

Sandringham School

Courses in Year 9

2020 / 2021



FOREWORD

COURSES IN YEAR 9

Dear Year 8 Student,

Most schools offer the same subjects to all students at Key Stage 3 with no choice. At Sandringham, we have a different approach and provide some students in Year 9 with an opportunity to make a choice of some subjects in preparation for taking your GCSEs and other Level 2 qualifications in Years 10 and 11. Year 9 is a crucial year for you and it is important that you make the most of your time, studying courses, which interest you and provide a platform also for good GCSE examination success.

This handbook explains the options available to you in the Year 9 modular curriculum and will help you make decisions about your learning. We recommend that you sit down with your family and explore the possibilities available to you to ensure you make a meaningful choice.

Remember:

- Read the information carefully
- Talk to your teachers
- Discuss options with your parents
- Keep up your motivation and enjoyment of learning
- Make Year 9 your best year yet at Sandringham

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alan Gray', written in a cursive style.

Alan Gray
Headteacher

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INTRODUCTION

The curriculum model on the following page shows what subjects are studied in Year 9 and how much curriculum time is allocated to each subject.

What stays the same?

For many subjects, the allocation remains unchanged from Year 8:

- English, Mathematics and Science – 3 hours each
- Art, Drama, Music – 1 hour each
- History, Geography, RS – 1 hour each
- Computer Science – 1 hour
- PE – 2 hours
- Design/Food Technology – 2 hours
- Personal Development (formerly LL) – 1 hour

What changes?

- 2 hours of Modern Foreign Languages (French or German) instead of 3 hours
- No Arts carousel

Why do some subjects begin their GCSE course in Year 9?

A number of subjects, including Science and English, choose to begin the GCSE course in the Summer term of Year 9 to accommodate the increased content attached to the new specification.

Recent national changes to the rules governing early entry for GCSE examinations, together with the transition from modular to terminal exams, means that schools now have fewer incentives and opportunities to fast-track able students. One exception at Sandringham is GCSE Mathematics. Although all students will be entered for the new-style GCSE Mathematics at the end of Year 11 (Summer 2020), the top set on each half of the year group will begin studying the GCSE course early in Year 9 to free-up time in Year 10 for them to complete the Edexcel Award in Algebra. The Edexcel Award is a standalone Level 3 qualification, designed to help students develop a thorough knowledge and understanding of concepts in algebra and a strong foundation in mathematical techniques to support progression to further study at A-Level.

How does the modular curriculum work?

In addition to the subjects outlined above, there are two opportunities each week for students not studying Spanish as a second language to opt into a wide range of modular courses.

Most modules are taught in 9/10 week blocks, after which time students are asked to make new choices. **A few modules require students to commit for the entire year.**

Sandringham's modular curriculum provides students with:

1. An early taster of the GCSE and A level courses offered at Key Stage 4 & 5, e.g. Media Studies, Dance, Business Studies or Psychology.
2. Extra stretch and challenge – Level 2 HPQ is being offered again this year. In addition to providing you with a chance to gain a Bronze Crest Award in Science.
3. The opportunity for those students in top set French or German to continue with your second language of Spanish.
4. The opportunity to take another hour of a subject you really enjoy doing e.g. Art, Drama, Music or Food Technology.
5. A chance to try your hand at a range of other vocational and interest modules such as Gardening & Conservation, Debating or Design Technology.

This really is an exciting opportunity for you to personalise your own curriculum and will be explained further during an assembly on 25th June.



Fergal Moane
Deputy Headteacher



Sandringham School

YEAR 9 CURRICULUM MODEL 2020 - 2021

CORE SUBJECTS																							MODULAR CHOICES		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
Per Dev	English			Maths			Science			French		PE		Art	CS	Drama	Geog	His	Music	PRE	Technology		<i>Spanish</i>		
										German												Food	Mat	<i>Debating</i>	<i>Art & Design</i>
										Key Skills														<i>Drama</i>	<i>Business Studies</i>
																								<i>Design Technology</i>	<i>Dance</i>
																								<i>Food Tech</i>	<i>Design Technology</i>
																								<i>Forensic Science</i>	<i>Food Tech</i>
																								<i>Gardening & Conservation</i>	<i>HPQ</i>
																								<i>History</i>	<i>Geography</i>
																								<i>Media Studies</i>	<i>Music</i>
																								<i>Music Technology</i>	<i>Philosophy</i>
																								<i>Sports Leadership</i>	<i>Psychology</i>
																								<i>Urban Dance</i>	<i>Science Crest Award</i>

