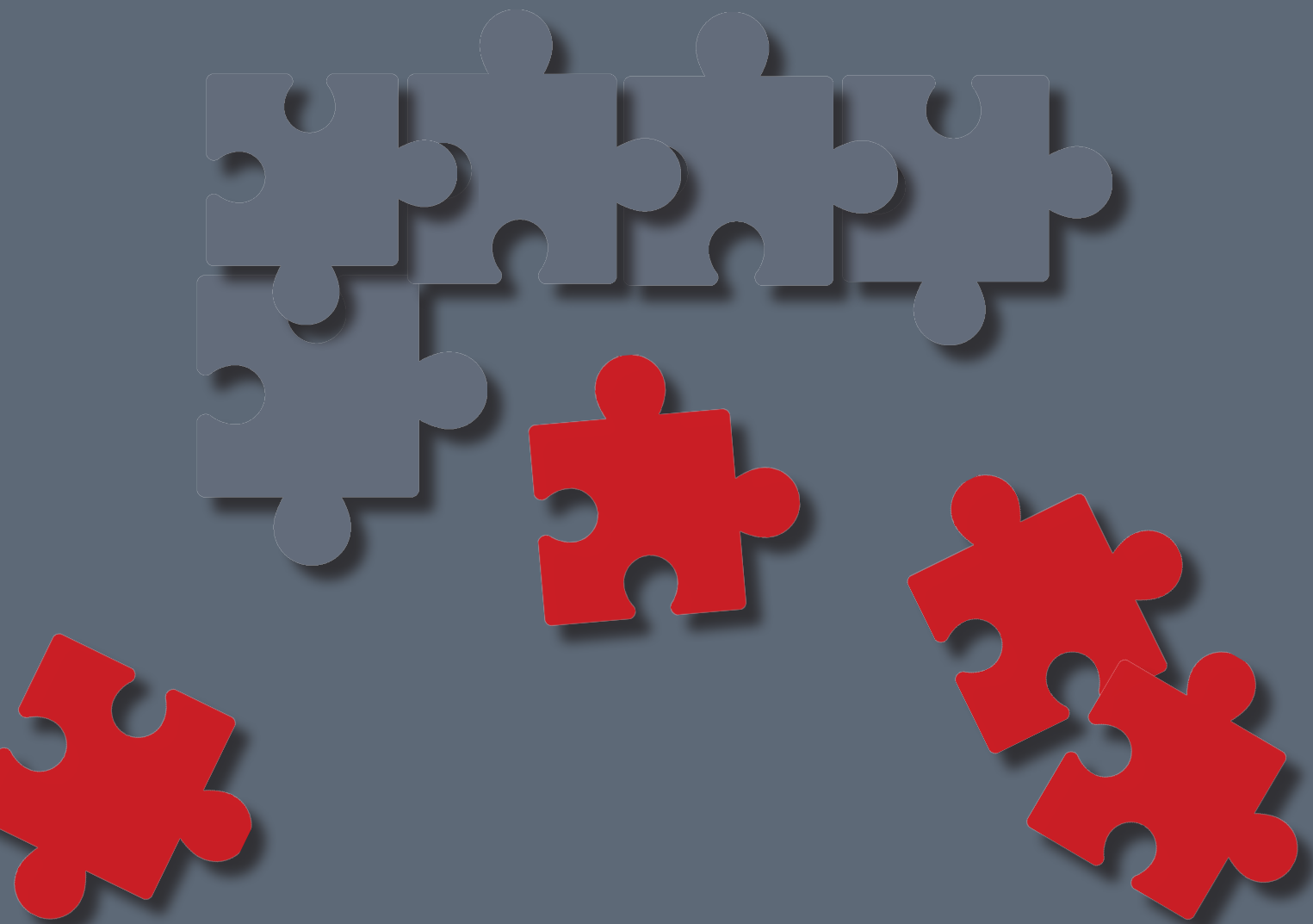




Sandringham School

'Everybody can be Somebody'



YEAR 9 INTO 10 OPTIONS GUIDE
2024/25



CONTENTS

Introduction - <i>Headteacher</i>	03
Understanding the Process - <i>Kate Mouncey</i>	04
Choosing Subjects	05
What Happens When - <i>Key Dates 9 Into 10 Options</i>	06
KS4 Curriculum Overview - <i>Core Subjects</i>	07
Making Your Choice Online - <i>Step By Step Guide</i>	12
Course Levels - <i>Qualifications Framework</i>	14
Careers Guidance	16
Super Curriculum	18
Section A: Core Subjects	20
English	21
Mathematics	23
Science	24
Personal Development	25
Physical Education - PE	26
Section B: Options Subjects	31
Fine Art	32
Business	33
Computer Science	34
Design & Technology - <i>Product Design</i>	35
Drama	36
Economics	37
Food Preparation & Nutrition - <i>Design & Technology</i>	38
French	39
Geography	40
German	41
History	42
Hospitality & Catering WJEC - <i>Design & Technology</i>	43
Media Studies	44
Music	45
Photography	46
Religious Studies	47
Spanish	48
Textiles	49

INTRODUCTION

Dear Parents/Carers,

*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 (e.g. 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. Mrs Mouncey 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 8th March 2024** and confirmation of choices will be made in the summer term once guidance discussions and timetabling has taken place.*

Yours sincerely,

Alan Gray
Headteacher

UNDERSTANDING THE PROCESS

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 students starting Year 10 in September 2024. 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.

