

Fact: Students studying for their GCSEs have to study English, Maths and Science

This House Believes That Children Should Choose What They Learn In School

- Would this be all children? 5 year olds? 10 year olds?
- Do older children already get to choose some subjects?
- If you aren't interested in a subject, are you going to learn anything in that lesson?
- Are there some things everyone should learn, even if they find them boring?
- What if you changed your mind about what you wanted to learn?
- Would you work harder if you got to focus on subjects that you enjoyed?
- Could children learn anything they wanted?
- Would schools start teaching things like astronomy (studying the stars), paleontology (studying dinosaurs) and Japanese?
- Would children bother to learn literacy and numeracy?
- Would teachers be happier teaching interested children?
- Would this help children to prepare for jobs when they are adults?
- Would children choose to learn silly things?

What would you choose to learn in school?

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Fact: Some special schools do let pupils decide what they want to learn, and when, but they are very rare

Fact: The UK introduced a national curriculum in 1988, meaning all schools had to teach more or less the same subjects