



HARLESTON SANCROFT  
ACADEMY



Diocese of Norwich  
St Benet's  
Multi Academy Trust

# Which way to go next? GCSE Preferences



## From Sancroft to Anywhere

# GCSE Preferences Information

## Introduction

This is an exciting time for students as they progress through school towards future pathways. GCSE Preferences is an important process in this journey.

For many students this is the first time they will be asked to make a decision about their education. It is vital that students consider their GCSE preferences carefully.

In order to help you decide on your preferred GCSEs, consider these questions:

- Which subjects are you good at?
- Which subjects do you enjoy?
- Which subjects will support your future plans?

We are committed to ensuring that every student has the opportunity to study subjects that will give them the greatest possible range of choices in the future.

## Core Subjects

All students will study:

- English Language
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- Science
- Religious Studies

In addition to these qualification-based courses, all students have PE lessons and Life Skills (incorporating Relationships, Sex and Health Education).

## Humanities and Modern Foreign Languages

The study of humanities and a foreign language forms an important part of children's education, providing them with much sought-after communication skills and [cultural capital](#), and preparing them for life in all its fullness. Therefore, all students at Harleston Sancroft Academy will study at least one humanities subject, and we strongly encourage students to take up a language at GCSE.

## Science

The majority of GCSE students in England follow the Double Award Science course. They are awarded two GCSE grades based on their overall performance across all three science subjects. Separate Science is where students study all three sciences and end up with three separate GCSEs. Students in Set 1 Science will automatically take this course.

## Fast Track

Students who are close to gaining Grade 4 in Year 9 English and Maths can opt to take the Fast Track course to receive additional support. Fast Track is chosen as one option of the GCSE Preferences. This course is only suitable for students who are already receiving Grades 3+ or sometimes Grade 4 in Maths and English. Students opting for Fast Track would do so following discussions with SLT, held on an individual basis.

## ASDAN

We are offering this non-examined course to a select group of students who may benefit from additional support throughout Year 10 and Year 11: The ASDAN Personal Development Programme. The course offers imaginative ways of developing, recording and certificating a

wide range of young people’s personal qualities, abilities and achievements. You can read more about [ASDAN in this booklet](#). Students opting for ASDAN would do so following discussions with SLT, held on an individual basis.

## Preferences and Reserves

In addition to the core subjects, you will also select **either History or Geography in Block 1**, alternatively - if agreed by the school - **ASDAN or Fast Track**. Then select one subject from Block 2 and 3.

You will also select **two Reserve subjects**. It is important you understand that your Reserve in each block is the subject that you would wish to study should a Preference be unavailable.

Sometimes subjects are oversubscribed, in which case a limit on the numbers may be introduced such as in Pe Health and Fitness or Catering, and you will be allocated to your Reserve subject. Late submissions of the GCSE Preference application will be taken into consideration should a subject be oversubscribed.

Sometimes subjects are undersubscribed, in which case the subject may not run at all and you will be allocated your Reserve subject.

The GCSE application form will show the following Blocks. You will automatically take all subjects in the Core Block.

1. Select either History or Geography from Block 1. If agreed, ASDAN or Fast Track could be chosen.
2. Select one subject from Block 2 and one subject from Block 3.

		Select <b>one</b> subject	Select <b>one</b> subject
Core	Block 1	Block 2	Block 3
English Language	History or Geography	History	Business Studies
English Literature	ASDAN or Fast Track (if agreed)	Art	Geography
Mathematics		French	Art
Science		Computer Science	PE Health and Fitness
Religious Studies		Music	Catering (max 20)
		PE Health and Fitness	Drama
			German

Students complete a [GCSE Preferences Application Form](#) where they select chosen subjects. We expect students to complete the form carefully after consulting with parents/carers and subject teacher(s). The form needs to be submitted by the student and signed by a parent/carers by **22 March 2024**.

## Information, Advice and Guidance

During the GCSE preference process students should seek advice from as many people as possible – parents, carers, teachers, tutors, friends, brothers and sisters. The school will also provide advice and guidance in tutor time, and over the next two weeks students can use this time to complete the [GCSE Preference form](#). Life Skills lessons will be designed to provide information on courses that can be studied in Year 10 and 11. As part of the GCSE Preference process we will be making sure that students have a balance of subjects that is right for them and their pathway and may interview students to support them during this process. We will offer alternatives where necessary to meet individual learning needs and these will be discussed with parents/carers, where possible.

We recognise that this can be a stressful and worrying time and if parents/carers or students have any questions they should contact their Form Tutor in the first instance. Mr Ahrenfelt ([jahrenfelt@sancroft.stbenets.org](mailto:jahrenfelt@sancroft.stbenets.org)) will also be able to assist.

## Information on EBacc and GCSE grades

The English Baccalaureate (EBacc) is a measure being used by colleges, universities and employers to judge student achievement. To qualify for the EBacc a student will need GCSEs at grades 9-4 (previously A\*-C) in English Language, mathematics, at least two sciences, either history or geography and a modern foreign language. All GCSE grades will be reported as a number between 1 (lowest) and 9 (highest), GCSE-equivalent qualifications will be graded as Pass, Merit, Distinction, Distinction\*. Computer Science is also an EBacc subject and counts in the EBacc slot.

## Key Dates

- Year 9 Parents Evening: 15 February 2024
- GCSE Preferences evening: 7 March 2024
- [Online GCSE Preference](#) form completed: 22 March 2024
- Agreed Preferences confirmed by letter: Summer term

Finally, we would like to thank you for your continued support as a parent/carer. The next few weeks are very important and will help every Year 9 student be successful in Year 10 and 11.



## Core Subjects

These subjects are compulsory and passing them is a **minimum requirement** for most jobs and college courses.