CHOICES IN YEAR 9

We realise that by the end of Year 8 you may already have interests that are beginning to take you in specific directions and you may be discovering certain skills, which you have developed. Obviously, next year, as you are moving towards GCSE courses, you will be given a greater opportunity of pursuing your own lines of interest. Now as you move into Year 9 we would like you to begin to design your own curriculum, at least to some extent, to prepare you for the more complex choices you will be asked to make next year.

We have designed a series of choices for you in what we have called a **modular curriculum**. A module is a short course, complete in itself, which you can either take for **interest**, or use as an opportunity for **further practice** in, or **extensions** of, an existing course.

You will be faced with these modular choices at 9-weekly intervals. Therefore, if at any time you feel that you have chosen the wrong subject, it will be possible to change your plan by choosing different modules next time.

The following pages outline **ALL** the available courses in the modular curriculum under columns 24 and 25. Read them carefully to see what opportunities there are, but do not be confused by them - there are plenty of staff who are ready to help you to understand the exciting possibilities they offer you! You can begin to choose your route through them by selecting the path you may want to take, but you will actually only be asked to choose **ONE** module per column at a time. The detailed information regarding each of the modules will be given in a leaflet at regular intervals with instruction on how to submit your choices online and; in fact, the first of these leaflets is enclosed. Read the course descriptions carefully and ask as many questions as you like of your tutor or subject teachers. It is important for you to handle this first choice correctly - it does set the pattern for the next three.

Above all, remember that through the rest of the curriculum we have ensured that you will follow a balanced course and one, which keeps all possibilities open for you. It is in the modular choices where you can become the architect of your own curriculum and give yourself extra time in a subject where you feel you need it, or create extra possibilities where you would like to progress. This is a great opportunity; ensure that the choices made are tailored to suit you.



Hannah Semple
Performance Director – Year 8

	AUTUMN	WINTER	SPRING	SUMMER
SPANISH	SPANISH	SPANISH	SPANISH	SPANISH
SPORTS LEADERSHIP	SPORTS LEADERSHIP	SPORTS LEADERSHIP	SPORTS LEADERSHIP	SPORTS LEADERSHIP
FORENSIC SCIENCE	FORENSIC SCIENCE	FORENSIC SCIENCE	FORENSIC SCIENCE	FORENSIC SCIENCE
DRAMA	DEVISING	COSTUME DESIGN	PHYSICAL THEATRE	THEATRE FOR CHANGE
DESIGN TECHNOLOGY	RECYCLED CLOCKS	FUN & GAMES	TABLE TENNIS RACQUETS	EARPHONE WRAPS
MEDIA STUDIES	FILM POSTER	HISTORY OF FILM - THE AMERICAN STUDIO SYSTEM	ADVERTISING	60 SECOND FILM CHALLENGE
MUSIC TECHNOLOGY	SEQUENCING & RECORDING BASICS	REMIX	MUSIC IN THE UN-MUSICAL	RECORD LABEL
DISCUSSION, DEBATING & CRITICAL THINKING	DISCUSSION, DEBATING & CRITICAL THINKING	DISCUSSION, DEBATING & CRITICAL THINKING	DISCUSSION, DEBATING & CRITICAL THINKING	DISCUSSION, DEBATING & CRITICAL THINKING
URBAN DANCE	STREET DANCE	CONTEMPORARY DANCE	JAZZ DANCE	DANCE FOR CAMERA
FOOD TECHNOLOGY	ITALIAN COOKING	CHRISTMAS CAKES	HOT & SPICY	PARTY FOODS
GARDENING & CONSERVATION	GARDENING & CONSERVATION	GARDENING & CONSERVATION	GARDENING & CONSERVATION	GARDENING & CONSERVATION
HISTORY & POLITICS	HISTORY - THE VIETNAM WAR	HISTORY - COMMUNIST CHINA	POLITICS - DEMOCRACY IN THE UK	POLITICS - PARTICIPATION IN THE UK

