### Mental flexibility

- Creativity and imagination
- Translating knowledge to different contexts
- Adopting a different perspective
- Adaptability
- Ability to learn

## Interpersonal

### Mobilizing systems

- Role modeling
- Win-win negotiations
- Crafting an inspiring vision
- Organizational awareness

### Developing relationships

- Empathy
- Inspiring trust
- Humility
- Sociability

### Teamwork effectiveness

- Fostering inclusiveness
- Motivating different personalities
- Resolving conflicts
- Collaboration
- Coaching
- Empowering

## Self-leadership

### Self-awareness and self-management

- Understanding own emotions and triggers
- Self-control and regulation
- Understanding own strengths
- Integrity
- Self-motivation and wellness
- Self-confidence

### Entrepreneurship

- Courage and risk-taking
- Driving change and innovation
- Energy, passion, and optimism
- Breaking orthodoxies

### Goals achievement

- Ownership and decisiveness
- Achievement orientation
- Grit and persistence
- Coping with uncertainty
- Self-development

## Digital

### Digital fluency and citizenship

- Digital literacy
- Digital learning
- Digital collaboration
- Digital ethics

### Software use and development

- Programming literacy
- Data analysis and statistics
- Computational and algorithmic thinking

### Understanding digital systems

- Data literacy
- Smart systems
- Cybersecurity literacy
- Tech translation and enablement





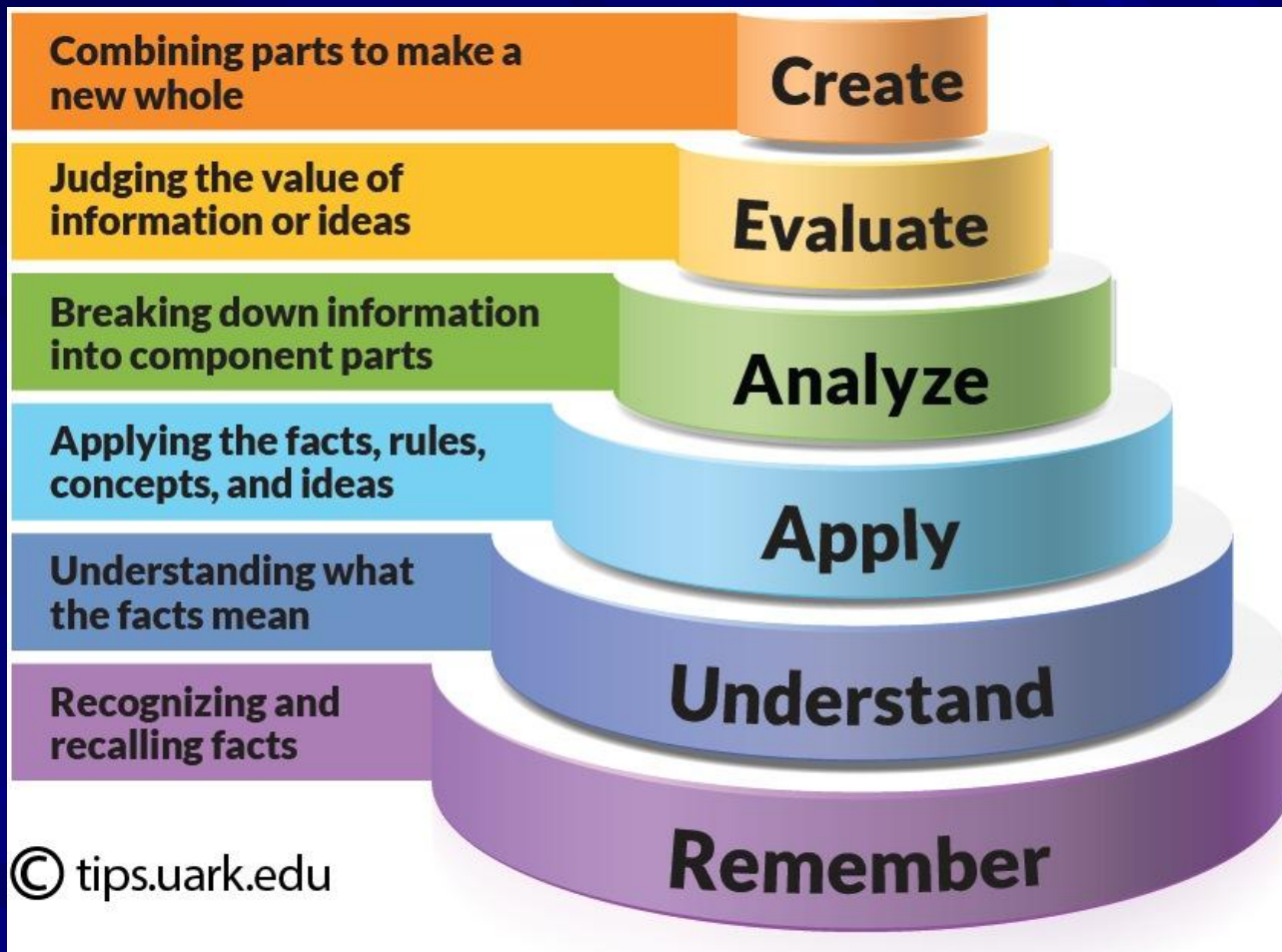
# Who gets into university then?

