



Sandringham School

'Everybody can be Somebody'

Year 9 into 10 Options

2023-24



Dear Parents/Carers,

Year 10 Courses and Options 2023-2025

Throughout the first three years of their secondary education, your child has received an ambitious, broad and balanced curriculum following the National Curriculum guidelines and going beyond it in many areas. It is now time to prepare for new courses in Years 10 and 11 which will lead to Level 2 qualifications and public examinations in GCSE and equivalent (eg BTEC) courses. All students will follow a core curriculum comprised of English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science, PE and Personal Development. The majority will also continue with a Modern Foreign Language and either History or Geography. This leads to the EBacc element that is valued by the government.

This booklet provides details of the optional subjects available to our students in Years 10 and 11 together with the options process and timescale for choices to be made. We want each student to choose wisely having considered their own interests, future pathways and aptitudes and hope that parents/carers will be able to support their children in making these important educational decisions.

We recommend that families consider what lies beyond Years 10 and 11 when making choices. Most of our students will progress to post-16 education and follow A-Level and equivalent subjects. Others will wish to move to college or take up an apprenticeship at 16, so it is important to plan ahead when making choices for Year 10. To help with this process we will guide students to ensure they are stretched and challenged but also able to cope with the demands of Level 2 courses.

This booklet is one part of the process and there will also be an Options Evening and Year 9 PTC in February - both in person - as well as individual meetings with students in March. Dr Creaby will oversee this process and help students arrive at their final option choices. This is a crucial period for your child, and I cannot stress too strongly the importance of the decisions being made. The subject choices form must be returned online no later than Friday 3rd March 2023 and confirmation of choices will be made in the summer term once guidance discussions and timetabling has taken place.

Yours sincerely,

Alan Gray
Headteacher

Dear Students and Parents/Carers,

Welcome to our new Year 9 into 10 options information booklet. The information in this booklet outlines the options process for 2023-2025. It combines an overview of our Key Stage 4 curriculum and details of the range of courses on offer to you at Sandringham with detailed step-by-step guidance and advice on the different factors to consider when making your options choices.

At Sandringham, we offer a broad curriculum at Key Stage 4 with a wide choice of academic, creative, applied and vocational courses. All students follow a 'core' curriculum consisting of Mathematics, English, Science, PE and Personal Development. Personal Development was introduced in September 2020 and includes aspects of relationships, sex and health and religious education. Within the compulsory core, student's timetables are further personalised by, for example, the inclusion of GCSE PE, CamNat Sport, GCSE Dance, BTEC Dance, or being entered for Combined or Triple Science.

Alongside their core subjects, there are a maximum of 3 additional subjects for study in Years 10 and 11. To preserve a core academic curriculum and in recognition of the high status accorded to Modern Foreign Languages by universities and employers, we allocate all students capable of achieving a good pass in GCSE French, German or Spanish to take a language as one of their choices. For students considering an academic pathway into sixth form and potentially university study, we would encourage the selection of History or Geography alongside a language, as this will allow the student to be awarded the English Baccalaureate. The EBacc recognises students that study English, Mathematics, Science, a language and either History or Geography. The EBacc is viewed by the Department for Education as positive in facilitating options in further education and their goal is that 90% of students will study the EBacc subjects by 2025.

In response to national reforms to GCSE that began in 2015, Sandringham has a well-designed Key Stage 4 curriculum model, which we review annually. This includes appropriate amounts of lesson time devoted to all subjects to ensure that all students are fully prepared for the demands of the updated, more rigorous qualifications with higher amounts of knowledge content and reductions in the proportions of coursework.

The Key Stage 4 curriculum provides many opportunities for students to follow their interests and develop their strengths. Before finalising your choices, and in light of the requirement for all students to remain in education or training until the age of 18, it is important to consider what subjects or combinations of subjects might be necessary in the future for entry onto post-16 programmes of study. Ultimately however, I cannot stress enough how important it is that you choose subjects that you will enjoy and will be successful in.

Support for students and parents/carers will be available throughout the options process. Following the Options Information Evening on Thursday 23rd February and submission of the completed online forms by Friday 3rd March, all students will have an interview with me to review, discuss and confirm their choices. There is also the opportunity to have a consultation with Services for Young People for impartial careers advice. This is an important time for your child and with co-operation between home and school, I am confident we will arrive at the best curriculum programme for each student.

Good luck with your choices!

Caroline Creaby
Deputy Headteacher – Academic

Key Dates: Year 9 Options 2023 – 2025

Tuesday 31st January Options presentation to students in assembly and booklet distributed to students and families online

Thursday 23rd February Year 9 into 10 Options Information Evening, 6.30pm

Monday 27th February Year 9 Parent Teacher Consultation (in person) 4.30pm – 7.30pm

There will be an opportunity at the PTC to speak to your child's individual subject teachers, find out how they are progressing and which courses they are most suited to in Year 10.

Friday 3rd March Final deadline for return of the options form online.

March- April Options interviews with Deputy Headteacher

May Year 9 exam fortnight

End of June Year 9 options confirmed

July Year 9 Awards Assembly
Final Progress Report

Key Stage 4 Curriculum Overview: Core Subjects

All students in Years 10 and 11 study the following subjects as part of their compulsory 'core' entitlement:

- English Language and English Literature GCSEs
- Mathematics GCSE
- Science (Combined Science worth 2 GCSEs **or** Triple Science worth 3 GCSEs)
- Physical Education (GCSE PE, GCSE Dance, CamNat Sport, **or** BTEC Dance)
- Personal Development (Relationships, Sex, Health and Religious Education)

English

All students will take English Literature GCSE and English Language GCSE. English Language consists of two papers (Paper 1-explorations in creative writing/unseen fiction and Paper 2 - writers viewpoint/unseen non-fiction) and English Literature also consists of two papers (Paper 1-Shakespeare/19th Century Novels and Paper 2: Modern texts/Poetry.) All classes are taught in mixed attainment sets so that a more personalised approach to delivery of the curriculum can be achieved.

Mathematics

All students will be studying towards their GCSE in Mathematics. Students in set 1 will be entered for an additional qualification, the Edexcel Award in Algebra, at the end of Year 10. This 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.

Science

At the end of Year 9, depending on outcomes from assessments throughout Year 9, students are allocated either Triple Science (GCSE Biology, GCSE Chemistry and GCSE Physics) or Combined Science qualification, which is worth the equivalent of 2 x GCSEs. Triple Science and Combined Science are both allocated 6 hours of teaching a week. We would advise you that Combined Science is a rigorous qualification covering Physics, Chemistry and Biology and can enable further study of science at A Level if desired. The allocation to the Combined or Triple track is based upon our professional judgement on the route that will lead to the best possible outcome for your child at GCSE.

Physical Education

As part of the school's core Physical Education provision, the courses available are:

GCSE Physical Education, GCSE Dance, CamNat Sport (1 GCSE equivalent), BTEC Dance (1 GCSE equivalent)

We firmly believe that an examined course in PE or Dance is the best way to combine physical activity with essential learning on the body's physiology and maintaining active and healthy lifestyles through into adulthood. Students will be given a guided choice as to which qualification they will be most successful in.

Personal Development

This subject is taught for one hour per week with a curriculum that contains 5 major themes: Health & Wellbeing; British Values & Character; Futures & Careers; Sex & Relationships; and Community & Citizenship. A large amount of this content is a statutory requirement to ensure that students are appropriately prepared for life outside of and beyond Sandringham. Personal Development in Year 10 and 11 also contains compulsory religious education that promotes equality and cultural diversity. This subject will be not be assessed via public examination.

Key Stage 4 Curriculum Overview: Allocated Subjects

Beyond the **core** curriculum, students have three subjects remaining, some of which will be guided by the school.

Modern Foreign Languages

Reflecting the high regard the school, universities and employers place on students being able to study a modern foreign language to at least GCSE level, we allocate **all students capable of achieving a pass** in GCSE French, German or Spanish to take a language as one of their choices.

