

Abingdon School Choosing A Levels

Gove's changes/Abingdon's reaction

- * All subjects reformed by September 2017 as linear courses
- * “AS” still exists but as a stand-alone subject. Abingdon is not using this qualification.
- * Abingdon chose immediately not to use the new AS exams and so all public examinations are the Upper Sixth

Curriculum Plan

- * L6th: boys choose 4 subjects (Ma/FM =1subject)
- * Pursue courses until at least the summer exam in L6th. **No early drop.**
- * Decide whether to drop a subject for U6th.
- * Take 3 or 4 subjects through to A Level in U6th.

Subjects (24)

red = AL subjects not taught at GCSE

Ancient History

Art

Biology

Business

Chemistry

DT

Drama (with SHSK)

Economics

English Literature

French (*)

Geography

German (*)

Politics (at SHSK)

Greek

History

Latin

Maths/Further Maths

Music

Philosophy or RS

Physics

Psychology

Spanish (*)

(*) pre-U

(The myth of) Facilitating Subjects

(those in blue below)

Ancient History

Art

Biology

Business

Chemistry

DT

Drama (with SHSK)

Economics

English Literature

French (*)

Geography

German (*)

Politics (at SHSK)

Greek

History

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Philosophy or RS

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(The myth of) Facilitating Subjects

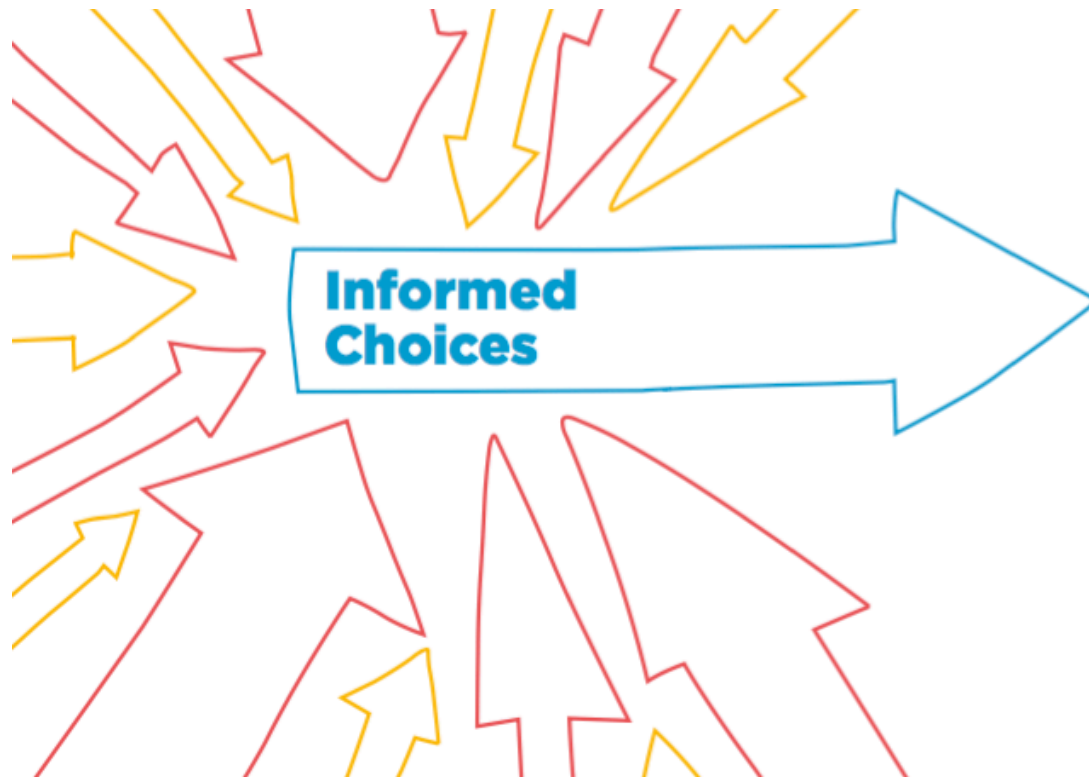
- * NOT a statement of subjects that are *de facto* preferred over others
- * NOT a measure of hard/soft
- * It's a numerical measure of how often a subject appears in a required list for degree courses at Russell Group universities

(The myth of) Facilitating Subjects

Many courses at university level build on knowledge and skills which you will gain while still at school. Where this is the case, universities need to make sure that all the students they admit have prepared themselves in the best way to cope with their chosen course. For this reason, some university courses may require you to have studied a specific subject prior to entry, others may not. However, there are some subjects that are required more often than others. These subjects are sometimes referred to as facilitating subjects.