YEAR 9 - MODULAR COLUMN 24
1 SESSION PER WEEK (in 9/10 week modules)

For those in top set French or German, select Spanish as your second language option in this module. It will run for 2 hours per week (in this column and column 25) and will enable you to develop your skills and knowledge to allow you to choose Spanish at GCSE. **Please select this module each time to ensure continuity.**

An introduction into sports leadership allowing you to lead and officiate in a range of sports. The modules provide a great opportunity to extend your knowledge of laws and rules to develop your understanding of the game, as well as improving your confidence and communication skills in preparation for examined KS4 PE next year.

The Forensic Science module is an ongoing investigation to discover who committed a crime at Sandringham School. The course will give you the opportunity to participate in practical experiments and develop your investigative skills.

The Drama modules are all for interest but will provide a good grounding for students wishing to pursue Drama at GCSE in year 10 or those with a passion for performing arts who would like to extend their skills.

The Design Technology modules will help you to improve your design, modelling, and making skills through a variety of mediums. You will develop your understanding of tools and equipment, as well as your confidence using CAD/CAM to produce high quality products.

The Media Studies modules offer students an opportunity to gain an insight into some of the practical elements to media studies and the key concepts which underpin the subject. Learn how to use industry standard software such as Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Premier. Given the interactive nature of these modules, they are best suited to students who have good collaborative group skills.

The Music Technology Module is focused on how technology is used to create, record and perform music. This module is ideally suited for any students who enjoy making their own music or want to know more about how music tech fits in to GCSE Music.

A great opportunity to speak out and argue your point - without getting a consequence! The modules are for anyone who is interested in investigating a range of issues and exploring the big ideas behind the headlines. It will focus on discussion, research, different perspectives, organising your thoughts, speaking/debating techniques and speech preparation. It will be particularly useful for those students who wish to gain confidence in speaking up during class discussions and in group work, and is an excellent platform for the development of the critical thinking skills essential for examination success at GCSE and A level.

The Dance module offers a practical approach to developing technique and performance skills in a variety of dance skills in preparation for the BTEC course in Year 10.

The food modules give you further opportunity to develop your practical skills.

A practical module which will involve improving and maintaining the school conservation area. Learn how to grow vegetables, plant seeds, plants and how to look after them. Learn about conservation and how to protect and encourage local wildlife. Cook the vegetables grown and taste them! Tools and wellies provided.

The History modules offer an opportunity to explore aspects of modern History that are not covered in the Key Stage 3 programme of study. They focus on momentous events and turning points in world history and are a must for those hoping to further their study of History. The Politics modules are a new addition to the module option and offer an opportunity to learn about how the UK system of government works and to explore some of the most important political debates of our time.

YEAR 9 - MODULAR COLUMN 25
1 SESSION PER WEEK (in 9 / 10 week modules)

	AUTUMN	WINTER	SPRING	SUMMER
SPANISH	SPANISH	SPANISH	SPANISH	SPANISH
HIGHER PROJECT QUALIFICATION	HPQ	HPQ	HPQ	HPQ
DANCE	INTRODUCTION TO GCSE DANCE	INTRODUCTION TO GCSE DANCE	INTRODUCTION TO GCSE DANCE	INTRODUCTION TO GCSE DANCE
BUSINESS STUDIES	COCA COLA CHALLENGE	THE APPRENTICE CHALLENGE	£10 CHALLENGE	ETHICAL TRADING
PSYCHOLOGY	PSYCHOLOGY	PSYCHOLOGY	PSYCHOLOGY	PSYCHOLOGY
FOOD TECHNOLOGY	MEDITERRANEAN COOKING	CHRISTMAS CAKES	ITALIAN COOKING	HOT & SPICY
DESIGN TECHNOLOGY	TABLETOP GAMES	LASER CUT DECORATIONS	TREASURE CHEST	PASSIVE SPEAKER
SCIENCE	CREST AWARD	CREST AWARD	CREST AWARD	CREST AWARD
VISUAL ARTS	PRINTING & SURFACE DECORATION	FASHION PHOTOGRAPHY	TRANSFER PRINTING & EMBELLISHMENT	SCULPTURAL TEXTILES
PHILOSOPHY	WHAT IS REAL?	FREE WILL AND DETERMINISM	ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE	GENETIC ENGINEERING
MUSIC	COMPOSITION	FUSION	SONGWRITING	MUSICAL THEATRE
GEOGRAPHY	DISASTERS OF HUMANITY AND DISEASE	RUSSIA - THE BACKBONE OF THE WORLD	GRAND GEOGRAPHICAL DESIGNS FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE	ICELAND - LAND OF FIRE AND ICE