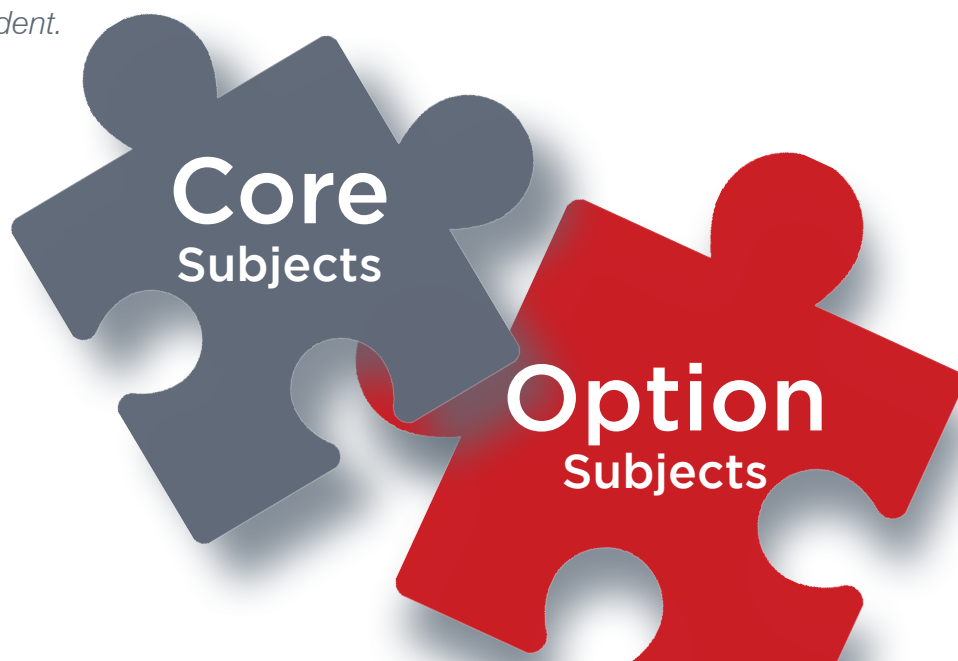
Alongside their core subjects, there are a maximum of 3 additional subjects for study in Years 10 and 11. To preserve a core academic curriculum and in recognition of the high status accorded to Modern Foreign Languages by universities and employers, we allocate all students capable of achieving a good pass in GCSE French, German or Spanish to take a language as one of their choices.

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.

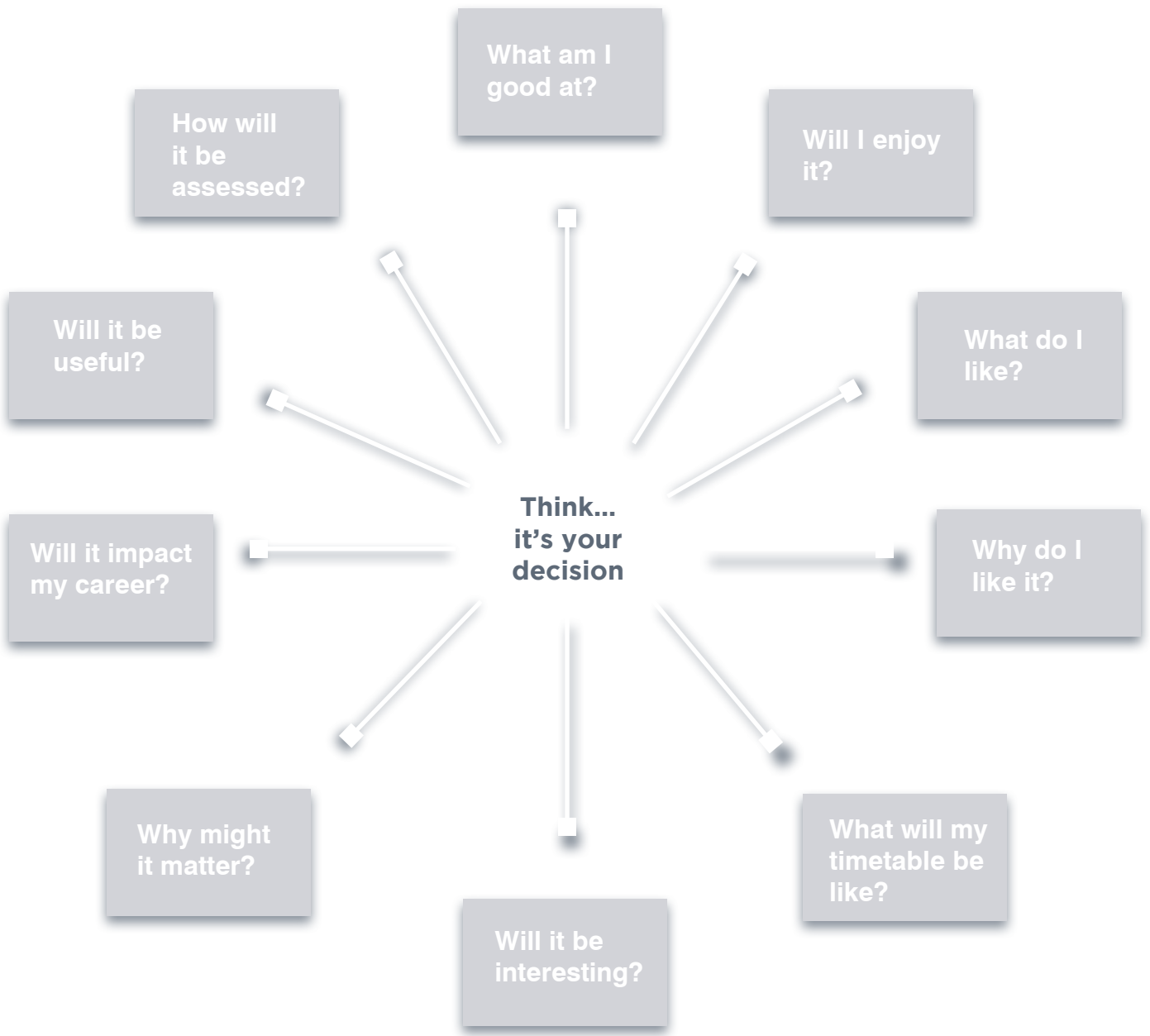
Support for students and parents/carers will be available throughout the options process. Following the Options Information Evening on Thursday 8th February and submission of the completed online forms by **Friday 8th March 2024**, all students will have an interview with me to review, discuss and confirm 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!

Kate Mouncey
Acting Deputy Headteacher
(Quality of Education)



CHOOSING SUBJECTS



Who will help me decide?

Parents/Carers

Subject Teacher

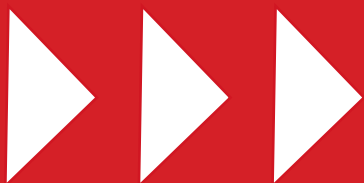
Form Tutor

Mr Davis

Mrs Cavanagh

Careers/Mrs Eady

What Happens When?