(Informed Choices 16/17)

(The myth of) Facilitating Subjects



A Russell Group guide
to making decisions
about post-16 education

2016/17
Fifth edition

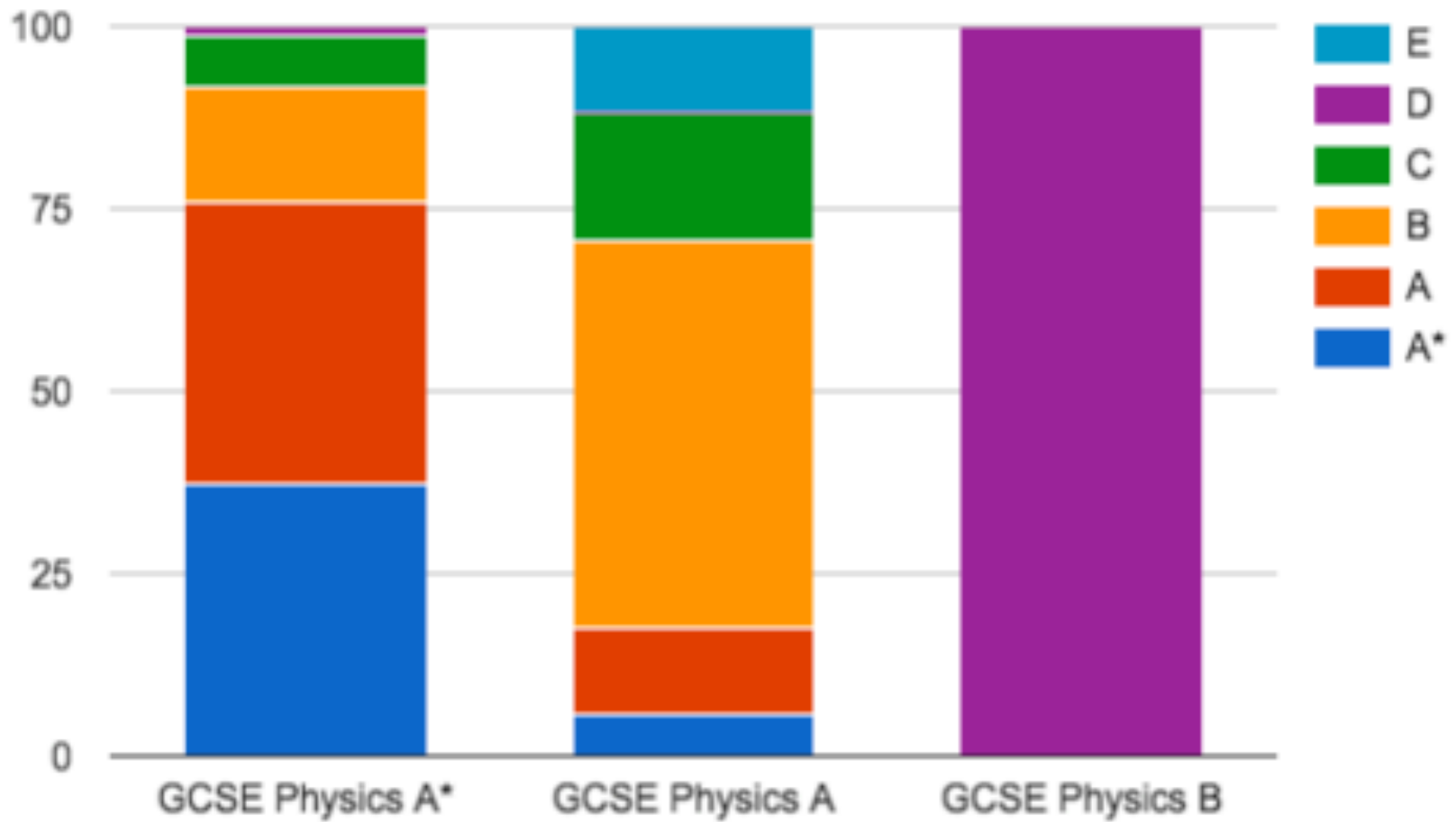
(The myth of) Facilitating Subjects

- * If (reasonably) sure of university course, make sure you're aware of likely entry requirements
- * If completely unsure, safest route is to take two facilitating subjects as this will keep your options as open as possible ...
- * ... **BUT** do subjects that you actually want to do and will enjoy for at least one more year
- * ... **AND** not doing two facilitating subjects does not mean you can't get into a Russell Group university