- ❑ Self- motivated, disciplined, intellectually curious and rigorous
- ❑ Consistently excellent results
- ❑ Education is not about content, but about development of cognitive skill sets
- ❑ Theoretical not vocational
- ❑ Independent thinkers with a good set of personal standards and ethics





Bloom's taxonomy is hierarchical,  
meaning that learning at the higher levels is dependent on having attained prerequisite  
knowledge and skills at lower levels



# HIGHER EDUCATION EXPECTATIONS

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# “Bachelor’s Pass”

- Pass matrix (NSC)
- Four subjects, excluding LO, above 50%
- Minimum requirements are mostly irrelevant.
- Each faculty and university has its own entrance requirements

- National Bench Mark Test (NBT)
- Special requirements, like a portfolio
- Grade 11 November results
- Mathematics, Science, Life Sciences
- **POINTS!!**

**OUR ADVICE!**

- A broad foundation which develops 21<sup>st</sup> century competencies



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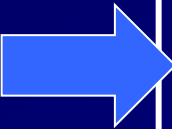
# OUR ADVICE!

- A passion for learning
- Very few subjects are actually required
- Check admission requirements



# THE NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK

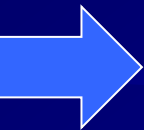
8. Doctorates 7. Higher degrees 6. First degrees 5. Diplomas	<b>HIGHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING BAND</b> University / Technikon / Colleges / Professional bodies
<b>SCHOOL EXIT CERTIFICATE: NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE</b>	
4. Grade 12 3. Grade 11 2. Grade 10	<b>FURTHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING BAND</b>
1. Grade 9 Senior Phase Intermediate Phase Foundation Phase	<b>GENERAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING BAND</b>





# ALTERNATIVELY

8. Doctorates 7. Higher degrees 6. First degrees 5. Diplomas	<b>HIGHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING BAND</b> University / Technikon / Colleges / Professional bodies
4. Grade 12 3. Grade 11 2. Grade 10	<b>CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL A LEVELS</b> <b>CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL AS LEVELS</b>  <b>FURTHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING BAND</b>
1. Grade 9 Senior Phase Intermediate Phase Foundation Phase	<b>GENERAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING BAND</b>  <i>Bishops inspires individuals</i>



# What have we done as a school?

- Interactive web site: Bishops GoStudy programme
- A basic interest/aptitude questionnaire
- Information on all careers related to these fields
- Values, personality traits, aptitudes, subjects recommended
- Direct links to universities; opportunity to email specific questions
- Workbook prepared for portfolio
- Individual help to make some preliminary choices
- FET: Counselling, job shadows, Open Days, career assessments, talks by tertiary institutions, Career Library, assistance with applications, annual career expo



# How we aim to 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 by keeping options open but point score viable
- A resource base
- A support wherever applicable and appropriate

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## What we cannot 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 application
- Make the final career choice for him

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# SUBJECT CHOICE

- **FET REQUIREMENTS**
- **Grade 11 CAMBRIDGE**
- **HOW TO CHOOSE SUBJECTS**

# FET REQUIREMENTS

## FEATURES OF THE NSC

- ✓ NO higher or standard grade
- ✓ FOUR COMPULSORY subjects
- ✓ NO aggregates. 7 - point rating scale.
- ✓ Name changes for some subjects

FOUR COMPULSORY SUBJECTS

**AND**

THREE ELECTIVE SUBJECTS

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# COMPULSORY SUBJECTS

1. Home Language
2. First Additional Language
3. Mathematics or Mathematical Literacy
4. Life Orientation

# LANGUAGES

- HOME LANGUAGE

reading and writing skills

- FIRST ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE

listening, speaking, reading, writing

- SECOND ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE

listening and speaking skills

# MATHEMATICS/ MATHEMATICAL LITERACY?

## Mathematics

- More theoretical and tertiary requirement
- Pre-requisite in order to take Physical Science
- Replaces Higher and Standard Grade