KEY DATES: YEAR 9 OPTIONS 2024

Tuesday 6th February 2024

Options presentation to students in assembly and booklet distributed to students and families online

Thursday 8th February 2024

Year 9 into 10
Options Information Evening

Thursday 29th February 2024

Year 9 Parent Teacher Consultation
(in person)

Friday 8th March 2024

Final deadline for return of
the options form online

March - April 2024

Options interviews with
Deputy Headteacher

June 2024

Year 9 options confirmed

KS4

Curriculum Overview

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



KS4 CURRICULUM OVERVIEW - CONTINUED

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

Paper 2 - writers viewpoint
/unseen non-fiction

English Literature

also consists of two papers:

Paper 1 - Shakespeare/19th Century Novels

Paper 2 - Modern texts/Poetry.

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. 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** pathway is based upon our professional judgement on the route that will lead to the best possible outcome for an individual at GCSE.*

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
- 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 school. Personal Development in Year 10 and 11 also contains **compulsory religious education** that promotes equality and cultural diversity. This subject will not be assessed via public examination.*

KS4 CURRICULUM OVERVIEW - CONTINUED

Physical Education

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

- *Physical Education GCSE*
- *Dance GCSE*
- *CamNat Sport* (1 GCSE equivalent) or
- *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 into adulthood. Students will be given a guided choice as to which of these qualifications they will be most successful in.

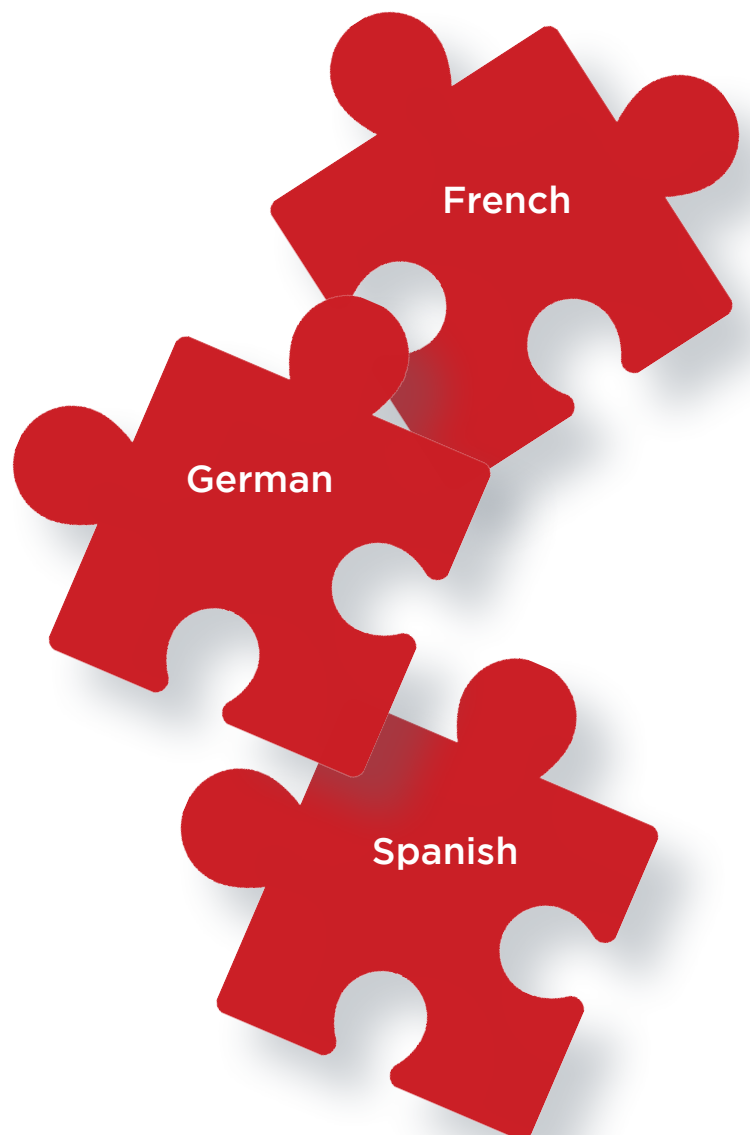
Beyond the core curriculum, students have 3 subjects choices remaining, some of which will be guided by the school.

Modern Foreign Languages

Reflecting the high regard the school, universities and employers place students being able to study a modern foreign language to at least GCSE level, we allocate all students capable of achieving a pass in the following languages:

- *GCSE French*
 - *GCSE German or*
 - *GCSE 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.



KS4 CURRICULUM OVERVIEW - CONTINUED

Students *not* studying a language, may choose from the following:

- GCSE **Business**
- GCSE **Media Studies** *or*
- WJEC **Hospitality & Catering**
(WJEC is a GCSE equivalent)

Note:

WJEC Hospitality & 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 in a different block.

Your 2 remaining options

For students studying a modern foreign language, they are able to select **2 further subjects**.

We would recommend:

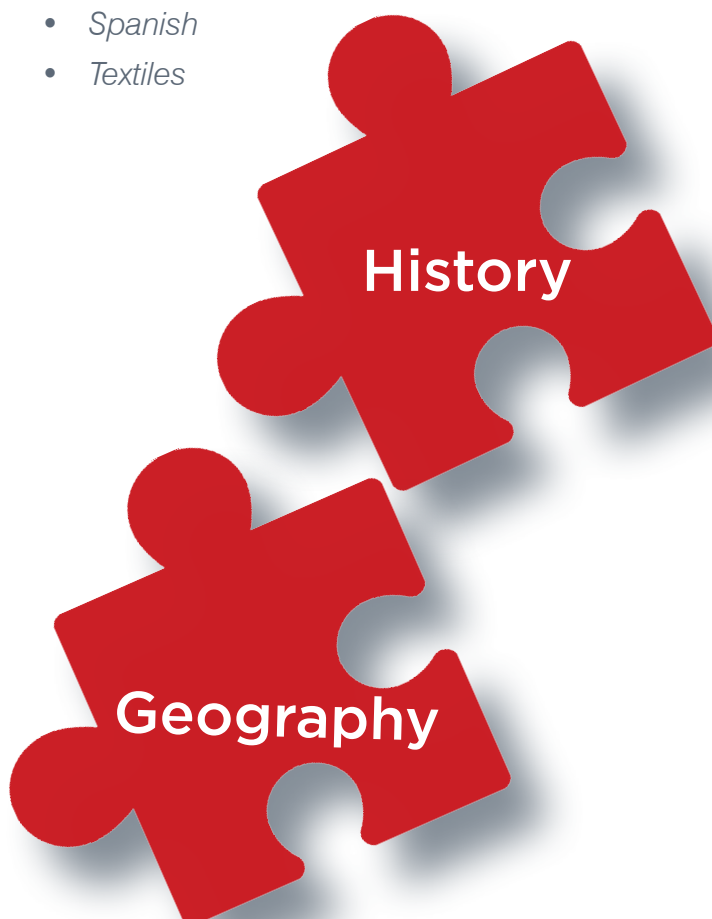
- **History** *or*
- **Geography**
(in order to achieve the EBacc, for further information see pg 11)

Note:

For students not studying a language, in order to maintain an academic breadth, one of their remaining choices **must** be either **History** *or* **Geography**. Students then have a **free choice** from the subjects for their final option.