- ✓ English Language and Literature
- ✓ Mathematics
- ✓ Science
- ✓ Religious Studies



# English Language and Literature

## Qualification

Two GCSEs, grades 1 to 9

## What do students learn about in English?

For English Language Edexcel English Language 2.0

### Component 1: Non-Fiction Texts and Transactional Writing

- Study a range of functional 19th-century non-fiction texts.
- Develop skills to analyse and evaluate non-fiction extracts.
- Develop transactional writing skills for a variety of forms, purposes and audiences.
- Use spelling, punctuation and grammar accurately

### Component 2: Contemporary Texts and Imaginative Writing

- Study a range of 20th- and 21st-century prose fiction and literary non-fiction.
- Develop skills to analyse and compare 20th- and 21st-century fiction and literary non-fiction extracts.
- Develop imaginative writing skills to engage the reader.
- Use spelling, punctuation and grammar accurately.

For English Literature Edexcel English Literature: (1ET0)

- Core texts studied include: 'An Inspector Calls' by JB Priestley; 'Macbeth' by W. Shakespeare and 'Jekyll and Hyde' by R. L. Stevenson.
- Students will also study a range of poetry (seen - *Conflict Anthology* and unseen).
- Analysis of social and historical setting and background influences.
- Examination of how authors represent characters, themes and ideas.

## How is this qualification assessed?

100 % exam: 2x English Language and 2x Literature Papers

1x Speaking and Listening Task (*This does not count towards their GCSE, but is a compulsory element which is on their final certificate*)

## What pathways are linked to studying English?

### Post 16 Courses

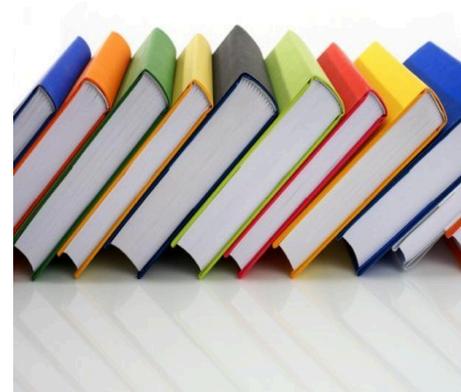
All students will be required to gain a higher grade in GCSE English (at least a grade 5 or above). Those students that do not achieve this will have to re-sit the qualification post 16. You must have at least a grade 7 or above in GCSE English to apply for any of these courses: English literature, history, law, creative writing.

### Future Careers

Studying English can lead to a variety of interesting and successful careers in the communications area including: teaching, journalism, TV and radio, publishing and working in the media.

### Course Leader Contact:

Miss Chloe Hambling - Curriculum Leader - [chambling@sancroft.stbenets.org](mailto:chambling@sancroft.stbenets.org)



# Mathematics

## Qualification

AQA - Single GCSE grades 1 to 9 (8300)



## What do students learn about in Mathematics?

- Number
- Algebra
- Ratio and proportion
- Statistics
- Geometry
- Problem solving

## How is this qualification assessed?

- 100% exams
- There are 3 exam papers, all which are at the end of year 11. The first is non-calculator, the other two papers both require a calculator.
- All papers are mixed topics.
- Students can sit either Higher (grades 9-4) or Foundation (grades 5-1) papers.

## What pathways are linked to studying Mathematics?

### Post-16 Courses

All students will be required to gain a higher grade in GCSE Mathematics (at least a grade 4 or above). Those students that do not achieve this will have to re-sit the qualification post 16. You will need to have at least a grade 6 or above in GCSE Mathematics to apply for A levels in Maths, Further Maths, Biology, Physics, Chemistry, and Computer Science.

### Future Careers

Mathematics will be used in most jobs but it is particularly important in careers in science, engineering, mechanics, construction, finance, banking, insurance, business and design.

## Course Contact:

Mr Sam Bunn - Curriculum Leader for Mathematics - [sbunn@sancroft.stbenets.org](mailto:sbunn@sancroft.stbenets.org)

# Combined Science

## Qualification

AQA GCSE grades 1 to 9



## What do students learn about in Sciences?

Just think what your life would be like without advances in science. Over the last 100 years the achievements of science have benefited the human race in so many ways, in transport (cars, planes), in medicine (anaesthetics, organ transplants, new drugs), in electronics (computers, mobile phones) to name but a few. You need to be able to make informed decisions about how science benefits your life. Knowing some facts yourself will enable you to look critically at how science is presented in the media.

Science develops skills and knowledge in the following areas:

**Biology:** Cell biology, organisation, infection and response, bioenergetics, homeostasis and response, inheritance, variation and evolution, ecology.

**Chemistry:** Atomic structure, periodic table, bonding, quantitative chemistry, chemical changes, organic chemistry, useful resources and chemistry of the atmosphere.

**Physics:** Forces, waves, electricity, magnetism and electromagnetism, particle model of matter, atomic structure and space physics.

Along with the above content there are required practicals that need to be completed for each of the sciences.

## How is this qualification assessed?

All of the courses are linear exams; assessed 100% on exams for the overall grade. There are 2 exams for each biology, chemistry and physics course and each paper is 1 hour 15 minutes in length\*. The exams also consist of required practicals that take place in lessons. These will cover biology, chemistry and physics. The required practical element is then assessed in the exams and subject content.

## What pathways are linked to studying Science?

### Post-16 Courses

Due to the very competitive nature of the subject at post-16 education level it is essential to have at least a grade 7 (preferably above) as part of triple science or combined science and in mathematics. There are a variety of academic and vocational pathways in biology, chemistry, physics, psychology, engineering, computer science.

### Future Careers

Science will be used in a variety of jobs but is necessary in careers such as astronomy, construction, engineering, health and medicine, veterinary science.