Should students not be allocated to a language, they are still welcome to choose it.

For students wishing to take a second language, they are able to do this by selecting a twilight option which will take place for 2 hours after school throughout Years 10 and 11.

For students not studying a language, they may choose: GCSE Business, GCSE Media Studies or WJEC Hospitality and Catering. (WJEC is a GCSE equivalent.) WJEC Hospitality and Catering cannot be picked in any other option block. However, if you did not select GCSE Media Studies or GCSE Business under the language option, it is available as an option subject.

Two remaining options

For students studying a modern foreign language, they are able to select two further subjects from the list on p.7 (excluding WJEC Hospitality and Catering). We would recommend History or Geography in order to achieve the EBacc.

For students not studying a language, in order to maintain an academic breadth, one of their remaining choices **must** be either: Computer Science, History or Geography. Students then have a free choice from the subjects on p.7 for their final option (excluding WJEC Hospitality and Catering).

Key Stage 4 Curriculum Overview: Option Subjects

In addition to the core curriculum, the list of our broad ranging option subjects are below:

- Astronomy (twilight)
- Fine Art
- Business
- Computer Science
- Drama
- Economics
- Food & Nutrition
- WJEC Hospitality and Catering (vocational - 1 GCSE equivalent)
- French
- Geography
- German
- History
- Media Studies
- Music
- Photography
- Design & Technology
- Religious Studies
- Spanish
- Textiles

Studying a second language

For students wishing to study a second language, they are able to do this as a **twilight** option. This involves **two hours** of lessons after school each week throughout Years 10 and 11.

Twilight Astronomy

We hope to offer GCSE Astronomy as an additional option that will be delivered as a **twilight** option for **two hours** per week. Please note that this course demands significant commitment outside school and would be suitable for those who are achieving well in Science and Mathematics. GCSE Astronomy is in addition to choices made in the main curriculum and cannot be used as an alternative to the three main options.

Reserve Choices

In addition to their 3 options choices, students are asked to make 1 reserve choice. Whilst every effort is made to accommodate students' first options choices, it is not always possible to guarantee that individuals will be allocated places in their first 3 subjects. This is because it is impossible to timetable every possible combination of subjects. Also, courses run will depend on demand and staffing availability so it may not be possible to run all the classes indicated on the option form. Furthermore, places in classes are limited (e.g. amount of space in technology and media rooms).

The English Baccalaureate

The government introduced the 'Ebacc' as a measure in 2010. It is not a qualification in itself but instead recognises where students have achieved a good pass across a suite of traditional academic subjects. These must include: Mathematics, English, 2 x Sciences, a Modern Foreign Language and either History or Geography. The EBacc is made up of the subjects which are considered essential to many degrees and maximise options for study at university.

A study by the UCL Institute of Education shows that studying subjects included in the EBacc provides students with greater opportunities in further education and increases the likelihood that a student will stay on in full-time education. Sutton Trust research reveals that studying the EBacc can help improve a young person's performance in English and Mathematics.

The government's ambition is to see 75% of pupils studying the EBacc subject combination at GCSE by 2022, and 90% by 2025.

The EBacc subjects would be particularly useful if your child is considering a sixth form and university pathway but is not yet sure of a specific subject to study, as this will keep options open. While the EBacc is a government ambition for all, we also recognise the value of subjects not represented in this measure, therefore the EBacc is advised but not compulsory at Sandringham.

Key Stage 4 Curriculum Model – Year 10 September 2023

- The school week is made up of 25 x 1 hour lessons (5 lessons per day).
- The curriculum model shows how many hours are allocated to each subject per week e.g. English = 4 hours.
- The school operates a two-week timetable. For example, students have 5 hours of PE spread across 2 weeks – 3 hours in Week 1 and 2 hours in Week 2.

Core (17.5 hours)															Options (7.5 hours)			
Personal Development (1)	English (4)				Mathematics (4)				Science (6)						PE / Dance (2.5)	Option 1 (2.5)	Option 2 (2.5)	Option 3 (2.5)
DV	En	En	En	En	Ma	Ma	Ma	Ma	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	Sc	GCSE PE	French	Geography	Geography
									Bi	Bi	Ch	Ch	Ph	Ph	CamNat Sport	German	History	History
															GCSE Dance	Spanish	OPTIONS	OPTIONS
															BTEC Dance	-----		
																GCSE Business		
																GCSE Media		
																WJEC Hospitality & Catering		



Compulsory Core:

- English Language and English Literature (4 hours)
- Mathematics (4 hours)
- Science – Triple (6 hours) or Combined (6 hours)
- PE – GCSE PE or CamNat Sport or GCSE Dance or BTEC Dance (2.5 hours)
- Personal Development (1 hour)



Options Subjects:

- 3 x Options (2.5 hours each)
- MFL for students capable of a good pass.
- EBacc recommended for most (Language + History or Geography)

Twilight Sessions:

- Second Language (2 hours per week)
- Astronomy (2 hours per week)

Step by Step Guide to Making Your Choice Online

Students will be given login details for them to use to access their online option choice form:
<https://www.studentoptions.co/Sandringham-GCSE/>

Follow the steps below to complete this process successfully.

- STEP 1** To help you choose your subjects we have put together this booklet to guide you on the process. Use this, along with your personalised letter stating your subject allocations, to help decide on your options. Consider the information you have received at the Options Evening and at your PTC.
- STEP 2**
PE With this information in mind, work your way through the options form online. As you complete each section, read about all of the subjects on offer.
- Choose your core PE option in line with your personalised allocation. GCSE PE, GCSE Dance, BTEC Dance or CamNat Sport.
- STEP 3**
MFL
- If your **MFL allocation is 'Yes'**, you **must** select a language as one of your three options choices. If you want to be eligible for the Ebacc, also consider selecting either History or Geography as one of your remaining choices.
 - If your **guided MFL choice is 'No'**, you are still welcome to choose it if you wish but if not, you must also select one of the following subjects; GCSE Business, GCSE Media or WJEC Hospitality and Catering. In your other option choices, you must also select a core academic subject: History or Geography.
- STEP 4** Now select your remaining choices.
- STEP 6** Include your **reserve** choice. If you would like to study **a second language or Astronomy, select this here.**
- STEP 7** Speak to your teacher at Options Evening and at the PTC evening to find out more about the courses and which one will suit you best.
- STEP 8** Complete the online options form by **Friday 3rd March 2023**

Qualifications Framework

Most courses followed at KS4 lead to GCSE qualifications. These qualifications will be used for all University and Apprenticeship applications.

You will notice that courses are also designated as Level 1 or 2. The National Qualifications Framework (NQF) table below explains what qualifications equate to what level.

Level 1 qualifications	Level 2 qualifications	Level 3 qualifications	Level 4 qualifications
GCSE 4-1 Vocational Level 1	GCSE 9-5 Vocational Level 2	Vocational Level 3 A-Levels	Vocational Level 4 Degree

Vocational qualifications at Sandringham are offered in a range of subjects and delivered by various exam boards, including Pearson (BTECs), OCR (Cambridge Nationals and Technicals) and WJEC.

By the end of Year 11, the majority of students should have achieved 9 or 10 Level 2 qualifications (GCSEs or equivalent). Students in the accelerated Mathematics groups will also have gained the standalone Level 3 Edexcel Award in Algebra.

Careers Guidance

When considering options choices, there is a wide range of careers guidance available to students to encourage them to think about the right progression pathways for their future.

At the Options Information Evening on 23rd February, you will be directed to the options area of the website which includes relevant careers information. You can also meet our Careers Advisor at the Year 9 Parent Teacher Consultation on Monday 27th February.