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

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



KS4 CURRICULUM OVERVIEW - CONTINUED

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.

Reserve Choice

In addition to their 3 options choices, students are asked to make **1 reserve choice**. Whilst every effort is made 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 (EBacc)

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
- Sciences x 2
- 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 are particularly useful if you are considering a sixth form and university pathway but you are 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.



Making Your Choice Online

Step by step guide

Students will be provided with details about how to make their option choices online.

STEP 1

*Use this booklet, along with your personalised letter stating your subject allocations, to 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.*

MAKING YOUR CHOICE ONLINE - CONTINUED

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 & 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 5

Include your *reserve choice*. If you would like to study a *second language* select [this here](#).

STEP 6

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 7

Complete the online options form by **Friday 8th March 2024**



Course Levels

QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK

Most courses followed at KS4 lead to GCSE qualifications. These qualifications will be used for university and apprenticeship applications.

Level 1

Qualifications

GCSE 4 - 1

Vocational Level 1

Level 2

Qualifications

GCSE 9 - 5

Vocational Level 2

Level 3

Qualifications

Vocational Level 3

A-Levels

Level 4

Qualifications

Vocational Level 4

Degree

COURSE LEVELS - CONTINUED

Vocational qualifications at Sandringham are offered in a range of subjects and delivered by 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 option 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 **Thur 8th February**, you will be directed to the options area of the website which includes relevant careers information.*



<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/>



<https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>

CAREERS GUIDANCE CONTINUED

Note:

Other useful sources of information for reference include:

Unifrog - 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.

Website at:

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



Extensive information about university entrance is available on the UCAS website below.

Website at:

<https://wwwucas.com/>



Further information:

<https://sandringham.herts.sch.uk/careers/>

For a broad description of a wide range of careers together with details of preferred subjects.

Website at:

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



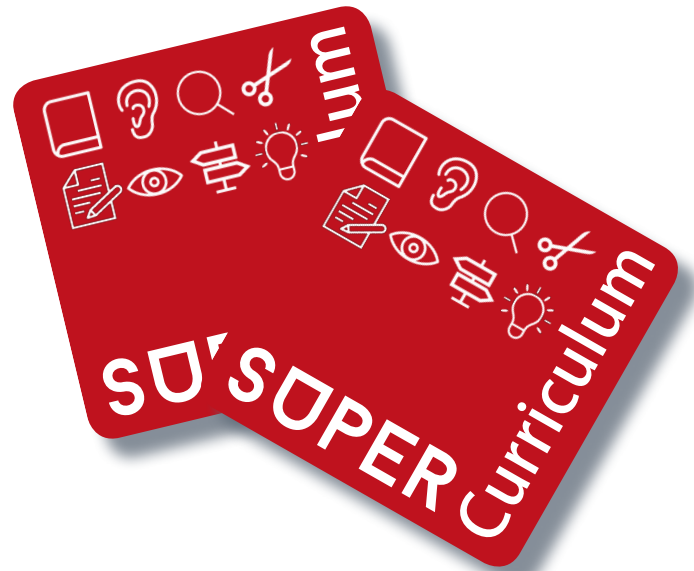
Finally, GCSE subjects can determine what subjects are available to students for post -16 study. **The Russell Group** of universities has produced this helpful guidance to help young people make informed choices.

Website at:

<https://russellgroup.ac.uk/about/our-universities/>



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*
- *Entering academic competitions*

Engaging in super curricular activities will help students develop a love for their favourite subject or subjects.

SUPER CURRICULUM - CONTINUED

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.

Further information:

All the Sandringham Super Curricular resources can be accessed here:

<https://sandringham.herts.sch.uk/super-curriculum-2/>



<https://www.worldclass-schools.org/>



<https://russellgroup.ac.uk/about/our-universities/>



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



www.bl.uk



Access Podcasts via your preferred provider.

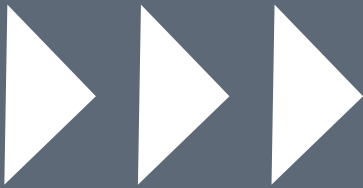


<https://www.digitaltheatre.com/>



<https://www.iwm.org.uk/visits/iwm-london>

Section A: Core Subjects



What are the Core Subjects?

- *English Language and Literature*
- *Mathematics*
- *Science (Triple or Combined)*
- *Personal Development (PD)*
- *GCSE PE*
 - *GCSE Dance*
 - *CamNat Sport (1 GCSE equivalent)*
 - *or BTEC Dance (1 GCSE equivalent)*

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

BRIEF OUTLINE

GCSE English is a vital qualification.

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.

Course Content:

GCSE Language

Paper 1 - Exploring in Creative Reading and Writing (fiction). Reading and writing tasks on an unseen fiction extract.

Paper 2 - Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives (non-fiction). Reading and writing tasks on two unseen non-fiction texts.

You will answer questions after reading two non-fiction texts. You will write an extended piece of non-fiction writing to present a viewpoint. 50% of final Language grade.

GCSE Literature

Paper 1 - Shakespeare and 19th century novel: Macbeth and A Christmas Carol.

*Paper 2 - Modern texts and poetry
An Inspector Calls, AQA Anthology:
Love and Relationships cluster and unseen poetry.*

Speaking and Listening – does not contribute to the final English GCSE grade but you will receive a grade for this at the end of the course.

Why Study English?

- A grade 5 in English is the essential qualification for further and higher education as well as the key requirement of major employers, a significant number of training schemes or apprenticeships.*
- It is a fascinating study of how society and individuals are influenced by language and use it.*
- You will practice speaking and listening skills which are very important in further education, higher education, employment and life.*



Section A: Core Subject - GCSE AQA

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE - CONTINUED

What text will I study?