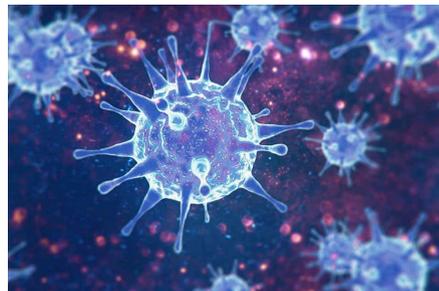
## Course Leader Contact:

Mrs Jasmine Costello - Curriculum Leader for Science – [jcostello@sancroft.stbenets.org](mailto:jcostello@sancroft.stbenets.org)

# Separate Sciences

## Qualification

AQA GCSE grades 1 to 9



## Why do the GCSE separate sciences course?

This course is designed for students who have a love of science and/or already know that they would like a future working in the science industry. The course provides a bridge between GCSE and A level sciences and helps to extend students' knowledge in readiness for A levels in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Students in Year 9 must be achieving at least a level 5 to be invited onto this course.

It is important to note that this course is not essential for access to A levels in science as all 6th form colleges and schools accept students who have completed the combined science course. Access to higher education courses is purely dependent on grades achieved in either of the GCSE science courses.

Separate science develops skills covers the combined science content and the following topics:

**Biology:** Plant hormones and their applications, monoclonal antibodies, cloning, the eye, kidney function, thermoregulation, food security & biotechnology, decomposition

**Chemistry:** Polymers & organic chemistry, The Haber Process, chemistry calculations, chemical analysis of ions, rusting, ceramics & composites

**Physics:** Nuclear fusion & fission, static electricity, space, orbital motion, sound waves, refraction & lenses, moments, pressure & gears, generator effect & transformers

## How is this qualification assessed?

All of the courses are linear exams; assessed 100% on exams for the overall grade. There are two exams for each biology, chemistry and physics course and each paper is 1 hour 45 minutes in length\*. The exams also consist of required practicals that take place in lessons. These will cover biology, chemistry and physics. The required practical element is then assessed in the exams and subject content.

## What pathways are linked to studying Science?

### Post-16 Courses

Due to the very competitive nature of the subject at post-16 education level it is essential to have at least a grade 7 (preferably above) as part of triple science or combined science and in mathematics. There are a variety of academic and vocational pathways in biology, chemistry, physics, psychology, engineering, computer science.

### Future Careers

Science will be used in a variety of jobs but is necessary in careers such as astronomy, construction, engineering, health and medicine, veterinary science.

## Course Leader Contact:

Mrs Jasmine Costello - Curriculum Leader for Science – [jcostello@sancroft.stbenets.org](mailto:jcostello@sancroft.stbenets.org)

# Religious Studies

## Qualification

Single GCSE grades 1 to 9

WJEC Eduqas Religious Studies Route A: Christianity & Islam



## What do students learn about in Religious Studies?

There are two components to the GCSE course.

### Component 1 (taught in Year 11):

Study of two major world religions. Students will study the beliefs and practices of Christianity and Islam and sit two exams, one on each religion.

### Component 2 (taught in Year 10):

Religion, philosophy and ethics in the modern world. Students will study these issues from the perspectives of Christianity, Islam and Atheism. They sit a two hour exam.

**Theme 1: Issues of Relationships:** families: sex, marriage, cohabitation, divorce, same sex marriage, gender equality.

**Theme 2: Issues of Life and Death:** abortion, euthanasia, animal rights, beliefs about the origin of the universe, beliefs about life after death.

**Theme 3: Issues of Good and Evil:** punishment and the death penalty, forgiveness, beliefs about suffering.

**Theme 4: Issues of Human Rights:** human rights, extremism, racism, poverty and wealth.

## How is this qualification assessed?

100% exam

## What pathways are linked to studying Religious Studies?

### Post-16 Courses

Religious Studies provides progression through to a number of A Level subjects, however you must have at least a grade 5 or above in GCSE English to apply. Relevant courses include: religious studies, philosophy, psychology, sociology, law and history.

### Future Careers

Advertising, advice worker, charity officer, civil service, counselling, diplomatic services, human resources, journalism, law, media, publishing, travel, teaching, public services, caring professions, social work, community work, politics.

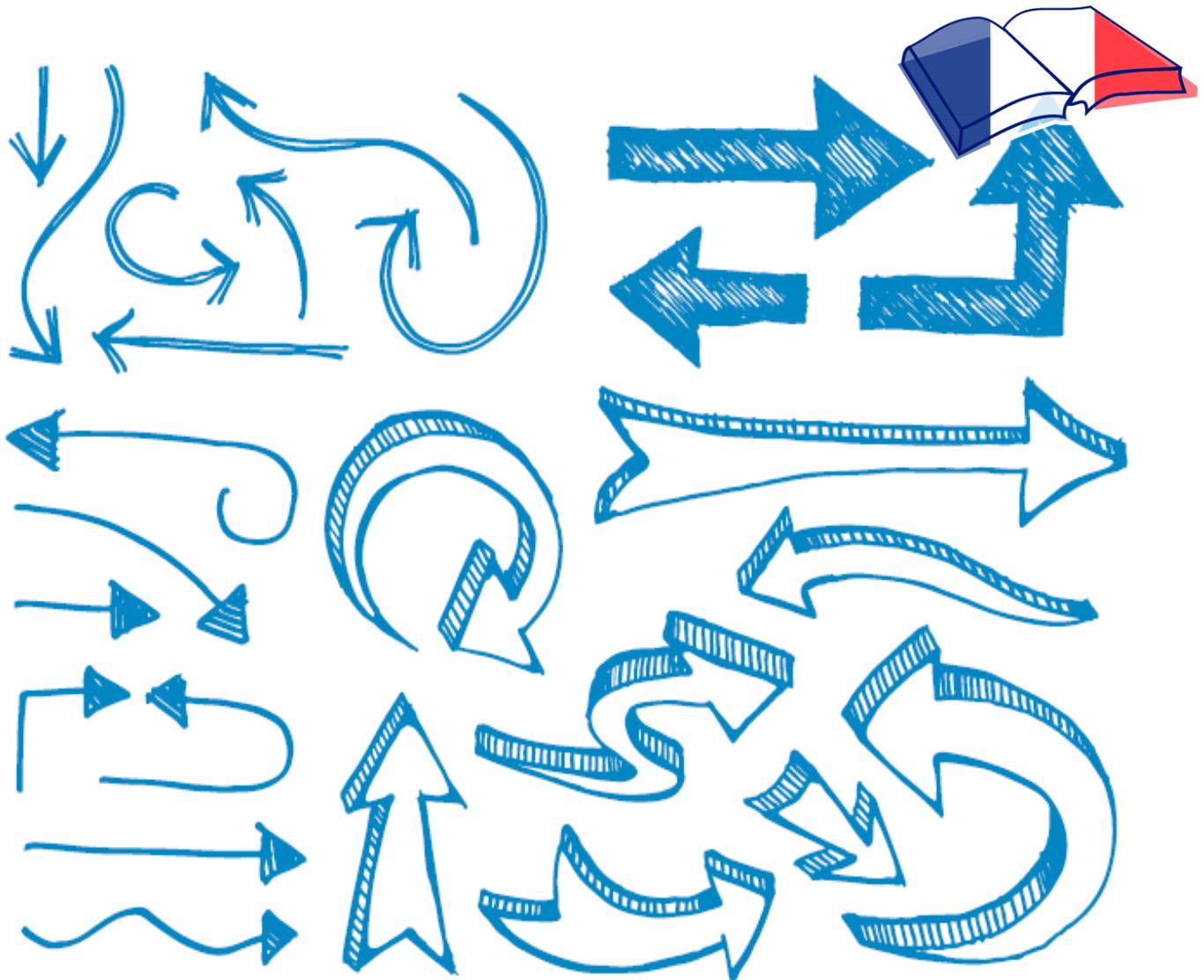
## Course Leader Contact:

Mrs Louise Dolan - Subject Teacher - [ldolan@sancroft.stbenets.org](mailto:ldolan@sancroft.stbenets.org)

# Preference 1

As shown in the different [Blocks](#), students will select one subject from Block 2 and one from Block 3. T

Don't forget **you will need two reserve preferences** as we cannot guarantee that you will get your subject preferences.



## French: Qualification

Edexcel - Single GCSE grades 1 to 9

*“For anyone, learning a language is one of the best things you could possibly do because it opens up so many opportunities”*

*Tom Daley, British Olympic diver & TV personality*



### What do students learn about in French?

The course covers a wide range of themes which are all assessed across the four question papers. Students will learn to communicate in a variety of contexts, expressing their ideas in the past, present and future as well as giving their opinions with reasons. They will also be able to elicit information from spoken and written texts relating to the following themes:

- **My personal world:** family, friends, relationships and equality
- **Lifestyle and wellbeing:** physical and mental well-being, food and drink, sports
- **My neighbourhood:** places in town, shopping, the natural world and environmental issues
- **Media and technology:** music, tv, film, social media and gaming
- **Studying and my future:** school and future opportunities
- **Travel and tourism:** transport, accommodation and tourist attractions

### How is this qualification assessed?

GCSE French has a foundation tier (grades 1–5) and a higher tier (grades 4–9). Students must take all four question papers at the same tier and all question papers must be taken in the same examination period. Each of the 4 skills (reading, writing, speaking and listening) is worth 25% of the final grade, with the spoken exam being conducted in school by your teacher.

### Post 16 Courses

A level French (students are required to have studied French at GCSE level and usually to have achieved at least a grade 7).

### Future Careers

International business and companies, jobs involving tourism and travel, teaching a foreign language, working in France or a French-speaking company.

### Course Leader Contact:

- Mrs Rourke Beasley - Subject Teacher [rourke-beasley@sancroft.stbenets.org](mailto:rourke-beasley@sancroft.stbenets.org)
- Miss L Deaville - Subject Teacher - [ldeaville@sancroft.stbenets.org](mailto:ldeaville@sancroft.stbenets.org)
- Mr Richard Page - Subject Teacher – [rpage@sancroft.stbenets.org](mailto:rpage@sancroft.stbenets.org)

# History



## Qualification

Edexcel - Single GCSE grades 1 to 9 (F7)

## Why choose History?

If you have a passion and enjoyment for history then this subject will suit you. If you are someone who enjoys the challenge of investigating, asking questions, exploring opinions and understanding how the past has shaped the world you live in then this subject will suit you. History develops your ability to reason, to weigh up evidence and to argue a point so you can reach a balanced judgement. The skills developed in History will be very useful both in your future life and further study. History is one of those subjects that can provide you with a range of skills, essential to your success at school and beyond.

## What do students learn about in History?

Over the course of your 2 years students study 4 varied and interesting topics that will be examined across 3 exam papers;

**Year 10: Paper 1 Medicine 1250 to the present day and historic environment.** This is a study of the history of medicine from the middle ages to the present. The students also complete a case study of medicine in World War One. This paper is worth 30% of the students final grade.

### **Paper 2 period study American West 1863-1895**

**Year 11:** Students study the second half of Paper 2 which is a study **of Henry VIII and his ministers 1509-1540**. This covers the compulsory British element students have to complete as part of their GCSE. Paper 2 is worth 40% of the students final grade as it covers 2 topics

**Paper 3:** Students complete a **modern depth study of Weimar and Nazi Germany 1918-1939** worth 30% of their final grade

## How is this qualification assessed?

The students will sit 3 examinations at the end of year 11. These examinations will last 1 hour 15 minutes each. Paper 1 and 3 count for 30% of final grade. Paper 2, the British depth study and American West counts for 40% of final grade.

## What pathways are linked to studying History?

### Post-16 Courses

You can go onto study History at sixth form. You can use a History GCSE to open up many opportunities. With the skills that you develop from a History GCSE it is looked upon favourably by colleges, sixth forms and potential employers. A good GCSE in History demonstrates many qualities that can help you open opportunities for further study

### Future Careers

If you have a real passion for History you could go onto become an Archaeologist, History teacher, Researcher and many more careers. Gaining a GCSE in History doesn't just limit you to a career in History. Ali G, Gordon Brown, the chemical brothers and Steven Spielberg are just some of the people who have begun their careers with a GCSE in History!