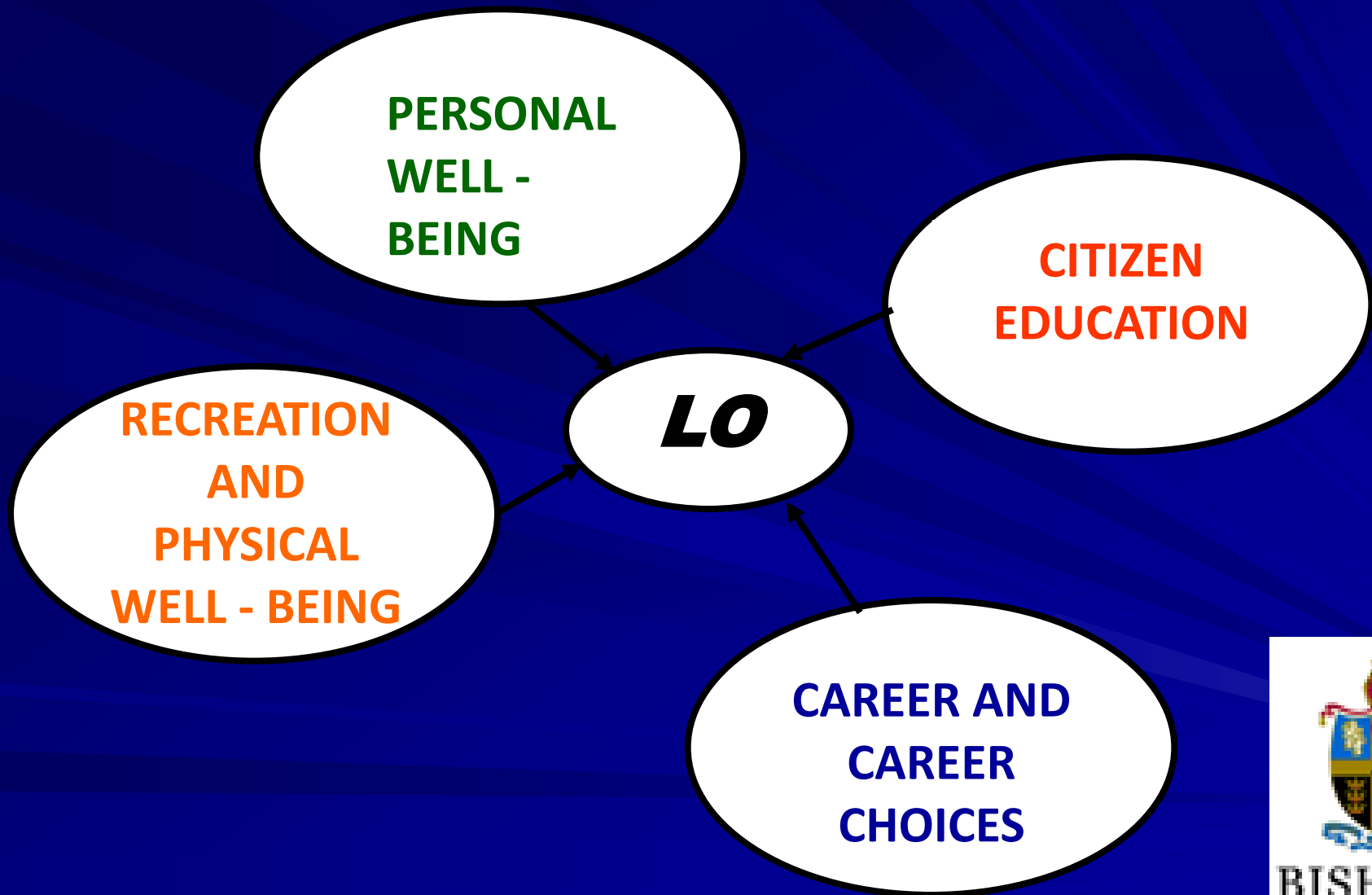
## Mathematical Literacy –Not offered in Grade 10

- Practical / context driven
- NB: Competence in reading and understanding large sections of text

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# LIFE ORIENTATION



# ELECTIVE SUBJECTS

- THREE subjects
- IT and Economics aptitude tests
- Required subjects and then most important is enjoyment and **POINTS!!**



# ADDITIONAL OPTIONS

- ✓ Additional subject(s) in the school timetable (Further Studies Mathematics)
- ✓ Additional NSC subject(s) outside of Bishops

# NATURE OF ASSESSMENT

GRADE 9: 60% CASS + 40% Final exam

GRADE 10 - 12: 25% CASS + 75% Final Exam

GRADE 12	INTERNAL	EXTERNAL
Subjects with practical component	CASS: 25% PRACTICAL: 25%	Final exam: 50%
Life Orientation	PORTFOLIO and PRACTICAL: 100%	Standardised test for moderation purposes



# HOW TO CHOOSE SUBJECTS

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## **INTERESTS**

What do I like to do?

## **REALISTIC about your ABILITIES**

What do I do well?



## **PERSONAL VALUES**

What is important to me?