Other useful sources of information for reference include:

Unifrog is a complete platform for careers advice and destinations information, covering college, apprenticeships and university both in the UK and abroad. The school subscribes to this service and your child will have a personalised login to the site that they will use right through to Year 13:

<https://www.unifrog.org/>

Information about University Entrance is available on the UCAS website at <https://www.ucas.com/>

For a broad description of a wide range of careers together with details of preferred A-Level subjects visit <https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles>

Finally, choice of GCSE options subjects can determine what subjects are available to students at 16 and 18. The Russell Group of universities has produced this helpful guidance to help young people make informed choices:

<https://www.informedchoices.ac.uk/>

Super Curriculum

At Sandringham School, we want to give students every opportunity to develop their love of learning. We have developed a Super Curriculum which provides students with a range of suggested activities that take their regular curriculum **further**. They take the subjects that students study in the classroom **beyond** that which their teacher has taught.



These activities can take many forms including reading, watching videos online, downloading podcasts, attending lectures, visiting museums or entering academic competitions. Engaging in super curricular activities will help students develop a love for their favorite subject or subjects.

Every subject in the school has developed a range of suggested super curricular activities and we encourage all students to try out some of the activities in their favourite subjects.

You can access all activities via our website below. Our suggestions are by no means exhaustive lists of everything students could do in each subject but should get students started. In the future, employers or universities will be interested to hear about what super curricular activities students have engaged in; they will be interested in what students have learnt and impressed by the initiative taken.

All Super Curricular resources can be accessed here:

<https://sandringham.herts.sch.uk/super-curriculum/>

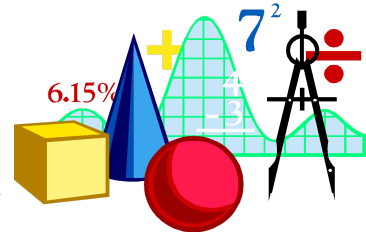
Section A:

Core Subjects

Mathematics
English Language and Literature
Science (Triple or Combined)
PE (PE, Cambridge National Sport,
Dance, BTEC Dance)
Personal Development (PD)

Mathematics

All students will be studying towards the GCSE Mathematics qualification which was introduced in September 2015. In addition, those students who embarked on the fast-track GCSE course this year in Year 9, will complete the Edexcel Award in Algebra at the end of Year 10. 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. There is also considerable overlap in content with the new GCSE specification.

What is GCSE Mathematics all about?

Mathematics is a core subject in the National Curriculum with students following different GCSE courses depending on their ability. Students are entered at two levels: Higher or Foundation. Your assessments in Year 9 will determine your initial level of entry, but progress during Years 10 and 11 will still affect your final level of entry.

What topics will I cover?

All levels cover the main areas of Mathematics:

- number
- ratio, proportion and rates of change
- algebra
- geometry and measures
- statistics and probability

How am I assessed?

There are three examinations: one non-calculator paper and two calculator papers.

Foundation (grades 1-5)	Paper 1 Non-calculator 33.3% weighting 80 marks	Paper 2 Calculator 33.3% weighting 80 marks	Paper 3 Calculator 33.3% weighting 80 marks
Higher (grades 4-9)	Paper 1 Non-calculator 33.3% weighting 80 marks	Paper 2 Calculator 33.3% weighting 80 marks	Paper 3 Calculator 33.3% weighting 80 marks

What examination board will I follow?

Edexcel

Is there any additional information about this course?

The GCSE examination will have a range of questions, some structured and some unstructured, testing the application of mathematics in both mathematical and non-mathematical contexts. The use of a calculator continues to be of importance, although one of the written papers is a non-calculator paper. Remember that a good scientific calculator can be purchased cheaply from Student Services.

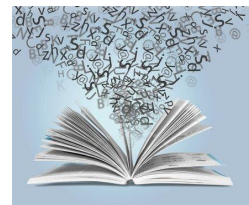
Who should I speak to for further information?

Your Mathematics teacher or Miss Mapp

English Language and Literature

What is English all about?

The study of English Language is as interesting as it is relevant. In this course, we study how both fiction and non-fiction texts are put together. We explore a range of texts from different writers, covering different themes and ideas. These texts offer opportunities to discuss a variety of topics and to explore a variety of language methods. This is then applied to our writing as we learn how to construct effective pieces of fiction and non-fiction.



In the Literature course, we cover a variety of texts, each one offering an opportunity for lively discussion and debate. We explore how literature is linked to its context and consider how writers use their work to capture human experience, address social and political ideas, and ask us to reflect on our own understanding of the world around us. Both courses build on the knowledge and skills you have learnt in KS3 and are an opportunity to develop an appreciation of the relevance of literature and the power of language.

What topics will I cover?

English Language

Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing and Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives

English Literature

Macbeth, William Shakespeare *Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*, Robert Louis Stevenson

An Inspector Calls, J. B. Priestley

AQA Poetry Anthology: Love and Relationships and Unseen Poetry

How am I assessed?

Assessment Method	GCSE Language	GCSE Literature
External examination at the end of Year 11	100% exam Language Paper 1: explorations in creative reading and writing (fiction) Reading and writing tasks on an unseen fiction extract Language Paper 2: writers' viewpoints and perspectives (non-fiction) Reading and writing tasks on two unseen non-fiction texts	100% exam Literature Paper 1: Shakespeare and 19 th century novel <i>Macbeth</i> and <i>The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde</i> Literature Paper 2: Modern texts and poetry <i>An Inspector Calls</i> , AQA Anthology: Love and Relationships cluster, and unseen poetry
Spoken Language skills are assessed but reported separately and do not form any part of the qualifications awarded.		

What examination board will I follow?

AQA

Is there any additional information about this course?

English is taught in mixed attainment sets, allowing all students to benefit from a broad exchange of ideas and develop an insightful response to texts and tasks in both Language and Literature.

Who should I speak to for further information?

Your English teacher or Ms Summers

Science



What is GCSE Science all about?

GCSE Science offers an amazing insight into the world around us, and sparks interest in many topics including the natural world, how things work and what we are made of. All students in Year 9 have started the GCSE course. Those students who achieve the highest grades in Year 9 Science assessments will be guided towards Triple Science (3 GCSEs) with a larger group of students continuing with Combined Science (2 GCSEs). Both courses have very similar content, with a high level of demand.

What topics will I cover?

Whichever route you will follow in Science, you will be covering a mixture of Biology, Chemistry and Physics topics including applications of science in everyday life.

How am I assessed?

There are two tiers for examinations and tests. They are:

- **Higher** grades 9-4
- **Foundation** grades 5-1

The tier at which you will be entered for the exam will depend upon your progress. Both tiers are comprised multiple exams – 2 exams per GCSE for Triple students and 6 exams in total for Combined Science students.

An important aspect of GCSE Science is the opportunity you will have to demonstrate your ability to carry out a scientific investigation. Throughout the course there will be a number of assessed practical tasks. This enables you to show your practical skills and ability to apply scientific understanding.

What examination board will I follow?

AQA for Triple Science (Biology, Chemistry, Physics) or
AQA for Combined Science (Trilogy)

Is there any additional information about this course?

A calculator will be vital for all parts of the course, so do follow the advice of the Mathematics Faculty and make sure you have bought a scientific calculator.

Who should I speak to for further information?

Your Science teacher or Dr Archer-Jones

Core PE – Option 1: GCSE PE

What is GCSE PE all about?

Studying GCSE Physical Education will open your eyes to the amazing world of sports performance. Not only will you have the chance to perform in a range of different sports through the non-exam assessment component, you will also develop wide-ranging knowledge into the how and why of physical activity and sport. Through an introduction to all areas of PE, you will receive a well-rounded and full introduction to this fascinating world of PE, physical activity and sport. This GCSE study provides everything you need for your future move on to further education, higher education, employment or further training.



What topics will I cover?

You will get to learn more about exercise, how the body works to help you exercise and then through designing your Personal Exercise Plan, learn how performance can be improved. You will also get to learn about social issues in sport such as the use of drugs in sport and sports injuries. The topics below will be examined through two exams:

- Sports Psychology
- Socio-cultural Influences
- Health, Fitness and Wellbeing
- Anatomy and Physiology
- Physical Training

How am I assessed?