### Course Leader Contact:

Mr Gavin Jolly - Subject Teacher - [gjolly@sancroft.stbenets.org](mailto:gjolly@sancroft.stbenets.org)

Mrs Sarah Thomas - Subject Teacher - [stthomas@sancroft.stbenets.org](mailto:stthomas@sancroft.stbenets.org)

# Geography



## Qualification

AQA - Single GCSE grades 1 to 9 (8035)

## What do students learn about in Geography?

If you currently enjoy geography and have a keen interest in real issues that affect us all then this subject is for you. Geography helps you to build a better understanding of your place in the world and issues linked to people and their societies and the environment. Geography will also give you a range of transferable skills including discussion, decision making, evaluation, and being able to use evidence and examples to back up your judgments. Geography is an academic subject so you will need to be good at writing and examinations.

## Content of the GCSE:

There are a range of topics which form the content of the Geography GCSE:

**Unit 1:** The challenge of natural hazards, physical landscape in the UK, The Living World.

**Unit 2:** Urban issues and challenges, the changing economic world, the challenge of resource management.

**Unit 3:** Issue evaluation, fieldwork and geographical skills (including two contrasting field trips).

## How is this qualification assessed?

There will be three externally assessed, written examinations.

**Paper 1** – Living with the physical environment: 1 hour 30 minutes, 35% of the GCSE.

**Paper 2** – Challenges in the human environment: 1 hour 30 minutes, 35% of the GCSE.

**Paper 3** – Geographical applications: 1 hour, 30% of the GCSE.

## What pathways are linked to studying Geography?

### Post-16 Courses

Geography students are among those gaining greatest satisfaction from their studies, and geography graduates have a relatively low level of unemployment. It's no wonder there is a growing demand to study the subject at university. This is underlined by the Russell Group of Universities that recognise geography as one of the key "facilitating" subjects for entry to degree level study.

### Future Careers

Geography is a subject that helps young people into work. Many employers prize the knowledge and skills that studying geography can provide. Geography can lead to a range of careers as it provides a variety of applicable skills that prove attractive to employers. For example data analysis, information processing, report writing, fieldwork, teamwork and critical thinking. Jobs such as a surveyor, environmental consultant, planning officer, teacher, town planner, travel agent, journalist, cartographer (mapping), tourism officer, landscape architect, logistics and distribution manager.

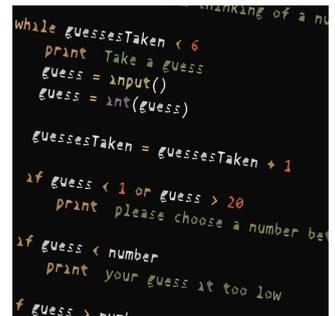
## Course Leader Contact:

Mr John Gibbins – Subject Teacher – [jjibbins@sancroft.stbenets.org](mailto:jjibbins@sancroft.stbenets.org)

# Computer Science

**Qualification** OCR - GCSE. Graded 9 to 1 (OCR J277)

The course is a very practical and students will be able to apply the knowledge and skills that they learn in the classroom on real-world problems. Computer Science is also a highly creative subject that calls on learners to be inventive. This modern course was developed through talking to; companies like Microsoft, Google and Cisco; organisations like British Computer Society - Computing At School (CAS) in addition to teachers and academics.



```
while guessesTaken < 6
    print Take a guess
    guess = input()
    guess = int(guess)

    guessesTaken = guessesTaken + 1

    if guess < 1 or guess > 20
        print please choose a number bet

    if guess < number
        print your guess is too low
    if guess > num
```

## What do students learn about in Computer Science?

Studying Computer Science gives you a real in-depth understanding of how computer technology works. You will enjoy this course if you like to:

- learn about the fundamentals of computer systems, security of systems, including protection from hackers, computer hardware, software, networking
- have an opportunity to investigate how computers work and how they are used
- develop computer programming and problem-solving skills
- have an opportunity do some in-depth research and practical work
- to work independently using professional programming software and technologies

**How is this qualification assessed?** 100% exam. The breakdown is as follows:

- Unit 1 – Computer systems (50%). Topics covered include: system architecture, network topologies, system security and legal issues.
- Unit 2 – Computational thinking, algorithms and programming (50%). Topics covered include: algorithms, programming techniques and data representation

## What pathways are linked to studying Computer Science?

### Post 16 courses

There are a plethora of courses out there, including Level 3 Computer Games Development and Animation courses along with A-level Computer Science. There are further vocational courses related to computer programming, engineering and hardware maintenance and support. Computer science is also applicable to studies in different fields, e.g. the UEA has a Computational Biology unit that is an entire floor of their Biological Science block and many degree level courses, particularly in the sciences, require the ability to program.

### Future Careers

**Computer science is applicable to any industry.** In particular, you might wish to become a computer hardware engineer, computer information system manager, computer network architect, computer programmer, computer systems analyst, database administrator, games developer, information security analyst, project manager, software developer, teacher, web developer. However, look at the job opportunities. Many technology starting salaries are at £55,000 and many companies will pay for your future education and invest in you. There are ample apprenticeship opportunities where degrees are funded and you can be paid upwards of £25,000 to study! After energy, tech is where the money is.

**Course Leader Contact:** Mr James Cracknell - Subject Teacher [jcracknell@sancroft.stbenets.org](mailto:jcracknell@sancroft.stbenets.org)

## German: Qualification

Edexcel - Single GCSE grades 1 to 9



### What do students learn about in German?

*"If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head.*

*If you talk to him in his own language, that goes to his heart" ... Nelson Mandela.*

At Sancroft students study a range of different topics in German alongside grammar in the four skills areas of listening, speaking, reading and writing. Furthermore, within this study of German we aim to underpin the Sancroft core values and allow our students to understand and respect the language and culture of one of our fellow European countries.