- *Macbeth, William Shakespeare*
- *A Christmas Carol, Charles Dickens*
- *An Inspector Calls, J. B. Priestley*
- *AQA Poetry Anthology:*
 - *Love and Relationships and Unseen Poetry*

What exam board will I follow?

AQA

How will I be assessed?

English Language - two written exams at the end of Year 11 (1hr 45) each

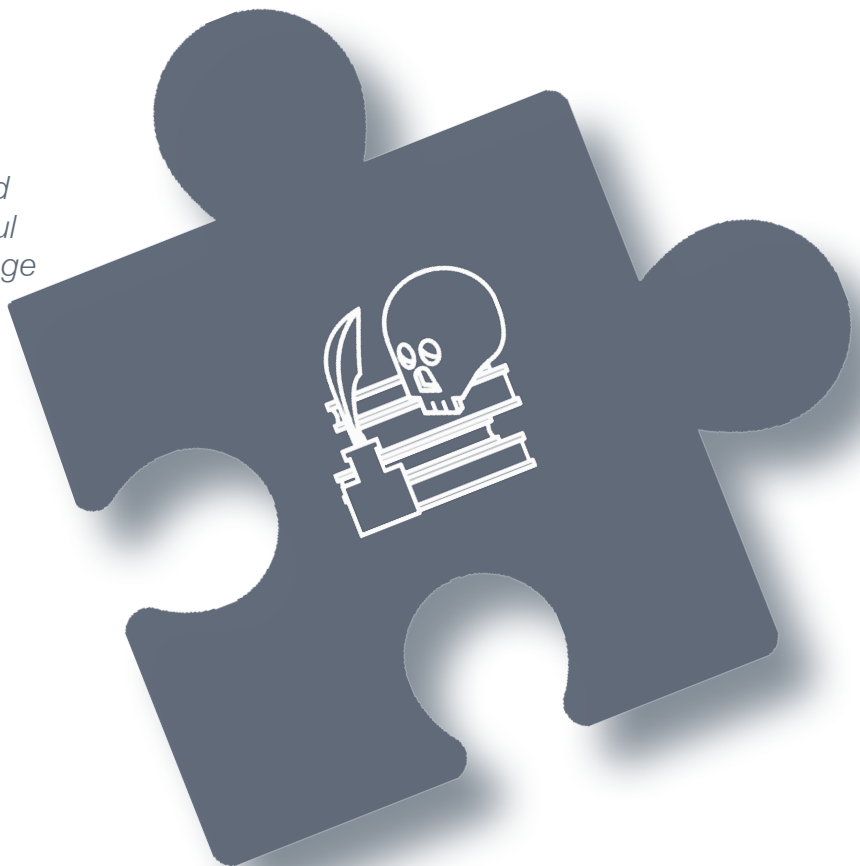
English Literature - two written exams (1hr 45) at the end of Year 11 and one (2hrs 15)

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?

Ms Summers



Curriculum Map KS4

<https://sandringham.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/ENGLISH-Curriculum-Map-Year-10.pdf>

<https://sandringham.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/ENGLISH-Curriculum-Map-Year-11.pdf>

Section A: Core Subject - GCSE Edexcel

MATHEMATICS



BRIEF OUTLINE

GCSE Mathematics is a vital qualification. 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 stand-alone 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 follow?

- Number ratio, proportion and rates of change
- Algebra
- Geometry and measures
- Statistics and probability

How will I be assessed?

There are three examinations: one non-calculator paper and two calculator papers, each lasting (1hr 30)



Curriculum Map KS4

<https://sandringham.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/MATHS-Curriculum-Map-KS4-Year-10.pdf>

<https://sandringham.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/MATHEMATICS-Curriculum-Map-KS4-Year-11-2.pdf>

Foundation GCSE (grades 5-1)

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 GCSE (Grades 9-4)

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

Why Study Mathematics?

- All employers will look upon you favourably if you have a Mathematics qualification.
- There are endless opportunities for those who are successful in the subject.
- Some university courses will ask for students to have at least a grade 5, with science based subjects, teaching and engineering courses increasingly asking for higher grades in Mathematics.

What exam board will I follow?

Edexcel

Is there any additional information about this course?

Mathematics is taught in mixed attainment sets.

Who should I speak to for further information?

Ms Mapp
or your Maths teacher

Section A: Core Subject - GCSE AQA

SCIENCE



BRIEF OUTLINE

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 follow?

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 will I be assessed?

There are three different GCSE pathways with different tiers for examinations:

- GCSE Biology, GCSE Chemistry and GCSE Physics (grades 9-4)
- GCSE combined science higher (grades 9-4)
- GCSE combined science foundation (grades 5-1)

Higher GCSE (grades 9-4) and Foundation GCSE (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.

Why study Science?

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 in career areas such as teaching, nursing, engineering, laboratory analysis, physiotherapy, medicine and veterinary science.

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 Science Faculty and make sure you have bought a scientific calculator.

Who should I speak to for further information?

Dr Archer-Jones
or your Science teacher



Curriculum Map KS4

<https://sandringham.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/BIOLOGY-Curriculum-Map-KS4-1.pdf>

<https://sandringham.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/CHEMISTRY-Curriculum-Map-KS4-1.pdf>

<https://sandringham.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/PHYSICS-Curriculum-Map-updated-23-KS4.pdf>

Section A: Core Subject - No Examination

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT



BRIEF OUTLINE

What is GCSE 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 follow?

The themes covered across Year 10 and 11 are:

Health and 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 and 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 and 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 and 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 and 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 will I be 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?

Mr Lacey

Curriculum Map KS4

<https://sandringham.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Year-10-1-1.pdf>

<https://sandringham.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Personal-development-Curriculum-Map-Year-11.pdf>

PHYSICAL EDUCATION - OPTION 1



BRIEF OUTLINE

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 & 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:

- Your ability to perform a range of skills
- 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?

We would recommend 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?

*Mrs Cracknell
or your PE teacher*

Curriculum Map KS4

<https://sandringham.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/PE-GCSE-Curriculum-Map-KS4-Year-10.pdf>
<https://sandringham.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/PE-GCSE-Curriculum-Map-KS4-Year-11.pdf>

Section A: Core Subject - Cambridge National in Sport

PHYSICAL EDUCATION - OPTION 2

BRIEF OUTLINE

What is 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?