For those in top set French or German, select Spanish as your second language option in this module. It will run for 2 hours per week (in this column and column 25) and will enable you to develop your skills and knowledge to allow you to choose Spanish at GCSE. **Please select this module each time to ensure continuity.**

The Level 2 Higher Project Qualification (HPQ) offers students a unique opportunity to undertake a year long independent investigation into a topic of their choice. Similar to the Level 3 qualification undertaken by students in Year 12 and highly prized by universities, HPQ enables students to pursue an area of interest in great depth, conduct original research and develop a wide range of research and independent learning skills.

This module will allow students to gain an insight into the GCSE Dance course. You will build up technique and performance skills, learn about dance choreography and gain a theoretical understanding based on professional dance works. Taking this module will provide you with a huge advantage of having an additional year of experience and training.

The Business and Economics modules offer an introduction to the world of business as well as introducing some basic economic concepts. It aims to develop your awareness of organisations and how they work as well as highlighting the impact on business of the economic environment they operate within. The modules provides a good base of knowledge for students looking to study Business or Economics at KS4.

Over 9 weeks you will delve into the human mind, finding out how we think and why. Subjects you will cover include memory techniques, perception, obedience and creativity.

The food modules give you further opportunity to develop your practical skills.

The Design Technology modules will help you to improve your design, modelling, and making skills through a variety of mediums. You will develop your understanding of tools and equipment, as well as your confidence using CAD/CAM to produce high quality products.

In this module you will complete a science project that links science in the classroom with science in the "real world". It will improve your enquiry, problem solving and communication skills. If your final project is good enough you will be presented with a nationally recognised Bronze CREST Award awarded by the British Science Association. Universities, colleges and employers are looking for people who can problem solve, work hard and work well with other people. A CREST Award says that you can do this!

Do you love being creative and enjoy art and design? These modules have been designed with your well-being in mind and aim to provide you with an enjoyable, relaxing time to extend your artistic knowledge and explore new processes and techniques. You will be provided with a high quality A5 sketchbook to help encourage you to think like artists, photographers and designers.

Students will look into the 'Big Questions' such as 'How do we know what is real?', 'How do we know what is right?', 'Are we free to make ethical decisions', 'Are we playing God?'. We will be examining these questions as they are portrayed in media.

Do you enjoy performing and composing? Then the music modules offer a really practical approach to developing performance and composition skills in preparation for GCSE courses in Year 10.

The Geography modules will expose and examine some of the important challenges our planet faces both now and in the future, as well as providing you with a chance to investigate some of the most diverse places our planet has to offer, including the 'Land of Fire and Ice'! You will have the opportunity to enhance your geographical knowledge and skills, and be creative with your geography! This module is suitable for those who have a desire to learn more about the world we live in, and those who would like to hone their skills in the subject!

***INSTRUCTIONS FOR
SUBMITTING YEAR 9 MODULE
CHOICES ONLINE***

Year 9 Modules – 2020

Submitting your Year 9 module choices using TOOLS

Please follow these steps to submit your module choices for Year 9 using 'TOOLS' (TimeTabler Options On-Line System).

To start TOOLS, type the following URL into your internet browser:

<https://www.studentoptions.co/Sandringham-Y9Modules/>

This will take you to the Login screen below.