GCSE German students will study an engaging and inspirational course that will enable all students to manipulate and use the target language effectively, independently and creatively. The GCSE includes popular topics that include both familiar and new themes that will motivate our students at GCSE. These themes are:

- **My personal world:** family, friends, relationships and equality
- **Lifestyle and wellbeing:** physical and mental well-being, food and drink, sports
- **My neighbourhood:** places in town, shopping, the natural world and environmental issues
- **Media and technology:** music, tv, film, social media and gaming
- **Studying and my future:** school and future opportunities
- **Travel and tourism:** transport, accommodation and tourist attractions

### How is this qualification assessed?

GCSE Language has a foundation tier (grades 1–5) and a higher tier (grades 4–9). Students must take all four question papers at the same tier. All question papers must be taken in the same examination period. Each of the 4 skills (reading, writing, speaking and listening) are equally weighted for the awarding of the final grade.

### Post 16 Courses

A level German (students are required to have studied German at GCSE level and estimated to have achieved at least a grade 7 or better).

### Future Careers

International business and companies, jobs involving tourism and travel, teaching a foreign language, working in Germany or a German-speaking company.

### Course Leader Contact:

Mrs Charlotte Rourke Beasley - Subject Teacher - [crouke-beasley@sancroft.stbenets.org](mailto:crouke-beasley@sancroft.stbenets.org)

# Art & Design

## Qualification

Edexcel - Single GCSE grades 1 to 9 (1AD0)

Are you creative, enquiring, imaginative and hard working? If so Art and Design is for you! This is a demanding but exciting course that covers a wide range of experiences, techniques and ideas. You need to have an interest in, or an appreciation of, all kinds of art, design and the visual world. You need to have a keen eye for detail and be able to think and work independently and have a desire to take your ideas as far as you can.



## What do students learn about in Art & Design?

You will learn a variety of different techniques covering all aspects of drawing, painting, printing and mixed media. For example in Art and Design, mod-roc, paint, block and mono-printing could all be used in your work.

You will work on two units throughout the course. In Year 10 you will begin by experimenting with techniques and then develop your expertise and knowledge through a series of structured tasks related to each unit. Into Year 11 you will increasingly be able to work more independently using knowledge and skills gained in Year 10.

## How is this qualification assessed?

Unit 1 is worth 60% of your final mark and you begin working on this on day one of Year 10. In Year 11 you have an externally set assignment which is worth 40% of your final mark. You have eight weeks to prepare for this and ten hours to complete it under exam conditions. All of this is assessed first by your teachers and then by an external moderator.

## What pathways are linked to studying Art & Design?

### Post-16 Courses

Local sixth form centres offer a range of exciting courses which our GCSE course sets a solid foundation for. AS/A2 level fine art, photography, graphic design, ceramics, media and film and textiles are some of the courses which would be exciting pathways post-16.

### Jobs and Careers

Illustrator, Cartoonist, Printmaker, Layout designer, Medical illustrator, Comic Book Artist, Storyboard Artist, Commercial Artist, Sketch Artist, Court Artist, caricaturist, Painter, Architect, Set designer, Urban Planner, Landscape Architect, Interior designer, Silversmith, Metalsmith, Ceramist, Sculptor, make-up artist, Automotive designer, Fashion designer, jewellery designer, animator, web designer, graphic designer, software developer, package and brand designer, interactive media designer, post production artist, video game designer.

### Course Leader Contact:

Mx Henshall- Subject Teacher – [lhenshall@sancroft.stbenets.org](mailto:lhenshall@sancroft.stbenets.org)

Kay Burgess - Subject Teacher - [kburgess@sancroft.stbenets.org](mailto:kburgess@sancroft.stbenets.org)

# Drama

## Qualification

OCR GCSE Drama J316

Single GCSE grades 1 to 9



Have you enjoyed collaborating creatively in Drama at KS3? Do you want to unlock your creative potential, expressing yourself through acting, directing, and scriptwriting? Then Drama GCSE is an excellent choice for you.

Through the diverse and engaging course you will focus on your personal development and self-confidence, as well as your teamwork skills, crucial for any walk of life.

If you want to go into the Creative Arts, Media or Education or you just want to develop your confidence and expression through a practical subject, then Drama is the course for you.

### What do students learn about in Drama?

Students delve into a multifaceted exploration of theatre and performance, encompassing practical skills, theoretical knowledge, and creative expression. Through hands-on exercises and workshops, students develop fundamental performance skills, including voice projection, movement, and stage presence. They analyse a diverse range of dramatic texts, scrutinising themes, characters, and dramatic techniques while also studying key theatrical practitioners and movements. Alongside script analysis, students learn about the intricacies of staging a production, from set design to lighting and costume. The curriculum encourages students to devise and create their own original pieces of theatre, fostering collaboration and creativity. Through critical reflection, they evaluate performances and consider theatre's broader contexts. This comprehensive curriculum equips students with skills for further study or careers in the performing arts while nurturing creativity, critical thinking and communication skills.

### How is this qualification assessed?

- Unit 1 and 2: Devising drama 60 marks Non-exam assessment - Learners will research and explore a stimulus, work collaboratively and create their own devised drama. **30% of total GCSE**
- Unit 3: Presenting and performing texts 60 marks Non-exam assessment (Visiting examination) Learners develop and apply theatrical skills in acting or design by presenting a showcase of two extracts from a performance text. **30% of total GCSE**
- Unit 4: Performance and response 80 marks Exam assessment 1 hour 30 minutes (Written paper) Learners will explore practically a performance text to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of drama. Learners will analyse and evaluate a live theatre performance. **40% of total GCSE**

### What pathways are linked to studying Drama?

#### Post-16 Courses

This course will help you to prepare for **any** post-16 study (self-confidence, communication skills, teamwork, analytical and evaluative skills, creativity). It is directly relevant for A Level Drama and Theatre Studies, Acting, Performing and Production Arts Diplomas. These options could lead to Drama at University or Drama School.