30% of the course is on your practical ability. In the practical lessons you will be assessed in a variety of sports, with three scores counting. You will be assessed on a weekly basis on:

1. Your ability to perform a range of skills
2. Your ability to apply the skills in the game

At the end of the two years, you will have two written exams on the theory topics. This will count for 60% of your overall GCSE PE grade (30% each). In addition to these two elements there will also be a piece of coursework related to you and your performance in sport worth 10% of your grade. Your combined theory and practical mark will determine your overall GCSE PE grade.

What examination board will I follow?

OCR

Is there any additional information about this course?

It is crucial that you can offer three sports to a good level across a range of activities and don't just specialise in one. It is a requirement that you participate competitively in at least one of these sports outside of school. You will need to participate in all practical lessons. This is the route that you will need to pursue if you have a desire to study A-Level PE.

Who should I speak to for further information?

Your PE teacher or Mrs Cracknell

Core PE – Option 2: Cambridge National in Sport

What is the CamNat Sport all about?

The Cambridge National in Sport (CNAT) is equivalent to one GCSE and runs over two and a half hours per week. Following this course will raise your understanding of how to maintain a healthy lifestyle and the benefits of doing so. It will also develop your leadership skills, something which every employer looks for. This can lead onto the Level 3 CTEC National course or other vocational qualifications. Beyond school and college, this can lead you to studying at University or will help to gain an apprenticeship.



What topics will I cover?

You will study a total of three units for CNAT Sport.

Units

1. Applying the principles of training: fitness and how it affects skill performance (40%)
2. The body's response to physical activity and how technology informs this (20%)
3. Reducing the risk of sports injuries and dealing with common medical conditions (External Examination - 40%)

How am I assessed?

There will be one examined unit that is worth 40% of the final grade. This will be taken in June of Year 11. The remaining 60% is all coursework based and can often help those students who find examinations difficult.

What examination board will I follow?

OCR

Is there any additional information about this course?

You will participate in a combination of practical and theory lessons to ensure each module is covered. It is important that you are able to meet strict coursework deadlines.

Who should I speak to for further information?

Your PE teacher or Mrs Cracknell

Core PE – Option 3 GCSE Dance

What is GCSE Dance all about?

GCSE Dance is a dynamic, practical course which enables students with an interest in dance to learn more about dance technique, choreography and professional dance repertoire. Students will be expected to participate in practical dance classes as well as theory lessons. You need to have had experience in contemporary or ballet to do the course and be prepared to work hard and commit to rehearsals when completing coursework and in preparation for practical exams. All GCSE students must be involved in a dance activity in school e.g. Senior Dance Club, Ballet Club, Contemporary Club or SYCD Company (audition only).



Performance

Students regularly have technique classes to develop and improve their performance and technical skills. Students will experience a variety of dance styles and will be required to perform 2 set phrases (solos) and either a duo or trio which is examined towards the end of the course.

Choreography

Students learn the skills and methods needed to choreograph a dance. They will study the process of choreography and learn how to structure, create and develop movement material in response to a variety of stimuli. Students are required to choreograph either a solo or group dance in response to stimuli chosen by AQA.

Dance Appreciation

This part of the course will enable students to study the knowledge and appreciation of the choreographic processes and performing skills, the critical appreciation of their own work and a variety of professional dance works. This is taught practically and theoretically, although it is examined through a written paper at the end of the course.

How am I assessed?

Component 1: Performance and Choreography - 60% of GCSE

PERFORMANCE = 30% of GCSE

- 1) 2 Set phrases through a solo performance = 1-1.5 minutes total
- 2) Duo/Trio performance = 3.5-5 minutes

CHOREOGRAPHY = 30% of GCSE

- 1) Solo or Group choreography = solo, 2-2.5 minutes, group 3-3.5 minutes

Component 2: Dance Appreciation - 40% of GCSE

Written paper – 1 hour 30 minutes.

Questions based on students' own practice in performance and choreography and the GCSE Dance Anthology.

*** Students have the opportunity to be involved in a variety of extra-curricular clubs on offer and it is an expectation that all students should attend the weekly senior dance club if no other contemporary or ballet dance training is taking place outside of school ***

What examination board will I follow?

AQA

Who should I speak to for further information?

Miss Davies or Miss Wilson

Core PE – Option 4 BTEC Dance

What is the BTEC Dance Tech Award all about?

The BTEC Tech Award is equivalent to one GCSE and runs over two and a half hours per week. The practical course enables students with an interest in a variety of Dance styles to learn more about the dance sector. Students will be expected to participate in practical dance classes as well as theory lessons focusing on coursework submissions. You need to have had some experience in Dance to do the course but most importantly you must be prepared to work hard and commit to rehearsals and clubs after school when completing coursework. We would strongly encourage all BTEC students to be involved in a dance activity in school e.g. Senior Dance Club, Ballet Club, Contemporary Club or one of the resident companies; SYCD or Tuxedo (audition only).



What topics will I cover?

The course is made up of **three components**: two that are internally assessed and externally moderated and one that's externally assessed. The three-block structure, **explore, develop and apply**, has been developed to allow students to build on and embed their knowledge.

Component 1 = Exploring the Performing Arts = 30%

Students will explore performance styles, creative intentions and purpose as well as investigate how practitioners create and influence what's performed through looking at performance roles, skills, techniques and processes.

Component 2 = Developing skills and techniques in the Performing Arts = 30%

Students will take part in workshops, classes and rehearsals and gain physical, interpretative, vocal and rehearsal skills. These skills will then be applied in performance and reflected upon in logbooks.

Component 3 = Performing to a brief = 40%

Students work in groups of between 3 and 7 members to create a performance based on a set brief by the exam board. They also complete 3 written logs throughout the process.

How am I assessed?

There is one externally assessed task worth 40% carried out practically in groups and 3 written logs. The remaining 60% is all coursework based and can often help those students who find examinations difficult. This 60% is internally assessed and externally moderated.

What examination board will I follow?

Pearson

Is there any additional information about this course?

You will participate in a combination of practical and theory lessons to ensure each component is covered. It is important that you are able to meet strict coursework deadlines.

Who should I speak to for further information?

Your Dance teacher or Miss Davies

Personal Development (PD)

What is Personal Development all about?

The Personal Development curriculum intent is to provide a rich and broad learning experience that is well-sequenced, so all students are progressively challenged to master a range of key concepts and leave Sandringham with:



- the character and values to become a responsible, caring citizen who is supportive of all others in the community.
- the knowledge of how to build, create and sustain meaningful relationships that lead to social fulfilment.
- the ability to pursue further study or employment in a way that is informed and leads to professional success.
- the understanding of how to live in a healthy way that promotes safety and happiness.

What topics will I cover?

The themes covered across Year 10 and 11 are:

Health & Wellbeing

- This theme aims to improve students' knowledge of how to maintain both their physical and mental health. This includes information about how to stay safe if conducting certain risk behaviours such as drugs and alcohol.

British values & Character (RS)

- This theme is a religion education unit that aims to educate students about inspirational religious leaders. This involves investigation into past and present inequality and analysis of character traits required to make a difference.

Futures & Careers

- This theme aims to improve students' understanding of the different careers that exist in our society so they can make an informed choice about what to pursue in the future. It also supports students with making decisions about post-16 pathways.

Sex & Relationships

- This theme aims to improve students' knowledge of how to create and sustain positive platonic and intimate relationships. This includes information about consent, pregnancy, sexual health and contraception. It also explores negative relationships formed online to promote student safety.

Community & Citizenship (RS)

- This theme is a religious education unit that aims to promote cultural diversity. Students will investigate how different religions shape our society by analysing global issues and religious celebrations.

How am I assessed?