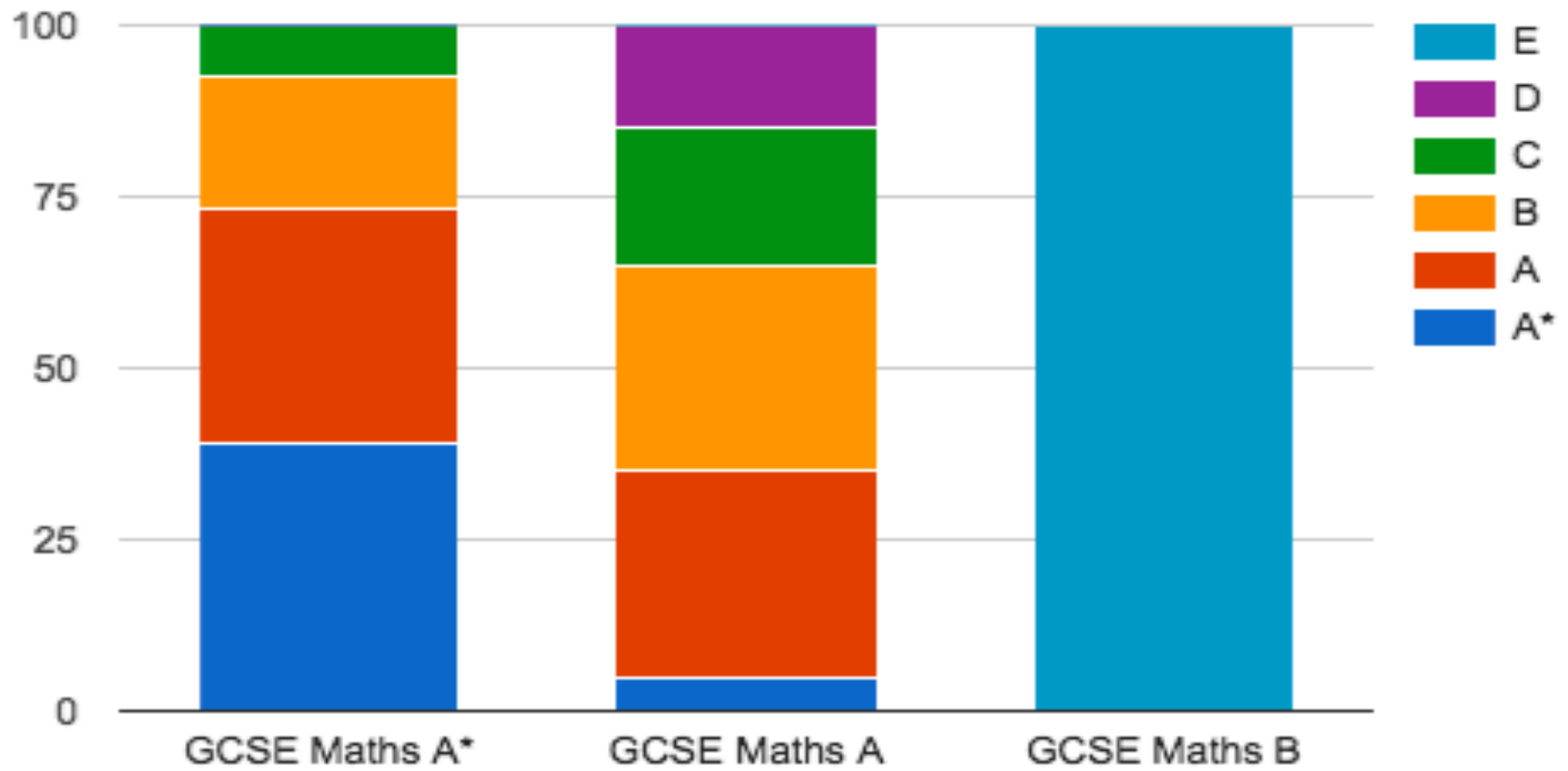
Other things to consider

- * **What do I really want to study for another year?**
 - * NOT: what do my parents want me to study?
 - * NOT: which teachers do I like?
 - * If it's a new subject, have I really done my research?
- * **What's the balance look like?**
 - * Lots of writing? Very little writing? A good blend?
 - * A variety of skills or very similar skills?
- * **Am I any good at it?**
 - * Don't just judge from GCSE grade
 - * Sometimes we like subjects but they don't like us...

Physics AL chances from Physics GCSE



Physics AL chances from Maths GCSE



Stop the world, I want to get off...

- * 3 week check
- * L6 Tests in November
- * Realistically, difficult to change after a whole term, but up to half term... might be ok.