Mrs Cracknell
or your PE teacher

Curriculum Map KS4

<https://sandringham.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Cambridge-National-in-Sport-Curriculum-Map-KS4-Year-10-.pdf>
<https://sandringham.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Cambridge-National-in-Sport-Curriculum-Map-KS4-Year-11.pdf>

Section A: Core Subject - GCSE

GCSE DANCE - OPTION 3



BRIEF OUTLINE

What is Dance GCSE 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
2 Set phrases through a solo performance = 1-1.5 minutes total

Duo/Trio performance = 3.5-5 minutes

Choreography = 30% of GCSE
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.

Note:

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 your Dance teacher

Curriculum Map KS4

<https://sandringham.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/DANCE-Curriculum-Map-Year-10-1.pdf>
<https://sandringham.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/DANCE-Curriculum-Map-Year-11-1.pdf>

Section A: Core Subject - BTEC

BTEC DANCE - OPTION 4



BRIEF OUTLINE

What is Dance BTEC all about?

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 follow?

The course is made up of three components: two that are internally assessed and externally moderated and one that's externally assessed.

This is based on a three-block structure:

- Explore
- Develop
- Apply

to allow students to build on and embed their knowledge.

How am I assessed?

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
- Processes

Component 2:

Developing Skills and techniques in the Performing Arts = 30%

Students will take part in:

- Workshops
- Classes
- Rehearsals

Students will develop skills:

- Physical
- Interpretation
- Vocals
- Rehearsal discipline

These skills will then be applied in performance and reflected upon in logbooks.

Section A: Core Subject - BTEC

BTEC DANCE - OPTION 4 - CONTINUED

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 within groups and includes 3 written logs.

Coursework: 60%

This particularly suits students who find examinations challenging. The coursework is internally assessed and externally moderated.

What examination board will I follow?

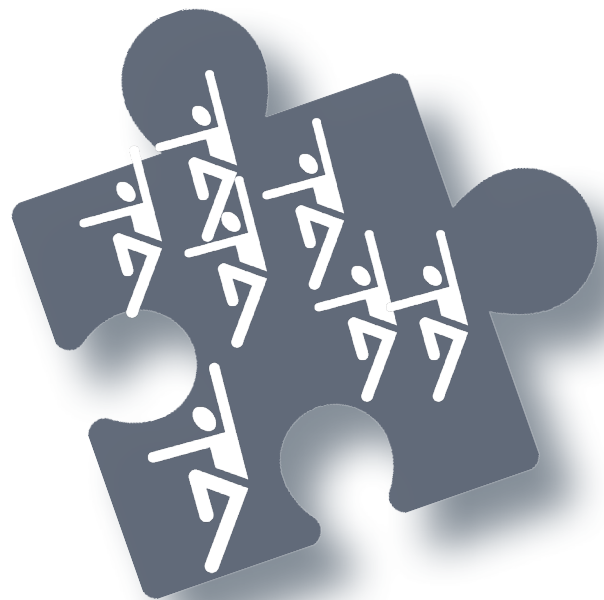
Pearson

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?

*Miss Davies
or your Dance teacher*



Curriculum Map KS4

<https://sandringham.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/BTEC-DANCE-Curriculum-Map-KS4-Year-10-1.pdf>

<https://sandringham.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/BTEC-DANCE-Curriculum-Map-KS4-Year-11-1.pdf>

Section B:

Option

Subjects

What are the Option Subjects?

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



Option Subject - Edexcel

FINE ART



BRIEF OUTLINE

What is Fine Art all about?

Choosing Fine Art gives you the opportunity to express your ideas and feelings.

- *Fine Art is creative, exciting and enjoyable*
- *It combines theory and practice skills*
- *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?

Assignments are assessed by your teacher during the course and then checked by the exam board. At the end of the course you will complete a personal exhibition of two assignments. This exhibition is worth 60% of your total mark. The other 40% of your marks are awarded for your examination. You are given eight weeks to plan and prepare your examination piece and ten hours, over three weeks, to complete it.

Why study fine art?

At least 1 in 5 jobs is in the creative sector – leisure media, graphics, video, galleries, and education. Everything we buy is designed by an artist, e.g. packaging, cars, textiles, fashion, ceramics, computer games and websites. All professions have artists, e.g. court/law artist; medical artists etc. An art qualification is desirable in many careers and creative people are highly sort after by any professions and employers.

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?

*Mrs Kelly
or your Art teacher*

Option Subject - GCSE

BUSINESS



BRIEF OUTLINE

What is GCSE Business all about?

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.

What examination board will I follow? OCR

Who should I speak to for further information?

Mrs Harding

Option Subject - GCSE

COMPUTER SCIENCE

BRIEF OUTLINE

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?

There are two examined components, each covering a broad range of topic areas. Alongside the practical nature of Computing, there are science and mathematical theories. There is also a substantial practical programming element that underpins the course theory

Component 1: 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

Component 2: 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?

Component 1:

COMP1 and COMP2 are each worth 50% of the overall qualification and are assessed through two 1hr 30 examinations.

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 and 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?

*Ms Qanungo
or your Computer Science
teacher*



DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

BRIEF OUTLINE

What is GCSE Design & Technology - Product Design 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. 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. 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?

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; 50% of course; *Iterative Design Challenge Investigate; Design; Make; Analyse and evaluate create a working prototype and portfolio of evidence.*

Exam (2hrs)

50% of course

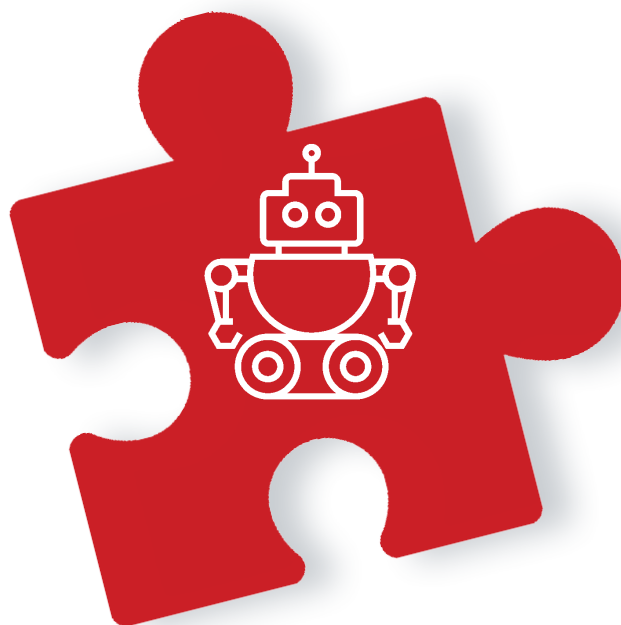
Core technical principles, Specialist technical principles, Designing and making principles.