There is no external assessment of Personal Development. Instead the following will be used to judge your progress in the subject:

- Written and verbal contributions in class.
- End of major theme Quizziz.
- End of major theme self-assessment.
- End of major theme assessment task

What examination board will I follow?

There is no examination or coursework for PD.

Who should I speak to for further information?

Miss Wills

Section B:

Option Subjects

Fine Art
Astronomy
Business
Computer Science
Design & Technology
Drama
Economics
Food & Nutrition
French
Geography
German
History
Hospitality and Catering - WJEC
Media Studies
Music
Religious Studies
Photography
Spanish
Textiles

Fine Art



What is GCSE Fine Art all about?

- Fine Art is creative, exciting and enjoyable
- It combines theory and practice
- Studying Fine Art will teach you transferable skills such as research, problem-solving, thinking skills, designing, analysing and evaluating as well as practical skills
- Studying Fine Art will give you a range of opportunities for your future

Fine Art offers you the opportunity to develop your painting and drawing skills producing a range of experimental and personal work. You will also explore printmaking and work in mixed media and produce a range of final pieces.

What topics will I cover?

The course will involve looking at professional artists, designers and photographers, to aid the building of a portfolio of coursework and the keeping of sketchbooks. You will study a range of topics such as still life, portraits, landscapes and develop 2D and 3D art work as a response. The course includes visits to galleries and museums.

How am I assessed?

An external examination will be taken at the end of the course. The coursework is worth 60% of the final mark and the exam will be worth 40%.

What examination board will I follow?

Edexcel

Is there any additional information about this course?

You will be required to purchase sketchbooks, an art portfolio and some art materials during the two year course.

Who should I speak to for further information?

Your art teacher or Mrs Kelly

Astronomy

What is GCSE Astronomy all about?

The course will enable students to understand our position in the universe, the movements of planets and stars, the cycles in the night and daytime sky, and the way in which we use technology to observe and interact with space. Students will follow an incredible story of how scientists, from ancient civilisations to the modern day, have used their imagination and carefully recorded visual measurement to explore the Universe in which we live.



What topics will I cover?

There are two units in the course: Naked-eye astronomy and telescopic astronomy. The content overview is below:

Naked-eye Astronomy	Telescopic Astronomy
Planet Earth	Exploring the Moon
The lunar disc	Solar astronomy
The Earth-Moon-Sun system	Exploring the Solar System
Time and the Earth-Moon-Sun cycles	Formation of planetary systems
Solar System observation	Exploring starlight
Celestial observation	Stellar evolution
Early models of the Solar System	Our place in the Galaxy
Planetary motion and gravity	Cosmology

How am I assessed?

Two examinations will be taken at the end of the course covering the units above, each are 1 hour and 45 minutes and worth 50% of the final qualification.

What examination board will I follow?

Edexcel

Is there any additional information about this course?

Please note that this course sits outside the main option block and will be additional to your GCSE choices. It will be delivered as a **twilight session** for two hours per week.

This course will be most suited to those who are motivated and achieving highly in science and mathematics. Students will have to conduct significant work outside school, including observational tasks that obviously need to be completed at night.

Please note, this course will run only if sufficient numbers of students elect to have it as an option.

Who should I speak to for further information?

Your astronomy teacher or Dr Archer-Jones

Business

What is GCSE Business?

On this course you will find out how businesses start up, grow and manage their day-to-day affairs. The course examines how businesses operate in the global economy. The course focuses on the key areas of business, such as; marketing, finance, operations and human resource management, and investigates how businesses are affected by their external environment. As part of the course, you will also learn a variety of ways to analyse and evaluate real situations and, therefore, make recommendations based on business strategy.



What topics will I cover?

Theme 1: Investigating Small Business (Year 10):

- Enterprise and entrepreneurship
- Spotting a business opportunity
- Putting a business idea into practice
- Making the business effective
- Understanding external influences on business

Theme 2: Building a Business (Year 11)

- Growing the business
- Making marketing decisions
- Making operational decisions
- Making financial decisions
- Making human resource decisions

You will learn about types of ownership, why businesses conduct market research and how they apply a marketing mix to attract their customers. You will consider why they analyse the market. You will also reflect on the skills and attributes of entrepreneurs, the main forms of business ownership and legal issues. You will study how businesses manage their finance and the sources of finance available to them. Simple economic concepts are introduced. You will gain an insight into how large businesses are run successfully and why they fail. Throughout the course, you will make links across the different areas of business to consider, for example, the implications for finance of launching a marketing campaign on a national scale.

How am I assessed?

You will be assessed through two external examinations, each lasting 90 minutes and worth 50% of the overall qualification. The papers assess your knowledge, and ability to apply, analyse and evaluate problems in a specific business context using a mix of multiple-choice questions, calculations, short answer questions, case study questions and extended responses. Half the marks on each paper come from extended writing, so you need to be willing to practise writing detailed answers to essay style questions.

- **Paper 1 covers: Theme 1: Investigating small business**
- **Paper 2 covers: Theme 2: Building a business**

What examination board will I follow?

Edexcel

Who should I speak to for further information?

Mrs Harding, Mr Brown or Mrs Cave

Computer Science

What is GCSE Computer Science all about?

This course will give you an in-depth understanding of how computer technology works and a look at what goes on “behind the scenes”. To use an analogy, if the study of ICT is equivalent to driving a car, Computer Science is learning how the car works and how to design and build the car. As part of this, you will investigate computer hardware and programming, which many students find challenging and interesting. This course will equip you with skills and knowledge that are an ideal stepping-stone to further study of Computer Science and are in increasing demand by employers in the technology sector and wider science, engineering and creative sectors.



What topics will I cover?

The course of study is made up of two examined components, each covering a broad range of topic areas. Alongside the practical nature of Computing, comes the science and mathematical theories and content which exist at the foundation of this subject. There is also a substantial practical programming element that underpins the course theory

COMP1: Computer Systems

This unit covers the body of knowledge about computer systems, including:

- Systems architecture
- Memory and storage
- Computer networks, connections and protocols
- Network security
- Systems software
- Ethical, legal, cultural and environmental impacts of digital technology

COMP2: Computational Thinking, Algorithms and Programming

This unit applies knowledge and understanding gained in component 01. Students will develop skills and understanding in computational thinking: algorithms, programming techniques, producing robust programs, computational logic and translators. Students will develop their skills to design, write, test and refine programs using the Python language.

How am I assessed?

COMP1 and COMP2 are each worth 50% of the overall qualification and are assessed through two 1.5 hour examinations. Students will be assessed on programming skills during the written examinations, in particular component 02.

What examination board will I follow?

OCR

Is there any additional information about this course?

Home access to a computer and the internet is essential to practise for practical work and home learning. Practising programming and problem solving outside lessons will be essential in being able to access the highest grades in the examinations. You should be comfortable with problem solving in Mathematics as there is a strong overlap with this course.

Who should I speak to for further information?

Your Computer Science Teacher or Mrs Flynn-Coley

Design & Technology

Design & Technology

Inspire. Invent. Innovate.

What is Design & Technology all about?

Design & Technology is an exciting course; it involves investigating, designing, planning and making quality products using a variety of materials. It provides students with the opportunity to develop communication skills, problem-solving and show **flair, imagination and creativity** in a range of activities.

What topics will I cover?

A qualification in Design and Technology will prepare you to become a creative and critical thinker, developing your skills to design and make prototypes that solve real life problems. During the two year course you will study a wide range of materials including papers and boards, timber, metals, polymers and electronics. You will also develop an understanding of systems, programmable components and mechanisms to support any potential design solutions you may develop later on. In Year 10 students learn how to use a variety of tools and equipment including the laser cutter and 3d printers safely and appropriately in order to make high quality products. You will complete your design challenge in Year 11. In Year 11 you will design and make a product in response to a brief set by the exam board which will provide you with the opportunities to demonstrate the skills you have learnt. The GCSE course has a number of links to other subjects such as Mathematics, Science and Business Studies which will only help further your understanding and skills in these areas. This content also reflects the importance of design & technology as a pivotal STEM subject.