#### Future Careers

Acting, directing, designing, theatre management, media, teaching, business, public service etc.

**Course Leader Contact:** Miss Gaskin [lgaskin@sancroft.stbenets.org](mailto:lgaskin@sancroft.stbenets.org)

# Music

## Qualification

Eduqas Single GCSE  
Grades 1-9



## What do students learn about in Music?

We recommend students choosing GCSE Music to have an instrumental level of an ABRSM Grade 2, or equivalent, at the start of the course.

- Develop performing skills individually and in groups to communicate musically with fluency and control.
- Develop composing skills to organise musical ideas.
- Recognise links between the integrated activities of performing, composing and appraising and how this informs the development of music
- Broaden musical experience and interests, develop imagination and foster creativity
- Develop knowledge, understanding and skills needed to communicate effectively as musicians
- Develop awareness of a variety of instruments, styles and approaches to performing and composing
- Recognise contrasting genres, styles and traditions of music, and develop some awareness of musical chronology
- Develop as effective and independent learners with enquiring minds
- Engage with and appreciate the diverse heritage of music, in order to promote personal, social, intellectual and cultural development.

## How is this qualification assessed?

### Component 1: Performing

Total duration of performances: 4-6 minutes  
Non-exam assessment: internally assessed, externally moderated. 30% of qualification

### Component 2: Composing

Total duration of compositions: 3-6 minutes  
Non-exam assessment: internally assessed, externally moderated 30% of qualification

### Component 3: Appraising

Written examination: 1 hour 15 minutes (approximately)  
40% of qualification

Area of study 1: Musical Forms and Devices  
Area of study 2: Music for Ensemble  
Area of study 3: Film Music  
Area of study 4: Popular Music

## What pathways are linked to studying Music?

### Post-16 Courses

A Level music, Composition courses, Music Performance, Access to Music

### Future Careers

With a detailed awareness of musical genres and styles; performing, listening, appraising and composing skills; students will be well equipped to pursue a musical profession. Music also offers a wealth of transferable skills relevant to ongoing musical and non-musical study as well as to future career development, including literacy, critical thinking, social skills team working, leadership communication, time management and organisational skills.

**Course Leader Contact:** Mr Tom Carr [tcarr@sancroft.stbenets.org](mailto:tcarr@sancroft.stbenets.org)

# Physical Education – Health and Fitness

## Qualification

V CERT in Health and Fitness (equivalent to a single GCSE). Graded Pass to Distinction.



## What do students learn about in PE?

The courses will be divided into theory lessons, which will be classroom based, and practical sessions. It is important to note that two out of three of the lessons will be spent in a classroom, and one will be spent participating in a range of team and individual sports and fitness based sessions. This is due to the fact that the assessment is more heavily weighted towards the theory component. The class is also likely to be mixed gender.

During theory lessons, students will study the different body systems - skeletal, muscular, cardiovascular, and respiratory. They will also learn training methods and principles, diet, nutrition and performance enhancing drugs. During practical lessons, students will develop and practice skills, tactics and strategies in a range of team and individual sports, and learn how to apply these to competitive situations.

## How is this qualification assessed?

**Health and Fitness Course** - The assessment for the Level 2 Certificate in Health and Fitness consists of 2 types:

**Internal assessment** – portfolio of evidence. This will be graded by school staff and externally moderated. This makes up 60% of the assessment. This will take place in January of Year 11.

**External assessment** – external assessment paper. This will be graded by external examiners. This makes up 40% of the assessment. This will take place in Year 11. Learners must be successful in **both** types of assessment to achieve the qualification.

## How is this qualification graded?

The highest grade you can achieve is Level 2 Distinction\*. Grades from there are Level 2 Distinction, Level 2 Merit, Level 2 Pass, Level 1 Distinction, Level 1 Merit, Level 1 Pass.

## What pathways are linked to studying PE?

### Post-16 Courses

Studying PE or Health and Fitness is desirable but not essential to study the following courses: BTEC, NVQ Diplomas in sport, sport and exercise sciences, public services, sport development, business, personal training and sports massage, outdoor leisure, coaching and fitness and A-Level PE.

### Future Careers

Teaching, physiotherapy, sports psychology, diet and nutrition, personal training, health promotion, sport and exercise research and lecturing, sports development officer, performance analyst, exercise physiology, leisure centre management.

**Course Leader Contact:** Mrs Lucy Field - [lfield@sancroft.stbenets.org](mailto:lfield@sancroft.stbenets.org)

Subject teacher: Mr Lewis Disbury - [ldisbury@sancroft.stbenets.org](mailto:ldisbury@sancroft.stbenets.org)

Subject teacher: Mr Steve Batt - [sbatt@sancroft.stbenets.org](mailto:sbatt@sancroft.stbenets.org)

## Hospitality & Catering Level 2

The WJEC Award in Hospitality and Catering has been designed to support learners in school who want to learn about this vocational sector and the potential it can offer them for their careers and further study such as apprenticeships or higher education.



**Qualification:** Single GCSE grades Pass to Distinction

### What do students learn about in hospitality and catering?

- Unit 1 enables learners to gain and develop comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the hospitality and catering industry including provision, health and safety, and food safety.
- Unit 2 enables learners to develop and apply knowledge and understanding of the importance of nutrition and how to plan nutritious menus. They will learn the skills needed to prepare, cook and present dishes. They will also learn how to review their work effectively.

### Skills:

You will develop a range of skills which are attractive to employers, colleges and universities including:

\*Communication \*Confidence \*Learning independently \*Organisation \*Problem solving  
\*Research \*Self-discipline \*Stamina \*Taking on responsibility \*Time management.