What examination board will I follow?

AQA

Who should I speak to for further information?

*Mr Neville
or your D&T teacher*



Option Subject - GCSE

DRAMA



BRIEF OUTLINE

What is GCSE Drama all about?

This course is extremely varied, introducing you to many aspects of Theatre including acting, directing, devising and designing original pieces of theatre. GCSE Drama is a fantastic way of learning and applying both subject specific and easily transferable skills. You will 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. 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 perform in or design for two performances from one text and will be required to produce a short accompanying

document which outlines their intentions for and approach to the performance showcase.

What topics will I cover?

Component 3:

Drama: Performance and Response

– 40% - 80 marks

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, stagecraft, journalism, law, management and many more.

What examination board will I follow?

OCR

Who should I speak to for further information?

Mrs Hardacre

Option Subject - GCSE

ECONOMICS

BRIEF OUTLINE

What is GCSE Economics all about?

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*
- *International trade and the global economy*
- *Limitations of markets*

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?

Unit 1:

- **Introduction into economics theory**
- **The role of markets and money**
Written paper (1hr 30)
50% - 80 marks

Unit 2:

- **Economic objectives and the role of government**
- **International trade and the global economy**
Written paper (1hr 30)
50% - 80 marks

What examination board will I follow? OCR

Who should I speak to for further information?

*Ms Harding or
Mr Brown*



Curriculum Map KS4

<https://sandringham.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/2023-Y10-Economics-Curriculum-Map.pdf>

<https://sandringham.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/2023-Y11-ECONOMICS-Curriculum-Map-Macro.pdf>

FOOD PREPARATION & NUTRITION

BRIEF OUTLINE

What is GCSE Design & Technology - Food Preparation & Nutrition all about?

D&T Food Preparation & Nutrition is an exciting, creative course. 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

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)

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*
- *International cuisines*

How am I assessed?

Component 1:

Food Preparation and Nutrition -

Written paper (1hr 30)

50% marks

Component 2:

Food Investigation Task -

Non-examined assessment (NEA)

15% marks

Component 3:

Food Preparation Task -

(3hrs) Non-examined assessment (NEA)

35% marks

What examination board will I follow?

OCR

Who should I speak to for further information?

Mrs Flahive

or Mrs Holmes



Curriculum Map KS4

<https://sandringham.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/FOOD-PREP-AND-NUTRITION-Curriculum-Map-KS4-Year-11-2022.docx.pdf>

FRENCH

BRIEF OUTLINE

What is GCSE French all about?

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 six key themes:

- *My personal world*
- *Lifestyle and wellbeing*
- *My neighbourhood*
- *Media and technology*
- *Studying and my future*
- *Travel and tourism*

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.



How am I assessed? continued...

The skills have the following weightings:

- *25% Listening (including dictation)*
- *25% Reading and translation into English*
- *25% Writing and translation into French*
- *25% Speaking*

What examination board will I follow?

Edexcel

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?

*Mrs Baikie
or your French teacher*

Curriculum Map KS4

<https://sandringham.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Y10-French-Curriculum-Map-2022-2023.pdf>
<https://sandringham.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Y11-French-Curriculum-Map-2022-2023.pdf>



BRIEF OUTLINE

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 field trip
- **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?

*Mr Miller
or your Geography teacher*

GERMAN

BRIEF OUTLINE

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 six key themes:

- *My personal world*
- *Lifestyle and wellbeing*
- *My neighbourhood*
- *Media and technology*
- *Studying and my future*
- *Travel and tourism*

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.

How am I assessed? continued...

The skills have the following weightings:

- *25% Listening (including dictation)*
- *25% Reading and translation into English*
- *25% Writing and translation into German*
- *25% Speaking*

What examination board will I follow?

Edexcel

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?

*Mrs Baikie
or your MFL teacher*



Curriculum Map KS4

<https://sandringham.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Y10-GERMAN-Curriculum-Map-2023-24.pdf>
<https://sandringham.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Y11-GERMAN-Curriculum-Map-2023-24.pdf>

HISTORY



BRIEF OUTLINE

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:

- Cuban Missile Crisis
- Nuclear 'Arms Race'
- 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
- The Holocaust

Medicine Through Time:

A gruesome breadth study of how our understanding of disease and treatment has changed from Medieval to modern times.

The topic includes an in-depth look at medical conditions and treatments faced by soldiers in the trenches on the Western Front during the First World War.

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:

Medicine Through Time
(30%)

Paper 2:

The Cold War and Norman England
(40%)

Paper 3:

Nazi Germany
(30%)

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

What examination board will I follow?

Edexcel

Who should I speak to for further information?

Miss Constable
or your History teacher

Curriculum Map KS4

<https://sandringham.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Until-2024-cohort-HISTORY-Curriculum-Map-KS4-.pdf>

HOSPITALITY & CATERING - WJEC

BRIEF OUTLINE

What is GCSE Design & Technology - 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 work in the Hospitality and catering industry.

In this qualification, learners will also have the opportunity to develop some food preparation and cooking skills as well as transferable skills including:

- Problem solving
- Organisation
- Time management
- Planning
- 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 assistant
- Chef
- Hotel or bar manager
- Food technologist
- 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

This will be a written assessment that will test your knowledge that you have learnt over the 2 years. It is worth 40% of your qualification. Duration: (1hr 20)

Unit 2:

Hospitality and Catering in Action

You will complete an assignment where you will plan and prepare a menu in response to a brief. This will be worth 60% of your qualification and will take 12 hours.

What examination board will I follow?

WJEC

Who should I speak to for further information?

Mrs Howells-Flahive



Curriculum Map KS4

<https://sandringham.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/HOSPITALITY-CATERING-Curriculum-Map-KS4-2022-1.pdf>

Option Subject - GCSE

MEDIA STUDIES



BRIEF OUTLINE

What is GCSE Media Studies all about?