Where can the qualification take me?

The study of design and technology can lead to future careers in product design, engineering and architecture, and graphic design; it will develop your design and thinking skills that open up a world of possibility, providing the tools to create the future.

How am I assessed?

This qualification is linear. Linear means that students will sit all their exams and submit all their non-exam assessment at the end of the course.

The Design & Technology course offers two exciting units to students:

Coursework (NEA)	Iterative Design Challenge Investigate; Design; Make; Analyse and evaluate Create a working prototype and portfolio of evidence	50% of course
Exam 2 hours	Core technical principles Specialist technical principles Designing and making principles	50% of course

What examination board will I follow?

AQA

Who should I speak to for further information?

Any of your D&T teachers or Mr Neville

Drama

What is GCSE Drama all about?

This course is an extremely varied one which introduces you to most, if not all, aspects of Theatre. From acting and directing through to devising and designing original pieces of theatre. GCSE Drama is a fantastic way of learning and applying both subject specific and easily transferable skills.

Throughout the course you will continue to develop your acting skills, including the use of; voice, physicality, characterisation and improvisation. Lessons are very practical and involve a great deal of collaborative work, though there are also possibilities to create solo work if you wish. The course is very flexible and offers options for not only actors, but also those wishing to explore design elements, including lighting, sound, costume and even puppetry!



Alongside these practical skills we also undertake the study and analysis of play texts to experience how a production team of actors, designers, technicians and directors might transfer a play from 'page to stage'. Finally, you will attend various live theatrical performances to support you in both the performance and written aspects of the course.

What topics will I cover?

Component 1: Devising – 30% - 60 marks

Students will create their own devised performance based on one of a range of stimuli which is published by the exam board. In addition to the performance, students will be marked on an accompanying portfolio with evidence of the process and decisions made whilst creating and developing their performance.

Component 2: Presenting and Performing Texts – 30% - 60 marks

Students will take part in a showcase, demonstrating their chosen skills in a live performance. Students will perform in or design for two performances from one text. Students will also be required to produce a short accompanying document which outlines their intentions for and approach to the performance showcase.

Component 3: Drama: Performance and Response – 40% - 80 marks

This requires students to study text and performance. For Section A, students study one performance text in detail from a set list given by the exam board. In Section B, students will be required to analyse and evaluate a live theatre performance they have seen using accurate subject-specific terminology.

How am I assessed?

Component 1: Teacher assessed performance and a Portfolio documenting your ideas.

Component 2: Performance of two extracts from one performance text to a visiting examiner.

Component 3: Written paper (1hr 30) split into two sections:

- Section A: Set text – 8 questions formed of short and longer answers
- Section B: Live Theatre Analysis – 1 question formed of a longer response

What possibilities are there to extend your understanding of Drama?

GCSE Drama allows progress to A Level Theatre Studies, University degrees in Drama, Theatre Studies or the technical crafts associated with theatre e.g. stage management, costume design, lighting. Careers in performance, stage craft, journalism, law, management (the latter requiring good powers of oratory and confidence in

What examination board will I follow?

OCR

Who should I speak to for further information?

Your Drama teacher or Mrs Meadows/ Ms Hardacre

Economics

What is GCSE Economics?

On this course you will find out how individuals and firms operate in the UK and global economy. You will study how events such as BREXIT or Covid may impact the UK and understand the role of the political environment in which we exist.



What topics will I cover?

The course is split into two elements consisting of Microeconomics and Macroeconomics. The break down can be seen below:

Microeconomics:

- Introduction to Economics
- How prices are determined
- Production, costs, revenue and profit
- Competition in markets
- The role of money and financial markets

Macroeconomics:

- Government objectives
- How the government manages the economy
- Limitations of markets
- International trade and the global economy

You will gain an insight into what is happening in the current economic climate and strategies the government can use to influence the economy. You will study supply and demand and consider how to achieve sustainable growth in developing nations. If you enjoy debate and current global affairs, this could be a course worth considering!

How am I assessed?

Content Overview	Assessment Overview	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction to Economics• The role of markets and money	Introduction to Economics (J205/01)* 80 Marks 1 hour 30 minute written paper	50% of total GCSE (9–1)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Economic objectives and the role of government• International trade and the global economy	National and International Economics (J205/02)* 80 Marks 1 hour 30 minute written paper	50% of total GCSE (9–1)

What examination board will I follow?

OCR

Who should I speak to for further information?

Ms Harding or Mr Brown

Food & Nutrition



What is GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition?

Food Preparation and Nutrition is a very exciting and creative subject. This GCSE course will help you to make connections between theory and practice so you are able to apply your understanding of food and nutrition, food science and healthy eating to practical situations.

What topics will I cover?

The content of the course is divided into four sections:

- Section A: Nutrition – this section will develop your knowledge and understanding of the nutritional content, functional properties and chemical processes of food and drink. You will learn about the relationship between diet, nutrition and health, as well as the effects of poor diet and health.
- Section B: Food (food provenance and food choice) – this section will help you to understand the economic, environmental, ethical, and socio-cultural influences on food availability, production processes and diet and health choices.
- Section C: Cooking and food preparation – in this section of the course you will demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of functional and nutritional properties, sensory qualities and food safety considerations when preparing, processing, storing, cooking and serving food.
- Section D: Skills requirements (preparation and cooking techniques) – in this section you will demonstrate effective and safe cooking skills when planning, preparing and cooking using a variety of food commodities, cooking techniques and equipment. You will explore a range of ingredients and processes from different culinary traditions, including traditional British cuisine and international cuisines.

How am I assessed?

Component	Assessment type	Time and marks	% of qualification
Food Preparation and Nutrition	Written examination paper	100 marks 1 hour 30 minutes	50%
Food Investigation Task	Non-examined assessment (NEA)	45 marks	15%
Food Preparation Task	Non-examined assessment (NEA)	105 marks	35%

What examination board will I follow?

OCR

Who should I speak to for further information?

Mrs Flahive or Mrs Holmes

French

What is GCSE French?

The main aim of the course is to give you a sound grammatical knowledge of the French language so that you can understand and communicate with native speakers in everyday situations and read and write in French. You will learn to construct sentences with confidence using topic-based vocabulary so that you will also have the tools to study a language at a higher level, should you choose to.



What topics will I cover?

We will equip you to understand the situations you are likely to encounter as a visitor to a foreign country. The course covers the grammar of the language plus three main themes:

- Theme 1: Identity and Culture
- Theme 2: Local, national and global areas of interest
- Theme 3: Current and future study and employment

How am I assessed?

Listening, reading and writing assessments are by examinations at the end of Year 11. Students are entered for either Higher or Foundation levels across all skills.

The speaking assessment is completed in April/May of Year 11 and will last around 12 minutes.

The skills have the following weightings:

- | | |
|--|-----|
| • Listening | 25% |
| • Reading and translation into English | 25% |
| • Writing and translation into French | 25% |
| • Speaking | 25% |

What examination board will I follow?

AQA

Is there any additional information about this course?

Students will need to work independently to build up topic vocabulary over the course, using a variety of online resources.

Who should I speak to for further information?

Your French teacher, Mrs Baikie or Mrs Hill

Geography

What is GCSE Geography all about?

GCSE Geography will help you examine some of the most pressing contemporary issues our planet faces, considering the causes, consequences and responses to major threats to both the physical world and human landscapes. You will be encouraged to deepen your understanding of your role in society by considering different viewpoints, values and attitudes. Additionally, you will continue to develop key geographical skills to build a more considered application of concepts and theories to often dynamic geographical locations.



What topics will I cover?