### How is this qualification assessed?

Learners will be required to successfully complete **2 mandatory units**.

#### **Unit 1 – The Hospitality and Catering Industry - Exam (1 hour & 20 minutes) 40%**

- 1.1 Hospitality and catering provision
- 1.2 How hospitality and catering providers operate
- 1.3 Health and safety in hospitality and catering
- 1.4 Food safety in hospitality and catering

#### **Unit 2 - Hospitality and Catering in action - Assessment (NEA 12 hours) 60%**

- 2.1 The importance of nutrition
- 2.2 Menu planning
- 2.3 The skills and techniques of preparation, cooking and presentation of dishes
- 2.4 Evaluating cooking skills

### What pathways are linked to studying Hospitality & Catering? Post-16 Courses

Businesses which make up the hospitality sector include hotels, restaurants, coffee shops, pubs and bars, leisure parks, stadia, nightclubs, contract caterers, food service operators, entertainment and visitor attractions. Employment can range from waiting staff, receptionists and catering assistants to chefs, hotel and bar managers, and food technologists working for supermarket chains. Some of these roles require further education and training either through apprenticeships or further and higher education.

### Future Careers:

Commis Chef to Head Chef, Hotel, Restaurant or Bar managers. Receptionists, Stock Controllers and Events Management. Food Journalists, researchers or technologists. Occupational Health, Armed Services and Agriculture.

### Course Leader Contact:

Mrs Kamal-Eost - Subject Teacher - [zkamal-eost@sancroft.stbenets.org](mailto:zkamal-eost@sancroft.stbenets.org)

## Business Studies

The Pearson BTEC Level 2 Tech Award in Enterprise is for learners who want to acquire sector-specific applied knowledge and practices through vocational contexts by studying enterprises, entrepreneurs, customers, competitors, business planning and presenting, marketing and finance as part of their Key Stage 4 learning.



**Qualification:** Level 2 GCSE equivalent

### What do students learn about in Business Studies?

Develop sector-specific knowledge and skills in a practical learning environment. The main focus is on the knowledge, understanding and skills required to research, plan, pitch and review an enterprise idea that includes market research, planning, carrying out financial transactions, communication and problem solving. It requires learners to apply their knowledge in practical ways, through activities that will enable them to develop their ideas, for example researching an idea for a small enterprise

### How is this qualification assessed?

#### **Component 1: Exploring Enterprises**

Non-exam internal assessment. Learners will explore different enterprises to develop their knowledge and understanding of the characteristics of enterprises and the skills needed by entrepreneurs to be successful. Learners will explore how enterprises use market research to find out about their customer needs and competitor behaviour and how internal and external factors may affect enterprises. 60 marks

#### **Component 2: Planning and Presenting a Micro-Enterprise Idea**

Non-exam internal assessment. Learners will generate two realistic ideas for a micro-enterprise and choose one of these to plan within budget. They will individually present their business plan for their idea and review the production and delivery of their presentation to make recommendations for improvements. 60 marks

#### **Component 3: External synoptic assessment**

Marketing and Finance for Enterprise requires learners to analyse and interpret information in relation to an enterprise and to make recommendations on strategies to use to improve the performance of that enterprise. The external assessment is based on a written assessment that requires learners to demonstrate that they can identify and use effectively an appropriate selection of skills, techniques, concepts, theories and knowledge from across the whole qualification in an integrated way. An exam worth 60 marks.

### What pathways are linked to studying Business Studies?

- A Levels as preparation for entry to higher education in a range of subjects
- study of a vocational qualification at Level 3, such as A-Level Business Studies or National in Enterprise and Entrepreneurship, which prepares learners to enter employment or apprenticeships, or to move on to higher education by studying a degree in the business sector.

**Future Careers in :** Investment Analyst, Business Executive, Bank manager, Financial Advisor, Digital Marketer, Business Development Manager, Public Relations Officer, Retail Buyer.

**For further details please contact:** Johannes Ahrenfelt, Assistant Headteacher  
[ahrenfelt@sancroft.stbenets.org](mailto:ahrenfelt@sancroft.stbenets.org)

# ASDAN

## Qualification

Nationally recognised certification.  
No exams. Assessed via internal modules.



## What do students learn about in this course and how will it be assessed?

**We are offering two new opportunities for a select group of students who may benefit from additional support throughout their GCSE:** the ASDAN's Personal Development Programme. The ASDAN's Personal Development Programmes (PDP: Bronze, Silver and Gold) offer imaginative ways of developing, recording and certificating a wide range of young people's personal qualities, abilities and achievements, as well as introducing them to new activities and challenges. All the programmes link to nationally recognised qualifications.

## The new Personal Development Programmes (PDP) include:

- an increased focus on mental health through extra wellbeing-focused challenges in our new 'Health and wellbeing' module
- improved measurement and demonstration of learners' progress through a new skills self assessment and self-reflection tool
- a modern, revamped student book design

## What does it involve?

The Personal Development Programmes (PDP) feature 12 modules. Each learner must work from their own student book and compile a portfolio of evidence to show what they have done.

Students gain 1 or 2 credits for each section completed, with each credit representing about 10 hours of activity. Six credits are needed to achieve Bronze, 12 credits for Silver and 18 credits for Gold.

Students are required to plan and review their work at key points, explaining how they have developed their skills in six areas: Ability to learn; Teamwork; Problem solving, IT skills; Literacy; and Numeracy. Modules include for example: Communication; My community; Sport and leisure; Independent Living; My environment; Number handling; Health and wellbeing; World of work; Science and technology; The wider world; Expressive arts; Beliefs and values; and Combined studies.

Contact: [lsmith@sancroft.stbenets.org](mailto:lsmith@sancroft.stbenets.org) or [cwhittleton@sancroft.stbenets.org](mailto:cwhittleton@sancroft.stbenets.org)



HARLESTON SANCROFT  
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# Notes Page



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