The mass media (television, radio, film, newspapers and magazines, advertising, videogames, social media & the internet) are an important and developing part of every-day 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? How has modern technology become integral to how media communicates a message? Can regulation of media protect the wider public? These are just some of the questions you will consider.

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 includes looking at the film industry, how videogames are created to appeal to certain audiences, studying music videos, a holistic study of television and a large study of online and traditional print news. All of this will be framed around the key concepts that underpin Media Studies – Media Language, Representation, Audience, Industry and Contexts.

You will also be trained in the use of media technology; for example how to use relevant software to create and manipulate images, the use of professional editing software to create your own moving image productions and how to successfully create products using phones and devices. Media Studies has dedicated classrooms in G block equipped with 49 PCs and the Adobe Creative Suite package of professional media software.

How am I assessed?

Television & Promoting Media – Written paper 35% of GCSE

This exam starts by focusing on a large, holistic topic on Television. Section B looks at three different aspects of convergence through the lens of film/videogames and advertising.

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 print a online news, as well magazines. There are also units on radio 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?

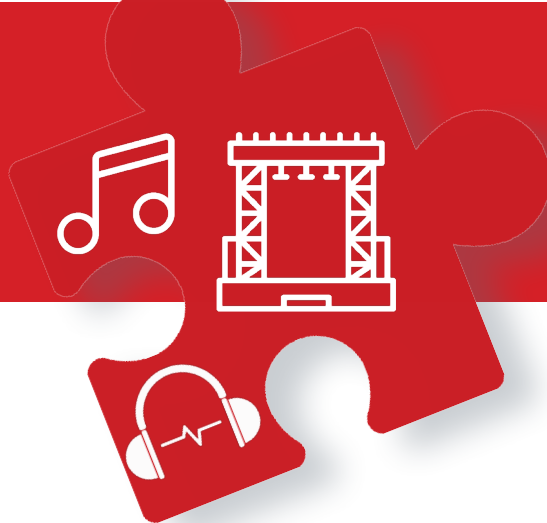
Mr O'Connor

Curriculum Map KS4

<https://sandringham.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/MEDIA-Curriculum-Map-KS4.pdf>

Option Subject - GCSE

MUSIC



BRIEF OUTLINE

What is GCSE Music all about?

- *Listening to a wide range of music*
- *Performing as a soloist and with others*
- *Developing your own musical ideas*

What topics will I cover?

- *Western classical tradition 1650 –1910*
- *Western classical tradition since 1910*
- *Popular music*
- *Traditional music*
- *Instrumental Studies*

Performance

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 for example:*
 - *Jazz Band*
 - *Sinfonia*
 - *Show Choir*
 - *Student bands etc*

Some students taking GCSE Music may be eligible for remission of fees for instrumental lessons. Speak to Miss Stothard or the Hertfordshire Music Service for more information.

Note: *this cannot be guaranteed.*

How am I assessed?

Unit 1 - Understanding Music
40% Written / listening exam

Unit 2 - Performing Music
30% Coursework

Unit 3 - Composing Music
30% Coursework

Coursework

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

Exams

- *Listening exam (1hr 30) taken in Year 11*

What examination board will I follow?
AQA

What 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 further information?

*Miss Stothard
or your Music teacher*

Curriculum Map KS4

<https://sandringham.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/MUSIC-Curriculum-Map-KS4.pdf>

Option Subject - GCSE

PHOTOGRAPHY



BRIEF OUTLINE

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? continued...

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

Curriculum Map KS4

<https://sandringham.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/VISUAL-ARTS-Curriculum-Map-KS4.pdf>

Option Subject - GCSE

RELIGIOUS STUDIES



BRIEF OUTLINE

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 RS 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 RS 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 acquire the following skills confidently:

- Interpret
- Contextualise
- 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? continued...

The GCSE culminates in two (1 hr 45) examinations at the end of Year 11.

What examination board will I follow?

Edexcel

Is there any additional information about this course?

Universities highly value the study of RS 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 for example:

- Doctors
- Nurses
- Police officers
- Lawyers

Who should I speak to for further information?

Mr Lacey
or your RS teacher

Curriculum Map KS4

<https://sandringham.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/PRE-Curriculum-Map-KS4-Year-10.docx.pdf>
<https://sandringham.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/PRE-Curriculum-Map-KS4-Year-11.docx.pdf>



BRIEF OUTLINE

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 six key themes:

- *My personal world*
- *Lifestyle and wellbeing*
- *My neighbourhood*
- *Media and technology*
- *Studying and my future*
- *Travel and tourism*

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.

How am I assessed? continued...

The skills have the following weightings:

- *25% Listening (including dictation)*
- *25% Reading and translation into English*
- *25% Writing and translation into Spanish*
- *25% Speaking*

What examination board will I follow?

Edexcel

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?

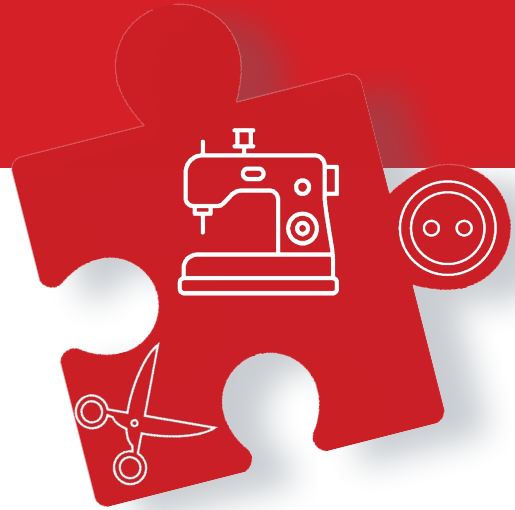
*Mrs Baikie
or your MFL teacher*

Curriculum Map KS4

<https://sandringham.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Y10-Spanish-Curriculum-Map-2023-2024.pdf>
<https://sandringham.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Y11-Spanish-Curriculum-Map-2023-2024.pdf>

Option Subject - GCSE

TEXTILES



BRIEF OUTLINE

What is GCSE 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 your Art teacher*

Curriculum Map KS4

<https://sandringham.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/TEXTILES-Curriculum-Map-KS4.pdf>



Sandringham School
The Ridgeway
St Albans
Herts
AL4 9NX

sandringham.herts.sch.uk
admin@sandringham.aat.school