1. Living with the Physical Environment

- ***The Challenge of Natural Hazards*** – An investigation into tectonic hazards (earthquakes, volcanoes), meteorological hazards (tropical storms and extreme weather) and climate change
- ***The Living World*** – An exploration of ecosystems, tropical rainforests and deserts
- ***Physical landscapes in the UK*** – A study of coastal processes, landforms and management and river processes, landforms and management

2. Challenges in the Human Environment

- ***Urban Issues and Challenges*** – An examination of urbanisation, urban growth in a LIC/NEE, urban growth in a city in the UK and sustainable urban change
- ***The Changing Economic World*** – A study of the global development gap, economic change in a LIC/NEE and economic futures in the UK
- ***The Challenge of Resource Management*** – An investigation into the use of essential resources in the UK, and a focus on global energy futures

3. Geographical applications and Geographical skills

- ***Issue Evaluation*** - critical thinking and problem-solving using pre-released material
- ***Fieldwork*** - two enquiries, one human geography investigation and one physical geography investigation carried out during residential fieldtrip
- ***Geographical Skills*** - cartographic skills (including map skills), graphic skills, numerical skills, statistical skills, literacy skills and enquiry skills.

How am I assessed?

Paper 1 – Living with the Physical Environment [35%]

Paper 2 – Challenges in the Human Environment [35%]

Paper 3 – Geographical Applications and Skills [30%]

Fieldwork

There is a compulsory field trip within the UK where you will investigate both human and physical processes, using fieldwork techniques to collect primary data used to improve your understanding of geographical concepts.

What examination board will I follow?

AQA

Who should I speak to for further information?

Your Geography teacher or Mr Miller

What is GCSE German all about?

The main aim of the course is to give you a sound grammatical knowledge of the German language so that you can understand and communicate with native speakers in everyday situations and read and write in German. You will learn to construct sentences with confidence using topic-based vocabulary so that you will also have the tools to study a language at a higher level, should you choose to.



What topics will I cover?

We will equip you to understand the situations you are likely to encounter as a visitor to a foreign country. The course covers the grammar of the language plus three main themes:

- Theme 1: Identity and Culture
- Theme 2: Local, national and global areas of interest
- Theme 3: Current and future study and employment

How am I assessed?

Listening, reading and writing assessments are by examinations at the end of Year 11. Students are entered for either Higher or Foundation levels across all skills.

The speaking assessment is completed in April/May of Year 11 and will last around 12 minutes.

The skills have the following weightings:

- | | |
|--|-----|
| • Listening | 25% |
| • Reading and translation into English | 25% |
| • Writing and translation into German | 25% |
| • Speaking | 25% |

What examination board will I follow?

AQA

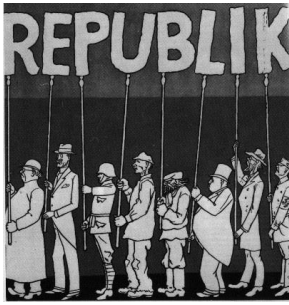
Is there any additional information about this course?

Students will need to work independently to build up topic vocabulary over the course, using a variety of online resources.

Who should I speak to for further information?

Your German teacher, Mrs Baikie or Mrs Kincaid

History



What is GCSE History all about?

GCSE History will enable you to study some of the most significant and exciting events in British, European, and American history. Your studies will develop your understanding of cause, consequence, significance, and source analysis.

What topics will I cover?

The Cold War: A study in depth that examines the main events of the tensest and exciting years of the twentieth century and includes the Cuban Missile Crisis, the nuclear 'Arms Race', and the Berlin Wall.

Weimar and Nazi Germany: A study in depth of one of the most notorious periods in European History. The topic includes the rise to power of the Nazi Party, life in Nazi Germany, Hitler's leadership style, and the Holocaust.

Crime and Punishment: A gruesome breadth study of how crime and punishment has changed from medieval to modern times. The topic includes an in-depth look at crime in White Chapel at the time of Jack the Ripper!

Anglo-Saxon and Norman England: A study of one of the most iconic figures in British History: William the Conqueror! The study examines his style of leadership, how he conquered Britain, and how he remained in control.

How am I assessed?

Paper 1 (30%) = Crime and Punishment

Paper 2 (40%) = The Cold War and Norman England

Paper 3 (30%) = Nazi Germany

There is **no controlled assessment** (coursework) in GCSE History.

What examination board will I follow?

Edexcel

Who should I speak to for further information?

Your History teacher or Miss Constable

Hospitality & Catering



What is WJEC Hospitality & Catering all about?

Hospitality and Catering is designed to develop in learners the knowledge and understanding related to a range of hospitality and catering providers; how they operate and what they have to take into account to be successful. There is the opportunity to learn about issues related to nutrition and food safety and how they affect successful hospitality and catering operations.

What topics will I cover?

A qualification in Hospitality and Catering will prepare you to become more aware of the skills required to go into Hospitality and catering for large-scale events.

In this qualification, learners will also have the opportunity to develop some food preparation and cooking skills as well as transferable skills of problem solving, organisation and time management, planning and communication.

Through the two units, learners will gain an overview of the hospitality and catering industry and the type of job roles that may be available to assist them in making choices about progression.

Where can the qualification take me?

Employment in hospitality and catering can range from catering assistants to chefs, hotel or bar managers and food technologists in food manufacturing. All of these roles require further education and training through apprenticeships or further and higher education.

How am I assessed?

Unit 1: The Hospitality and Catering Industry (externally assessed)

This will be an online assessment that will test you on the skills and knowledge that you have learnt over the 2 years.

Duration: 90 minutes

Unit 2: Hospitality and Catering in Action (internally assessed)

This will be a practical exam where you will have been tasked to produce a variety of dishes and outcomes to a set brief in exam conditions. You will also be producing a research folder showing your planning and management of ingredients.

What examination board will I follow?

WJEC

Who should I speak to for further information?

Mrs Howells-Flahive or Mrs Holmes

Media Studies



What is GCSE Media all about?

The mass media (television, radio, cinema, newspapers and magazines, advertising, popular music, the internet) are an important and developing part of everyday life. We live in an age in which the media orientated landscape continues to grow and develop continually. We believe it is vitally important that young people cannot only access but understand how this world works.

Media Studies is concerned with understanding the ways in which the media works and how this information and entertainment is communicated to its audience. It also aims to help you learn to develop the skills to use the media effectively to communicate your own ideas. How are media texts targeted at particular audiences and how do they respond? To what extent does the media attempt to influence its audience – and how? And why? These are some of the questions we will explore.

What topics will I cover?

As a Media Studies student you will study a number of media texts from a range of different platforms. This could include looking at the marketing of films and analysing film trailers, studying music promotion, television drama, internet advertising or the news media, for example: You will develop an understanding of the key concepts that underpin Media Studies – Media Language, Genre, Representation, Audience, Industry and Contexts – and learn how to apply these to the texts you have studied and to the texts you will create.

You will also be trained in the use of media technology; for example the use of digital cameras and relevant software to create and manipulate images and the use of professional editing software to create your own moving image productions. Media Studies has dedicated classrooms in G block equipped with 48 PCs and the Adobe Creative Suite package of professional media software.

How am I assessed?

Television & Promoting Media – Written paper 35% of GCSE

Learners will explore how media products follow generic conventions, use media language, represent events, issues, places, individuals and social groups, address audiences and reflect their industrial context.

Music & News – Written Paper 35% of GCSE

Learners will apply the theoretical framework and theoretical perspectives to three in-depth studies. Students will look at a variety of print texts, as well as different AV texts which focus on music (BBC Live Lounge and Music Videos).

Creating Media – Practical 30% of GCSE

Learners will create media products through applying knowledge and understanding of media language and representation from the theoretical framework to express and communicate meaning to an intended audience. This will be in the form of a TV drama, Music Video or Magazine.

What examination board will I follow?

OCR

Who should I speak to for further information?

Your Media Studies teacher or Mr O'Connor

Music

What is GCSE Music all about?