T.O.O.L.S
TimeTabler Options On-Line System



Collecting Student Choices On-line

Please enter your details:

Username:
Password:



Login, using your personal details, which will be e-mailed to your mysandstorm.org account.

Once in TOOLS, you should make your module choices by following the instructions on screen.

Step 1

- Select your first choice for Module 24 from subjects on the screen.
- Click 'Next', which is on the bottom right, to move to the next screen.

Step 1 of 5

[Start](#) > [Choice 1](#) > [Choice 2](#) > [Choice 3](#) > [Choice 4](#) > Confirmation

Choose your first option for Module 24 from the following subjects:

- Debating (DE)
- Drama (DR)
- Design Tech (DT)
- Forensic Sci (FS)
- Food Tech (FT)
- Gardening (GC)
- History (HI)
- Media Studies (MS)
- Music Tech (MT)
- Sport Leader (PE)
- Spanish (SP)
- Urban Dance (UD)

Move to the next section to select a reserve option for Module 24:

Next

Step 2

You will notice that the subject you selected, in Step 1, appears on the line above the modules available on this screen. Clicking on this will take you back to the previous screen to allow you to amend your selection. This facility will be available to you at all stages as you navigate through the remaining screens.

- Select your reserve choice for Module 24 from subjects on the screen.
- Click 'Next', which is on the bottom right, to move to the next screen.

Step 2 of 5

[Start](#) > [Choice: Media Studies](#) > [Choice 2](#) > [Choice 3](#) > [Choice 4](#) > Confirmation

Choose your reserve option for Module 24 from the following subjects:

- Debating (DE)
- Drama (DR)
- Design Tech (DT)
- Forensic Sci (FS)
- Food Tech (FT)
- Gardening (GC)
- History (HI)
- Media Studies (MS)
- Music Tech (MT)
- Sport Leader (PE)
- Spanish (SP)
- Urban Dance (UD)

Move to the next section to select your first option for Module 25:

Next

Step 3

- Select your first choice for Module 25 from subjects on the screen.
- Click 'Next', which is on the bottom right, to move to the next screen.

Step 3 of 5

[Start](#) > [Choice: Media Studies](#) > [Choice: Food Tech](#) > Choice 3 > Choice 4 > Confirmation

Choose your first option for Module 25 from the following subjects:

- Visual Arts (AR)
- Bus & Economics (BE)
- Dance (DA)
- Design Tech (DT)
- Food Tech (FT)
- Geography (GG)
- HPQ (HPQ)
- Music (MU)
- Philosophy (PL)
- Psychology (PY)
- Science Crest (SC)
- Spanish (SP)

Move to the next section to select a reserve option for Module 25:

Next

Step 4

- Finally, select your reserve choice for Module 25 from subjects on the screen.
- Click 'Next', which is on the bottom right, to move to the next screen.

Step 4 of 5

[Start](#) > [Choice: Media Studies](#) > [Choice: Food Tech](#) > [Choice: Dance](#) > Choice 4 > Confirmation

Choose your reserve option for Module 25 from the following subjects:

- Visual Arts (AR)
- Bus & Economics (BE)
- Dance (DA)
- Design Tech (DT)
- Food Tech (FT)
- Geography (GG)
- HPQ (HPQ)
- Music (MU)
- Philosophy (PL)
- Psychology (PY)
- Science Crest (SC)
- Spanish (SP)

Move to the next section to review and confirm your selection.

Next

Step 5

This will take you to the Confirmation screen.

Please check your Subjects and if they are correct, click 'Confirm Choices'

Name: Test Account

Class: 8Z

Username: TACCO

Choice No.	Subject chosen
1	Media Studies
2	Food Technology
3	Dance
4	Geography

Confirm Choices

Go back and change choices

- Check the module choices you have selected are correct.
- Then click on 'Confirm Choices'.
- Alternatively, click on 'Go back and change choices' to start the process again from the beginning and allow you to reselect your subject choices.

Finally, the following screen will advise you that you have finished.

T.O.O.L.S
TimeTabler Options On-Line System



Thank you

Your Subject Choices have been saved - thank you.

[Click here to finish and log-out](#)

Click the message at the bottom to log-out.

Thank you.

NOTES