## **KNOW YOURSELF**

What type of person are you?

## **CAREER?**



# THE SUGGESTED PROCESS

- ✓ No choice: English, Life Orientation, Mathematics
- ✓ Afrikaans/ IsiXhosa First Additional Language/Exempt?
- ✓ Physical Science? Will I definitely not need it?
- ✓ Aim for a spread of subjects based on **the skills they provide, competence, your enjoyment**
- ✓ Practical subjects and the time needed



# 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
- Engineering & Graphic Design



Physical Science
Life Sciences
History

Life Sciences
History
Accounting
Economics
Information Technology
Geography
Engineering and Graphic Design

Life Sciences
History
Accounting
Economics
Information Technology
Geography
Drama
Visual Arts
Music
IsiXhosa SAL
French SAL

*Where there is insufficient demand for a subject offered in more than one group, we will need to approach pupils about amending their choice.*

**Bishops choice**



# Changing subjects later?

- 2 changes allowed in Grade 10 by 30 June
- 2 changes allowed in Grade 11 by 31 March

In an exceptional case one change can be made at year end

- NO CHANGES IN GRADE 12 AT ALL
- Some subjects difficult to catch up if selected later. (e.g. Science)



# Doing an extra subject?

- We offer 6 subjects and LO
- Own cost and arrangement
- Marks are included on the report card
- Evaluate motives for doing the extra subject
- School takes no responsibility





# CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL ASSESSMENTS

## Grade 10 June Requirements:

- 75% overall average excluding LO.
- 75% minimum in Mathematics.
- 75% in the subjects they wish to take.

# CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL ASSESSMENTS

## Subject requirements

- Must offer course which provides SA university acceptance.
- AS LEVELS: Six subjects needed
- (4AS Levels and 2 IGCSE)
  - ✓ IGCSE Afrikaans
  - ✓ IGCSE English
  - ✓ AS Mathematics
  - ✓ Choice of three AS elective subjects
- A LEVELS: 3 A Level electives

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# HOW HAVE OUR BOYS FARED: 2024

## AS Boys (Grade 11)

- COMPUTER SCIENCE: 49% (82% NSC eq)
- ECONOMICS: 62% (88% NSC eq)
- HISTORY : 57% (86% NSC eq)
- AS ENG LANG AND LIT: 60% (83% NSC eq)
- MATHS: 84% (95% NSC eq)
- PHYSICS 68% (91% NSC eq)
- BIOLOGY: 51% (83% NSC eq)
- CHEMISTRY: 60% (87% NSC eq)
- IGCSE AFRIKAANS: 51% (65% NSC eq)

## A Level Boys (Grade 12)

- COMPUTER SCIENCE: 65% (90% NSC eq)
- ECONOMICS: 65% (90% NSC eq)
- HISTORY : 71% (93% NSC eq)
- MATHS: 77% (95% NSC eq)
- PHYSICS 82% (96% NSC eq)
- BIOLOGY: 78% (95% NSC eq)
- CHEMISTRY: 71% (93% NSC eq)



# What can we do as parents?

## **ENCOURAGE INDEPENDENCE, RESPONSIBILITY AND TEAM SKILLS BY:**

- Requiring self-discipline
- Require him to manage his time, deadlines, workload and sport
- Work before play
- Limit the time he spends entertaining himself instead of engaging in activities etc

## **INTRODUCE THEM TO THE REAL WORLD OF OUR WORK.**

- Mediate the world to him: develop his critical thinking skills during dinner time conversations
- Talk about work related issues and watch the news

## **CHANGE OUR WAY OF THINKING**

- Face our own unresolved issues, unreasonable expectations, limiting beliefs
- Never re-live our lives through our children; honour their individuality and calling
- Assist (not do) their research, double-check the details – ie “project manage” this process



# What can your son do to develop his skills?



- Join societies to broaden his horizons
- Sign up for short online courses
- Take responsibility for aspects of family life/challenges
- Find a passion and volunteer
- Manage his online persona



# The Reality Check

- The “best of the bunch” ...Merit Ranking
- The Boy as the Brand ...PIE
- The need for transferable skills.... (the right stuff, not the right bluff)
- What you can/will do, not what you have done 😊 Self-awareness is key
- “Minimum requirements” trap
- Leadership!! Of self, a group, a task

# Read Books/Newspapers/Journals.....

*Just as it's impossible to walk through fine sand without  
getting  
a grain or two inside your shoes, so the reading of fine  
writers  
leaves a mark on your own prose.*

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# THE WAY AHEAD

- **WEBSITE** – powerpoint and audio recording
- **A LINK** – to an electronic form will be sent.
- **SUBJECT DETAILS**

**DEADLINE FOR CHOICES TO BE SUBMITTED:  
Wednesday 20 August 2025**

**CONSULT US**

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