- Do you enjoy listening to a wide range of music?
- Do you enjoy performing as a soloist and with others?
- Do you enjoy developing your own musical ideas?

If the answer to these questions is yes, then you should study GCSE Music!



What topics will I cover?

Topics covered are:

- Western classical tradition 1650–1910
- Western classical tradition since 1910
- Popular music
- Traditional music

Instrumental Studies

Students in this course should be aware that:

- All students must learn a musical instrument or take singing lessons.
- All GCSE students must be involved in a musical activity in school e.g. Jazz Band, Sinfonia, Show Choir, Rock School, student bands etc.

How am I assessed?

• Unit 1	Understanding Music <i>Written exam</i>	40%
• Unit 2	Performing Music <i>Coursework</i>	30%
• Unit 3	Composing Music <i>Coursework</i>	30%

Coursework

- Two pieces of composition
- One individual performance and one group performance

Exams

- Listening exam (90-minute paper) taken in Year 11

What examination board will I follow?

AQA

Additional information

GCSE Music is a prerequisite for those wishing to continue their studies onto Music or Music Technology A Level. GCSE Music offers a balance of creative and academic rigour which is valued by Sixth Form applications and colleges.

Who should I speak to for more information?

Your Music teacher or Miss Stothard

Photography



What is GCSE Photography all about?

Photography is an exciting subject that offers students the potential to develop their ideas using a range of traditional and contemporary photographic processes and techniques. If you choose photography, you will study a range of topics and develop work to a chosen theme. You will plan photoshoots and develop personal photographic work.

Why study photography?

- Photography is creative, exciting and enjoyable
- It combines theory and practice
- Studying Photography will teach you transferable skills such as research, problem-solving, thinking skills, designing, analysing and evaluating as well as practical skills
- Studying Photography will give you a range of opportunities for your future

What topics will I cover?

You will study the work of contemporary and historical photographers and use this to help you develop your own ideas. You will learn how to use an SLR camera as well as less complex cameras. You will have the opportunity to learn traditional techniques in our new photographic darkroom, as well as Photoshop techniques in our Mac Suite. You will be able to use our professional lighting facilities to take high quality photographs.

How am I assessed?

An external examination will be taken at the end of the course. The coursework is worth 60% of the final mark and the exam will be worth 40%.

What examination board will I follow?

Edexcel

Is there any additional information about this course?

You will need to have your own camera to carry out work at home. You will be required to purchase sketchbooks, an art portfolio and some photographic materials during the two-year course. You will have to print your photographs and artist research.

Who should I speak to for further information?

Mrs Kelly

Religious Studies

What is GCSE Religious Studies all about?

If you select Religious Studies you will be following the full GCSE course. You will be examining two different religious perspectives. As you are aware from your experience of PRE so far, you do not need a religious faith to study the course.

The GCSE is designed to move with the times. Therefore, it is important that you have an interest in what's going on in the world. We frequently look at current issues that affect both religious and non-religious people in our society along with expressing your own personal view on these issues.

The skills you can develop in PRE are extremely helpful once you leave school. Being able to express your opinion clearly, discuss and debate in a reasoned way, and possess developed writing skills, will all be important whether you decide to stay on in the Sixth Form, go to college, or start an apprenticeship.

The new GCSE Religious Studies qualification reflects the demands of a truly modern and evolving religious studies environment. This new qualification allows students to apply a wide range of concepts allowing them to confidently interpret, contextualise and analyse the expressions of religions and world views they encounter



What topics will I cover?

Philosophy

Christian Beliefs
Living the Christian Life
Islam Beliefs
Living the Islamic Life

Ethics

Marriage and the Family
Matters of Life and Death
Crime and Punishment
Peace and Conflict

How am I assessed?

The GCSE culminates in two 1 hour 45 minute examinations at the end of Year 11.

Which examination board will I follow?

You will be following the Edexcel GCSE Full Course in Religious Studies B: Beliefs in Action.

Is there any additional information about this course?

Universities highly value the study of PRE because the skills and knowledge you acquire can help you in a variety of subjects. There are also many occupations that require an understanding of other people's beliefs and lifestyles: from doctors and nurses, from police officers to lawyers.

Who should I speak to for further information?

Your Religious Studies teacher or Mr Lacey

Spanish

What is GCSE Spanish all about?

The main aim of the course is to give you a sound grammatical knowledge of the Spanish language so that you can understand and communicate with native speakers in everyday situations and read and write in Spanish. You will learn to construct sentences with confidence using topic-based vocabulary so that you will also have the tools to study a language at a higher level, should you choose to.



What topics will I cover?

We will equip you to understand the situations you are likely to encounter as a visitor to a foreign country. The course covers the grammar of the language plus three main themes:

Theme 1: Identity and Culture

Theme 2: Local, national and global areas of interest

Theme 3: Current and future study and employment

How am I assessed?

Listening, reading and writing assessments are by examinations at the end of Year 11. Students are entered for either Higher or Foundation levels across all skills.

The speaking assessment is completed in April/May of Year 11 and will last around 12 minutes.

The skills have the following weightings:

- | | |
|--|-----|
| • Listening | 25% |
| • Reading and translation into English | 25% |
| • Writing and translation into Spanish | 25% |
| • Speaking | 25% |

What examination board will I follow?

AQA

Is there any additional information about this course?

Students will need to work independently to build up topic vocabulary over the course, using a variety of online resources.

Who should I speak to for further information?

Your Spanish teacher, Mrs Baikie or Ms Unsain

Textiles



What is GCSE Art Textiles all about?

Textiles offers you the opportunity to develop your painting and drawing skills as well as learning textiles skills which will enable you to express yourself using fabrics and threads. If you like using texture, pattern and colour then this course will suit you.

Why study Textiles?

- Textiles is creative, exciting and enjoyable
- It combines theory and practice
- Studying Textiles will teach you transferable skills such as research, problem-solving, thinking skills, designing, analysing and evaluating as well as practical skills
- Studying Textiles will give you a range of opportunities for your future

What topics will I cover?

You will research a variety of textile designers to help you develop your own ideas, produce a range of experimental samples using different textiles techniques including weaving, felt making and silk painting and you will learn to use a sewing machine. If you choose Textiles, you will study a range of topics and develop final pieces that show off your skills.

How am I assessed?

An external examination will be taken at the end of the course. The coursework is worth 60% of the final mark and the exam will be worth 40%.

What examination board will I follow?

Edexcel

Is there any additional information about this course?

You will be required to purchase sketchbooks, an art portfolio and some Textiles materials during the two-year course. Although not essential, it would be an advantage for students to have their own basic sewing machine at home. Teachers can advise about the best kind to buy.

Who should I speak to for further information?

Mrs Kelly or Mrs Button



Our Career Guidance Team

CAREERS LEADER:

KATE MOUNCEY, DIRECTOR OF SIXTH FORM, ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER

CAREERS COORDINATOR:

CARLY EADY

SIXTH FORM CAREERS AND APPRENTICESHIP COORDINATOR:

VIVIENNE BOOST

CAREERS GOVERNOR:

LUKE SIEGER

YC HERTFORDSHIRE CAREERS ADVISERS:

SFYP@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Our Careers Programme

Sandringham is committed to providing the highest quality careers provision and has ensured that the government's required Gatsby Benchmarks are in place within our extensive careers programme. The eight Gatsby Benchmarks of Good Career Guidance are as follows:

- A STABLE CAREERS PROGRAMME
- LEARNING FROM CAREER AND LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION
- ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF EACH PUPIL
- LINKING CURRICULUM LEARNING TO CAREERS
- ENCOUNTERS WITH EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES
- EXPERIENCES OF WORKPLACES
- ENCOUNTERS WITH FURTHER AND HIGHER EDUCATION
- PERSONAL GUIDANCE



Sandringham School

The Ridgeway, St Albans
AL4 9NX

sandringham.herts.sch.uk

admin@sandringham.herts.sch.uk

